

Senator Alquist, Senator Rains, thank you for this opportunity to speak to you about our concerns. I am not representing the City Council. We have not taken a position on any of the LNG bills in the legislature.

Your committee has advised us of the areas of special concern to your committee.

The area of special concern to me is SAFETY.

All independent authorities recommend that LNG facilities be located in areas remote from population. Oxnard has approximately the same population within 6 miles of the site as does Los Angeles.

The greatest danger posed by an LNG facility is the possibility of a tanker accident. There are not effective actions that can be taken by the City or the State to protect against a tanker accident. 85% of the tanker accidents of the world are due to human error. The Coast Guard is promising to do plan around a siting decision. Their record of enforcing tanker safety is not reassuring. These matters can get tangled up in national and international politics.

There is no experience in the world with an open sea LNG receiving terminal. The trestle is proposed to be more than a mile out to sea at the point where the Channel Islands comes closest to the coast. It can be treacherous there.

The possibility of tanker accident spilling 32 million gallons of Lng that could kill 35,000 people in our community was described in the EIR that was recently certified by the Oxnard City Council. Proposing to locate such a dangerous facility in our community is terrorizing the people of Oxnard and Port Hueneme.

Under present laws the State does not have the power to override the wishes of a local community and place such a facility within that city or county.

If the State believes that it must take on this awesome power, then it must, to keep the faith of the people, condition that power, by excluding populated areas from consideration.

I urge you to keep the original wording of Section 30261 of the Public Resource Code that was adopted in response to the vote of the people of this state beginning on page 2 of SB 1081 line 21 ---

Only one liquefied natural gas terminal shall be permitted in the coastal zone until engineering and operational practices can eliminate any significant risk to life due to accident or until guaranteed supplies of liquefied natural gas and distribution system dependence on liquefied natural gas are substantial enough that an interruption of service from a single liquefied natural gas facility would cause substantial public harm.

Until the risks inherent in liquefied natural gas terminal operations can be sufficiently identified and overcome and such terminals are found to be consistent with the health and safety of nearby human populations, terminals shall be built only at sites remote from human population concentrations. Other unrelated development in the vicinity of liquefied natural gas terminal site which is remote from human population concentrations shall be prohibited. At such time as liquefied natural gas marine terminal operations are found consistent with public safety, terminal sites only in developed or industrialized port areas may be approved.

The State gets its power from the people. Please listen to us.