

To:
Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy
Group leaders of B90 / the Greens, CDU, THE LEFT and SPD
Energy policy speakers from B90 / the Greens, CDU, THE LEFT and SPD

August 2018

Open letter

No German support for the import and promotion of fracked gas

Dear Minister of the Environment Schulze,
Dear Minister of Economics Altmaier,
Dear Sir or Madam,

With this letter, we urge you not to award Pieridae Energy an Undertaking Financial Guarantee (UFK) of up to \$ 4 billion to build a liquefied natural gas terminal in Goldboro, Canada and to develop gas fields in Canada and in the US.¹ **A publicly covered guarantee of the Federal Government for the promotion and import of fracked gas from North America to Europe must not be granted.**

The following points make clear why the guarantees are not in the general interest in terms of economy, climate or the environment.

1. **New gas infrastructure delays the transition to 100% renewable energies in Germany and abroad.** Publicly funded investments in natural gas are at the expense of renewables and block the way to the energy transition, which must be implemented without delay.² Investments should be made exclusively in renewable energies.
2. **The investment undermines Germany's intended role as an international pioneer in tackling the climate crisis.** The use of fossil fuels contributes to the aggravation of the climate crisis.³ This means to pursue the national coal exit and no additional burning of imported fossil fuels.
3. Given the fact that a so-called **carbon bubble** threatens to form on the financial markets⁴ and that it is a loan for a climate counterproductive project, **the UFK guarantee is unreasonably risky.**
4. The gas that is to be liquefied in Goldboro is largely obtained by **hydraulic fracturing (fracking)**. This is particularly harmful to the environment and climate extraction process endangers groundwater and rivers by contamination with toxic chemicals. For these reasons, fracking in Germany has been banned in slate and coal bedrock since 2016.⁵ **The fracking ban should not be undermined by the import of fracked gas from the US and Canada.**

¹https://laurentianbank.na.bdvision.ipreo.com/NSightWeb_v2.00/Downloads/Files/f5c85079-8023-481e-a2be-3bf267dc1645.pdf?tics=636516872151337519

²<http://www.rosalux.eu/publications/global-gas-lock-in-bridge-to-nowhere/>

³<http://science.sciencemag.org/content/361/6398/186>

⁴<https://gofossilfree.org/de/was-ist-die-kohlenstoffblase/>

⁵<https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/DE/Artikel/2016/07/2016-07-08-fracking-gesetz.html>

5. In addition, the gas fields that will feed the Goldboro terminal threaten the local population. For example, extraction in the Montney Formation in western Canada, in Quebec, in New Brunswick, in Nova Scotia, and in the Marcellus Formation in the United States, has received sharp criticism from indigenous & other affected groups, human rights and environmental organizations.⁶
6. An effective and cost-effective way to guarantee energy security is to **invest in energy efficiency and increase national electricity and heat production from renewable energy sources.**

All this shows that the planned comprehensive guarantees neither benefit the population in Canada and United States nor the economy in Germany and Europe. The awarding of the UFK guarantee for the construction of a liquefied natural gas terminal in Goldboro is rather a gross financial mistake against the German and international climate goals. It is not justified in terms of raw materials supply.

Signed :



urgewald



PowerShift



PROSPÉRITÉ
SANS PÉTROLE



Ecology Action Centre



COULE
PAS
CHEZ
NOUS



TRANSITION
CAPITALE
NATIONALE

⁶<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/n-b-fracking-protests-and-the-fight-for-aboriginal-rights-1.2126515>
<http://thechronicleherald.ca/novascotia/1228780-mi-kmaq-unanimous-in-opposition-to-fracking>



glasswaters foundation



Rien n'est plus précieux que l'eau
GROUVIDHAM :
groupe de vigilance d'fkm



Bürgerinitiative
"Fracking freies Hessen" n. e. v



Berliner Wassertisch
www.berliner-wassertisch.info



BI Fracking Freies Hamburg

BI Gemeinsam gegen Gas- und Probebohrungen am Niederrhein (Ndrh.)

Post Fossil - AG Kassel

Coalition citoyenne Beauce Etchemin

Nova Scotia Fracking Resource and Action Coalition

