

*Civil Society Organisation SIGN-ON letter of support asking Port of Cork to drop the Cork LNG project*

Friday, 20 December 2019

Dear Port of Cork,

We, the undersigned concerned organisations, are demanding that the Port of Cork drop the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was signed with NextDecade to develop a new Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU) and associated Liquefied Natural Gas import (LNG) terminal infrastructure in Cork harbour.

We are deeply concerned about the climate and health impacts of this project. In 2017 the Republic of Ireland banned fracking on health and environmental grounds. It would be morally corrupt to allow this project to proceed as it would facilitate the importation of fracked gas from the United States which has devastating impacts on communities, local environments and the climate.

Research states that if we are to keep global temperature rise below 1.5°C and avoid catastrophic climate change, fossil gas must be phased out of the energy mix in Europe by 2035,<sup>1</sup> discrediting claims that gas is a "transition fuel" in the transition to a decarbonised economy.<sup>2</sup> Research also states that we can't develop any new fossil fuel infrastructure from 2019 onwards if we are to have a 64% chance of limiting temperature rise to less than 1.5°C.<sup>3</sup> Currently, 69% of all gas produced in the US and imported to Europe as LNG is sourced through hydraulic fracturing.<sup>4</sup> New LNG exports will super-charge additional fracking, as 80% of the increased exports will come from new, i.e, fracked, wells.<sup>5</sup> Recent research shows that this is 40% more damaging to the climate than coal.<sup>6</sup> The lifespan of a project like Cork LNG is at least 30 years which would increase our dependence on dirty fossil fuels and impinge the development of renewable energy projects.<sup>7</sup> What is needed instead is an urgent programme to phase out all fossil fuels and prioritise investment in renewable energy, storage, demand response and efficiency ahead of building more gas capacity.

The young people on the streets demand it, and the science is clear: we must move away from fossil fuels NOW and we cannot afford to build new fossil fuel infrastructure projects in Ireland like the one proposed in Cork.

Sincerely,  
*Richard Curtin*  
On behalf of:

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/en/publications/natural-gas-and-climate-change\(c82adf1f-17fd-4842-abeb-f16c4ab83605\).html](https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/en/publications/natural-gas-and-climate-change(c82adf1f-17fd-4842-abeb-f16c4ab83605).html)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.rosalux.eu/en/article/1245>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-018-07999-w>







<sup>4</sup> <https://www.eia.gov/tools/faqs/faq.php?id=907&t=8>

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/sites/default/files/rpt\\_1905\\_fracking-2019-web\\_2.pdf](https://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/sites/default/files/rpt_1905_fracking-2019-web_2.pdf)







<sup>6</sup> [https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/debate/joint\\_committee\\_on\\_climate\\_action/2019-10-09/2/](https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/debate/joint_committee_on_climate_action/2019-10-09/2/)







<sup>7</sup> <https://www.iisd.org/sites/default/files/publications/zombie-energy-climate-benefits-ending-subsidies-fossil-fuel-production.pdf>





Name	Organization	Logo
Richard Curtin	Not Here Not Anywhere	
Rob Hamilton	Cork Climate Action	
James O'Donovan, Chair, CEF	Cork Environmental Forum, Cork Ireland	
Niamh Guiry	UCC Environmental Society	
Catherine Devitt	Stop Climate Chaos Coalition	
Kevin O'Farrell	An Taisce Climate Committee	
John Egan	Ecocel Cork city	







Rachel Power	Wilton Justice Group	
Kate Ruddock	Friends of the Earth	
Ciarán O'Carroll	Extinction Rebellion Ireland	
John Guiney SJ	Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice	
Jamie Murphy	Love Leitrim	
John McElligott	Safety Before LNG	

Andy Gheorghiu	Policy Advisor, Food & Water Europe	
Nicolò Wojewoda	350.org	
Damon Matthew Wise	FÍS NUA	
Charlie Williams	KEEP IRELAND FRACKING FREE	
Frank Gallagher	Climate Change Ireland	
John Higgins	Fracking Free Clare	
Jim Emberger	New Brunswick Anti-Shale Gas Alliance (Canada)	
Helgaleena AD	White Rabbit Grove RDNA	
Karen Feridun	Better Path Coalition (Pennsylvania)	
Caroline Kuyper	Inishowen Zero Waste & Sustainability Initiative	


Karen Feridun	Berks Gas Truth (Pennsylvania)	<b>BERKSGASTRUTH</b>
Pascoe Sabido	Corporate Europe Observatory	 <b>Corporate Europe Observatory</b>
Steve Mason	Frack Free United (UK)	 <b>Frack Free United</b>
Stephan Klose	Buergerinitiative Gesundheit und Klimaschutz Brunsbuettel Germany  Citizens Movement Climate and health, Brunsbuettel, Germany	 BÜRGERINITIATIVE GESUNDHEIT & KLIMASCHUTZ UNTERE ELBE
Mary Gutierrez	Earth Ethics, Inc.	 <b>Earth Ethics</b> www.earthethics.us
Juan B Mancias	Carrizo/Comecrudo Tribe of Texas	 CARRIZO COMECRUDO TRIBE OF TEXAS
Collin Rees	Oil Change International	 <b>OIL CHANGE</b> INTERNATIONAL

Scott Edwards	Food & Water Action	
Cyrus Reed	Lone Star Chapter, Sierra Club	 <b>SIERRA CLUB</b>
Elizabeth Whitehouse	People for a Healthy Environment	
Brigid Lawlor	Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, USA Provinces	
Lawrence Couch	National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd	
Patricia J. Popple	Frac Sand Sentinel-Project Outreach	

Janet MacGillivray	Seeding Sovereignty	
Anne Marie Harrington	Futureproof Clare	
Brook Lenker	FracTracker Alliance	
Alex Cole	The Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition	
Ángel López	Asociación de Cultura Popular Alborada -Gallur (Spain)	
Teresa Saldivar	Save RGV from LNG	

Juan Carlos Gracia	Plataforma Ciudadana Zaragoza sin Fractura (Spain)	
Samuel Martín-Sosa	Ecologistas en Acción (Spain)	
Eoin O Leidhin	Gluaiseacht for Global Justice	
Emma Pabst	Environment Texas	
Aideen O'Dochartaigh	The Dublin Ecofeminists	
Brian Cuthbert	Young Friends of the Earth Ireland	
Clodagh Daly	Stop Blood Coal	



<p>Eoin Finn, B.Sc. (UC Cork), Ph.D., MBA Research Director</p>	<p>My Sea to Sky, Howe Sound, BC, Canada</p>	 <p>MY SEA TO SKY</p>
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