

February 10, 2020

Dear Members of the European Parliament,

We, the undersigned, represent public health, environmental and grassroots organizations in the United States that are opposing fracking in our communities and our country. We write to urge the European Union to become a true global leader on protecting our shared climate and public health by voting against the Projects of Common Interest (PCI) list this Wednesday, February 12th. The PCI list includes 55 fossil fuel infrastructure projects, many of which would import fracked gas from the US to Europe. Supporting fracked gas projects runs counter to the laudable announcement of Europe's Green Deal as well as the actions of European countries that have banned fracking including France, Bulgaria, Ireland, Austria, Germany and areas of Belgium, the Netherlands, and Spain. That's a shocking contradiction. Fracking is not safe in those countries, it's not safe in the United States, and the European Parliament should not allow the import of US fracked gas.

Many of these fracked projects enable liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports from the United States, which our organizations and coalitions have been working for over a decade to stop. Fracking is one of the dirtiest and most harmful methods of gas extraction and it causes severe social, health, environmental and climate impacts. Overwhelmingly, close to 2,000 peer-reviewed scientific studies demonstrate that drilling and fracking are inherently dangerous and pose significant environmental and public health impacts.

The drilling and fracking process leaks and emits significant amounts of methane, an extremely potent form of carbon that traps 87 times as much heat as carbon dioxide in the atmosphere in the near term. Furthermore, the process of liquefying gas for export is an energy intensive process that makes the climate impacts of natural gas even worse. It requires supercooling fracked gas for export and then changing it back to a gaseous state upon import. LNG accidents also pose risk of disastrous explosions, and requires major investments in expensive new dirty energy infrastructure.

Drilling, fracking, and use of the gas is absolutely contradictory to the European Green Deal and stated environmental and climate commitments. The proposed PCI list is abysmal for our shared climate and will enable the oil and gas industry to create new markets to sell the fracked gas that is harming and poisoning Americans. It will lock Europe into decades of fracked gas instead of a renewable energy future that is urgently needed to keep global temperatures below 1.5 or even 2 degrees Celsius.

We urge you to stand against fracking and against subsidizing the fossil fuel industry by voting against the 4th PCI list this Wednesday, February 12th. We ask you to instead create a new PCI list that only allows for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. Europe has the opportunity right now to lead the international community on climate change for present and future generations. Please take a stand for our shared life and our beautiful planet.

Sincerely,

[Americans Against Fracking](#)  
coalition of over 300 organizations

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