

April 14, 2022

Dear U.S. President Biden and European Commission President von der Leyen,

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has unleashed a terrible humanitarian crisis and we stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine.

We have significant concerns with your recent Joint Energy Security announcement, which establishes a new joint 'Task Force for Energy Security'. While we applaud efforts to end the import of Russian oil and gas and to reduce demand for gas, we are very concerned that the framework of this agreement will lead to more fossil fuel infrastructure and fracking, while propping up fossil fuel industry scams such as carbon capture and fossil fuel-based hydrogen. To ensure this does not happen, we urge you to direct the Energy Security Task Force to develop a plan that ensures no new financing, exploration licenses or permits for coal, oil or gas extraction, or expansion of exports, imports and infrastructure, and to develop a plan to transition the EU and US off all fossil fuels by 2035.

Any expansion of liquified natural gas (LNG) infrastructure will further reliance on fossil fuels, which is incompatible with climate science, justice, as well as US and EU commitments to climate leadership. We must also stress that new fossil fuel infrastructure will harm communities near fracking wells, pipelines, power plants and LNG infrastructure. LNG infrastructure can take 3 years or more to come online, diverting resources away from the infrastructure investments that will actually help rapidly reduce demand for gas. Redirecting existing LNG exports, combined with energy efficiency measures and an all-out mobilization to renewable energy, could immediately address Europe's current reliance on Russian gas.

The latest assessment report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change again makes clear that the window to avoid truly catastrophic climate impacts is rapidly closing. Any expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure in the United States and Europe will rob us of our last chance to avert climate chaos, and continue the decades of harm done to frontline communities living near fracking wells and LNG infrastructure, including pipelines and export and import terminals.

We also object to the notion that building hydrogen-ready infrastructure can minimize the greenhouse gas intensity of new LNG infrastructure and that gas infrastructure can be repurposed to carry green hydrogen in the future. Hydrogen, which is nearly all produced from fossil fuels, and when produced from fossil fuels has a worse climate impact than burning coal, should not be considered as a climate solution.

The European Union and United States must end financing, and exploration, for fossil fuels, prohibit new infrastructure and stop issuing permits for these activities. We must prioritize investment in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and electrification, which are critical to transitioning off fossil fuels as quickly as possible. We are ready to work with you on the clean energy transition, which is the pathway to true energy independence and security.

Sincerely,

EU Organizations

Baltic Pipe Nejtak!
Campagna Per il Clima Fuori dal Fossile
Centre for Transport and Energy
ClientEarth
Coordinamento ravennate "Per il Clima-Fuori dal Fossile"
Corporate Europe Observatory (CEO)
ECODES
Ecologistas en Acción
EKOenergy ecolabel
Emergenzaclimatica.it
Environmental Investigation Agency
Forum Ambientalista
Fracking Free Clare
Friends of the Earth Croatia
Friends of the Earth Europe
Friends of the Earth France
Fundación Renovables
Gastivists
Grup de Científics i Tècnics per un Futur No Nuclear
Keep Kirdford and Wisborough Green
Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)
Movimento No TAP/SNAM di Brindisi
Not Here Not Anywhere
Notre Affaire à Tous (Our Common Concern)
Recourse
TerraBlu
Trivelle Zero Molise
Urgewald
WeMove Europe

U.S. Organizations

198 Methods
Action Center on Race and the Economy
Association of Young Americans
Beyond Extreme Energy
Beyond Extreme Energy
Bold Alliance
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Popular Democracy
Change the Chamber*Lobby for Climate

Climate Hawks Vote
Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action
EARTHDAY.ORG
Earthworks
Elected Officials to Protect America
Endangered Species Coalition
Food & Water Watch
Friends of the Earth US
GAIA - Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives
Global Warming Education Network
Grassroots Global Justice Alliance
GreenFaith
Indigenous Environmental Network
Institute for Policy Studies Climate Policy Program
Nuclear Information and Resource Service
Oil Change International
Our Climate
Positive Money US
Rainforest Action Network
Science and Environmental Health Network
United Native Americans
Zero Hour
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A Community Voice
Alexandria 350
American Jewish World Service
Animals Are Sentient Beings Inc
Arkansas River Rights Coalition
Berks Gas Truth
Better Path Coalition
Bronx Climate Justice North
Central Jersey Environmental Defenders
Chapel Hill Organization for Clean Energy
Citizens Caring for the Future
Citizens for Clean Air and Water in Brazoria County/Freeport, Texas
Clean Energy Action
Clean Energy Now Texas
Climate Crisis Policy
ClimateMama
CO Democratic Party - Energy & Environmental Initiative
Coalition Against Death Alley
Coalition Against Pilgrim Pipeline - NJ
Coalition to Stop CO2 Pipelines

Concerned Health Professionals of New York
Concerned Health Professionals of Pennsylvania
Conejo Climate Coalition
Connecticut Citizen Action Group
Cooperative Energy Futures
Clean Up the River Environment
DC Environmental Network
Delaware Riverkeeper Network
Divest NJ
Don't Gas the Meadowlands Coalition
Earth Action, Inc.
Earth Ethics, Inc.
Earth Guardians
Earthkeeper Health Resources
Eco-Justice Collaborative
EcoEquity
Ecological Systems LLC
Empower our Future
Empowering Pacific Islander Communities
Extinction Rebellion San Francisco Bay Area
Fairbanks Climate Action Coalition
Fossil Free Tompkins
Fox Valley Citizens for Peace & Justice
Frack Action
Frack Free Catskills
FrackBustersNY
Franciscan Action Network
Freedom BLOC (Black Led Organizing Collective)
Friends For Environmental Justice
Grassroots Environmental Education
Greater New Orleans Climate Reality Project
Greater New Orleans Interfaith Climate Coalition
Green Party of Nassau County
Green Party of Onondaga County
Healthy Gulf
Honor the Earth
Hudson Valley Pax Christi
Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship's Climate Action Campaign
Humboldt UU Fellowship
Inclusive LA
Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement
Laudato Si Movement
Lebanon Pipeline Awareness
Liberty Tree Foundation for the Democratic Revolution

Long Island Progressive Coalition
Louisiana League of Conscious Voters
Love Wild Horses
Methane Action
Metro N.Y. Catholic Climate Movement
Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network
Movement Rights
MoveOn.org Hoboken
Nassau Hiking & Outdoor Club
New Jersey State Industrial Union Council
New Jersey Tenants Organization
New Mexico Climate Justice
New York Communities for Change
New York Metro Catholic Climate Movement
New York Progressive Action Network Environmental Committee
North American Climate, Conservation and Environment
North Bronx Racial Justice
Nuclear Energy Information Service
Occupy Bergen County
Ocean Conservation Research
Oregonizers
Pass the Federal Green New Deal Coalition
Pax Christi New York State
Peace & Justice Action League of Spokane
People for a Healthy Environment
Peoples Climate Movement - NY
Physicians for Social Responsibility Arizona
Physicians for Social Responsibility Florida
Physicians for Social Responsibility Iowa
Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania
Pinelands Preservation Alliance
Plymouth Friends of Clean Water
Port Arthur Community Action Network
Preserve Giles County
Progressive Democrats of America, Tucson, Arizona chapter
Project CoffeeHouse
Protect All Children's Environment
Putnam Progressives
Responsible Carbonization Alliance
Responsible Decarbonization Alliance
River Valley Organizing
SanDiego350
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network
Save Our Illinois Land

Seneca Lake Guardian
SLO Clean Water
Social Justice Ministry, Live Oak UU, Goleta, CC
Solarize Albany
Solar Wind Works
SOMA Action
Teaneck Peace and Justice Vigil
Terra Advocati
Texas Campaign for the Environment
The Public Goods Institute
Third Act Virginia
Thomas Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue
Transition Town Glassboro
Turtle Island Restoration Network
Unitarian Universalist Association
United Women in Faith
Urban Sea Corp.
Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva - Green Sanctuary Team
Veterans for Climate Justice
Virginia Interfaith Power & Light
Vote Climate
Wall of Women
Watchdogs of Southeastern PA
Waterspirit
Waterway Advocates
Wisconsin Health Professionals for Climate Action, Inc.
1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations
350 Bay Area Action
350 Colorado
350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley
350 Eugene
350 Hawaii
350 New Orleans
350 Sacramento
350 Seattle
350 Silicon Valley
350 Triangle
350 Ventura County Climate Hub
350 Wisconsin
350 NewJersey/Rockland
350 NYC