

February 5, 2024

Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Chair, House Energy and Commerce Committee, Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr., Ranking Member House Energy and Commerce Committee, Honorable Jeff Duncan, Chair, Subcommittee on Energy, Climate & Grid Security, House Energy and Commerce Committee, Honorable Diana DeGette, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy, Climate & Grid Security, House Energy and Commerce Committee

House Energy and Commerce Committee 2125 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

## Dear Committee Members,

The purpose of this letter is to call to your attention to the impact of the Department of Energy's decision to pause the approval of Sempra Infrastructure's pending application for an export permit for the Port Arthur LNG Phase II Project (PALNG2). Any delay in the PALNG2 project along with the uncertainty in regulatory practices will discourage future growth in areas like Southeast Texas and may impede the development of new technologies to improve the environment and provide energy security around the globe.

If paused, that decision will negatively impact the PALNG2 Project and the community where it is located. A delay will eliminate an estimated 3,500 construction jobs and an economic impact nationally of \$5.7 billion. In addition, LSCPA students enrolled in college programs that support the LNG industry will not have long term employment opportunities and may be forced to leave the area for employment.

I am, therefore, writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Port Arthur LNG Phase II Project. As a responsible corporate citizen, Sempra Infrastructure has demonstrated its commitment to addressing key societal concerns while advancing innovative solutions in the energy sector.

Understanding the focus on various areas on concern, I am particularly impressed by Sempra Infrastructure's dedication to enhancing social performance, fostering community partnerships, promoting educational and workforce opportunities and unlocking the potential for decarbonization through the Port Arthur LNG Phase II Project.

In terms of social performance, Sempra Infrastructure has consistently shown its dedication to operating ethically and responsibly within the communities it serves. Through transparent communication and active engagement with stakeholders Sempra has strived to ensure that its operations align with community values and priorities.

The emphasis on community partnerships is commendable. Sempra Infrastructures' support for several community non-profit organization such as Crime Stoppers and the Southeast Texas Food Bank reflects its commitment to fostering strong, mutually beneficial relationships with local stakeholders. By collaborating with dozens of these organizations, Sempra not only contributes to the betterment of the community but also gains valuable insights into local needs and aspirations.

Moreover, Sempra's initiatives to promote educational and workforce opportunities, particularly through its collaboration with Lamar State College Port Arthur (LSCPA), a Hispanic Service Institution, are highly laudable. Sempra recently committed funds to support an EDA Grant to purchase a LNG training unit and program that will lead to higher wage jobs locally and support of both the energy industry and service providers. Sempra Infrastructure has also provided support for other educational programs including the Innovative Educators Initiative, Port Arthur ISD Pipefitting Program, and the LSCPA Commercial Driving and Carpentry Programs. By providing scholarships and supporting educational programs at LSCPA, Sempra is empowering the next generation of leaders, and innovators, especially within underrepresented communities.

Furthermore, Sempra's investment in Port Arthur LNG underscores its commitment to advancing decarbonization efforts. By exploring the potential of technologies like the Titan Carbon Sequestration project and the HyVelocity Hydrogen Hub, the Port Arthur LNG Phase II Project holds the promise of reducing carbon emissions and transitioning towards a more sustainable energy future. Sempra's proactive approach to environmental stewardship exemplifies it leadership in addressing the global challenge of climate change while contributing to the local development of Southeast Texas.

In conclusion, the Port Arthur LNG project represents a pivotal opportunity to not only meet the energy needs of the communities but also to drive positive social, economic, and environmental outcomes. Sempra infrastructure's unwavering dedication to social responsibility, community engagement, education, and innovation positions PALNG2 Project as a positive transformative force.

I urge you to consider the significant benefits that the Port Arthur LNG project offers to our community and the broader society. With Sempra Infrastructure's steadfast commitment and expertise, I am confident that Port Arthur LNG Phase II Project will serve as a model for sustainable development and responsible business practices.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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