

# #NO LNG 253

Redefine Tacoma and the Puyallup Water Warriors reject LNG and support the clean, renewable energy sources of the future!



## WHAT IS LNG:

Natural gas is a fossil fuel predominantly composed of methane (which is 84x more powerful as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide in its first 20 years in the atmosphere). It is typically extracted via fracking deep rock formations underground. Liquefied natural gas (LNG) is natural gas converted to liquid by cooling it to -260 degrees F.

## Location:

- Puget Sound Energy (PSE) wants to put their 8 million gallon, 14-story tall fracked gas tank at the Port of Tacoma.
- PSE's LNG facility is located on the Cascadian fault in a zone at risk for earthquakes, lahars, and tsunamis. A study conducted by the City of Tacoma predicts the Port will be flooded by 2050.
- This facility is being built in the heart of a metropolitan area where over 200,000 people live, work, and play and in an industrial center which would have a compounding effect in the event of a fire or explosion.

## Environmental Justice:

- People of color and of low income are the first to be impacted by climate change.
- 1,600 men and women detained at the Northwest Detention Center, a for-profit immigration prison, would be sitting ducks in the event of an emergency as there is no evacuation plan other than to "shelter in place."
- Indigenous People and residents of rural communities often bear the brunt of harm caused by fracking wells and natural gas pipelines.



## Who is Puget Sound Energy:

- While it sounds like a public utility, PSE is a for-profit corporation based in Bellevue but controlled by the Macquarie group of Australia.
- The media has reported widely on the Macquarie Group's unethical and predatory business practices.
- PSE's owner, the Macquarie Group, is known for high margins. The Australian media calls the group "The Millionaire Factory." The CEO of PSE's Australian owner made \$18 million in 2016.
- Profits from PSE's LNG facility will flow to Bellevue and Sydney, Australia, while Tacomans are stuck with the pollution.

## Violation of Puyallup Tribe's Treaty Rights:

- The Tribe was not meaningfully consulted and the LNG facility would endanger tribal fishing rights. The Puyallup Tribe has filed legal appeals to various permits and has issued several agencies with a request for immediate action to stop all construction.

## Safety:

- A leak could cause an explosive vapor cloud capable of extending more than 3.5 miles in any direction.
- A spill can burn at 3500 degrees F. This fire would be so hot it would melt steel up to ½ mile away and incinerate everything within a mile radius, including people.

For more information, a calendar of events, and to sign the "Stand with the Puyallup Tribe – No LNG Fracked Gas in the Salish Sea" petition go to [www.RedefineTacoma.org](http://www.RedefineTacoma.org)

# LNG IS BAD FOR TACOMA, BAD FOR THE PUYALLUP TRIBE, AND BAD FOR THE PLANET.

## RISKS OF LNG CONTINUED...

### Shifting Financial Costs:

- PSE is receiving a huge public subsidy on their LNG project by passing 43% of the capital costs on to PSE ratepayers. That means we will be stuck paying an estimated \$133 million.
- PSE pays no sales tax on the construction.
- PSE is also getting an \$8 million dollar tax break every biennial funding cycle, which works out to \$4 million per year. (Imagine how profitable solar or wind energy projects would be if they received a similar deal).
- The City of Tacoma will pay \$1.5 million every budget for LNG fire protection and emergency response.

### Liability:

- In order to avoid responsibility for an accident or disaster at the LNG facility, PSE created a shell company, Puget LNG, which is a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC).
- The Port of Tacoma is self-insured. PSE only holds a \$35 million insurance policy for the \$310 million project.
- If there's a serious accident, the shell company will declare bankruptcy, leaving Tacomans footing the bill for damages that could be in the billions.

### Local Politics:

- Many elected officials have accepted money from PSE. Not coincidentally, many elected officials are either supporting the LNG project or remaining eerily silent.
- PSE has spent millions of dollars in political contributions, greenwashing advertisement and pro LNG push-polls.

### LNG Uses:

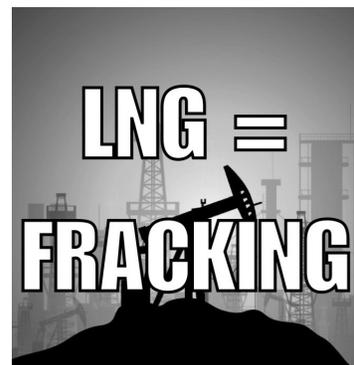
- This LNG site will be a refinery/storage/peak shaving/ship re-fueling station, and also a major distribution center via truck, barge, and rail.

### PSE's Experience with Natural Gas:

- An explosion on March 9, 2016, in the Greenwood neighborhood of Seattle. Puget Sound Energy was ruled responsible and fined \$1.5 million.
- An explosion on March 31, 2014 at the Williams Northwest Pipeline LNG peak shaving facility in Plymouth, WA. This accident injured five workers and caused the evacuation of 400 people.
- PSE already operates the largest underground gas vault in the NW. There is no public need for the LNG refinery.

### Environmental Devastation:

- Two-thirds of all natural gas in the U.S. is produced via fracking, which contaminates drinking water, triggers earthquakes, generates air pollution and contributes to climate change through greenhouse gas emissions.
- PSE's LNG facility would lock Tacoma in to a 50-year lease of burning fracked gas and accelerating climate change.
- LNG was once billed as a "bridge fuel," but natural gas is now recognized as a powerful contributor to climate change. For this reason, organizations from the Sierra Club to the NAACP have publicly opposed natural gas as an energy source for the future.
- We need to retire fossil fuel projects and replace them with sustainable renewable energy projects.



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