

ENVIRONMENTAL & CIVIC GROUPS OPPOSE GAS PROJECT
Huge Coalition Will Fight “Broadwater” Liquid Natural Gas Facility in L.I. Sound
Dozens of Organizations Involved: Proposal Called “Shoreham of the Decade”
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An Island-wide coalition comprised of dozens of environmental and civic organizations will oppose a proposed Liquefied Natural Gas facility, intended to be anchored in Long Island Sound. The “Anti Broadwater Coalition” cited safety and environmental concerns as among the reasons for fighting the project which they term, “The Shoreham of the decade,” alluding to the defeated nuclear power plant.

With the abandoned power plant in the background, dozens of placard-carrying community leaders will gather to announce their opposition to the proposal to off-load supertankers full of super-cooled and highly flammable liquefied natural gas through a floating platform the size of the Queen Mary II, anchored in Long Island Sound, nine miles north of Wading River. The platform would be connected to an environmentally-damaging 25 mile-long pipeline, constructed under the Sound to bring the natural gas to New York City and other locations. **The news conference will be held at 11:00 a.m ., Tuesday, January 18 at the west end of Creek Road in Wading River.**

“This is the most irresponsible proposal since the Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant,” said Adrienne Esposito, Executive Director of Citizens Campaign for the Environment. “It represents unproven technology which is accident and terrorist attack prone, and which carries enormous environmental threats and few, if any, benefits for our region,” she added. The Anti Broadwater Coalition said the decision to oppose the project was “as simple as ABC.” The leaders said they would call on town, county, state and federal officials to kill the project immediately “before it gets railroaded through by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington, which has significant authority and routinely supports LNG projects,” according to Kyle Rabin, Executive Director of Friends of the Bay in Oyster Bay.

The Coalition issued a six -page “white paper” which indicts the proposed LNG terminal as dangerous and anti-environmental. More than 40 such projects have been proposed, but only half a dozen are expected to be approved. “Long Island’s geography and population center make evacuation in an emergency impossible – the reason we abandoned the Shoreham nuclear power plant. If only a few of these dangerous facilities are to be built, they should be built in a more appropriate area,” said Richard Johannesen of the Rocky Point Civic Association and the 40-member Affiliated Brookhaven Civic Organizations which were among the first groups to oppose the plan.

The Coalition said it was launching a “full court press” against the project, including appeals to public officials, a massive public education campaign, public hearings and demonstrations. “This will be the biggest grass roots campaign in years,” said Sid Bail, President of the Wading River Civic Association, the first group to oppose Broadwater. He added, “Long Island’s very survival is on the line – we can do nothing less than whatever is required.