

## **Affiliated Brookhaven Civic Organization (ABCO)**

The Affiliated Brookhaven Civic Organization (ABCO) opposes the Broadwater Energy Project proposing a liquid natural gas storage and regasification unit (FSRU) located in the Long Island Sound nine miles off the Wading River shoreline.

The Broadwater Energy project would hinder our country's motivation to find clean and renewable energy sources that are vital to our future. It is imperative that alternative, clean, and renewable energies continue to emerge as our national energy policy going forward.

ABCO feels that the Broadwater Energy project would facilitate continuing dependence on fossil fuels which have proven to be detrimental to our environment and a major contributor to global warming.

The project encourages dependence on these fuels from foreign suppliers. Again promoting the continued use of foreign energy supplies. The United States continues to experience the effect of this dependence as the price of fossil fuels fluctuates depending on economic and political situations overseas.

ABCO is also in opposition to the Broadwater project as it would set a precedent that introduces a new era that would undoubtedly have an adverse affect on the residents of New York and Connecticut; the industrialization and privatization of our Long Island Sound. The introduction of the FSRU into the Sound would require a "safety zone", an area of the Sound no longer accessible to commercial or sport fishermen and pleasure boats. Additionally, a "no fly zone" would be established above the area.

The precedent set by the Broadwater project would allow other areas of the Sound to become industrial zones, with each occurrence resulting in more of our public waters becoming off-limits.

ABCO also has concerns regarding the use of our tax dollars to help subsidize this project. The costs of security for each tanker docking at the FSRU have been estimated to be as high as \$80,000 per shipment. With 2 to 3 tankers expected weekly, this translates to over ten million dollars annually. Our Coast Guard will be tasked with providing the security for the area.

The environmental impacts of this project are difficult to measure. The Long Island Sound remains a fragile ecosystem. Recent lobster die offs are testimony to the sensitive nature of our Sound. The installation of the FSRU and subsequent dredging and disruption of 25 miles of the seabed necessary to facilitate the proposed pipeline will adversely affect the already sensitive Sound.

For these reasons, ABCO opposes the Broadwater Energy project. The continued reliance on foreign fossil fuel, the industrialization of the Sound, tax dollars necessary to support the project, and the unknown magnitude of the environmental ramifications of such a large and disruptive project are all concerns that have contributed to this decision.