

LONG ISLAND PINE BARRENS SOCIETY



FISHER'S ISLAND CONSERVANCY PARTNERS WITH ANTI-BROADWATER COALITION

*- Environmental advocacy group raises additional concerns over proposed
Broadwater Energy LNG facility -*

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The Fisher's Island Conservancy is the newest member of the Anti-Broadwater Coalition. The coalition continues to gather support in their fight against Broadwater Energy's proposed Liquefied Natural Gas facility in the Long Island Sound. The Conservancy joins the alliance of over 50 environmental advocacy groups, including the Long Island Pine Barrens Society.

Ellen Kelly, president, Fisher's Island Conservancy said, "The concern for Fisher's Island residents is the closing of the 'race'." 'The Race,' a narrow channel, which connects Block Island Sound to the Long Island Sound, would be closed off for all recreational and commercial uses during scheduled LNG deliveries. It is located just off the coast of Fisher's Island and is an integral passageway for the ferry that transports residents and visitors to Fisher's Island. Additionally, the tankers would cause pollution in the waters in the northeast portion of the Long Island Sound, where a large fishing industry continues to flourish.

"The threat of an accident or terrorist attack is a real concern for individuals living on the mainland as well," agreed Richard Amper, Executive Director, Long Island Pine Barrens Society. "Why should we put ourselves in imminent danger for a facility that wouldn't even supply our demand for natural gas?" The main safety concerns are pool fires, flammable vapor clouds, asphyxiation or skin burns as well as the threat of an explosion. "A strong wind could easily blow a vapor cloud ashore bringing it into contact with any number of ignition sources," Amper added.

If built, the facility would be 11 miles off Connecticut's southern shoreline and a mere 9 miles off the northeast coast of Long Island. Tankers would travel less than a mile from Plum Island Infectious Disease Laboratory, making the facility more of a prime terrorist target.

Kelly concluded, "We cannot stand by and let Broadwater Energy prohibit the use of our waterways and not only change our way of life, but threaten it." Utility experts on Long Island even claim that Long Island has enough natural gas to last well into the future. "We also must begin to turn our focus to alternative and renewable sources of energy rather than foreign fossil fuels," concluded Amper.