

Our office has been retained by United Florida Residents, LLC, and Oak Point Mobile Homeowners Association, Inc. (hereinafter collectively referred to as our “clients”) to provide the following comments in response to Docket # PHMSA-2016-0073 -- New Fortress Energy/TICO Development Partners, LLC. Request for Special Permit for Variance from Title 49 Section 193.255(b) to construct an LNG production and distribution facility at the TICO Titusville Site.

As set forth in TICO’s application and the above referenced Request for Special Permit, we understand the Applicant intends for the TICO Titusville Site to produce 1,000,000 gallons (82.6 million cubic feet) of LNG per day. We also understand LNG will be hauled by truck and/or rail from the TICO Titusville Site around the State for export from Florida’s deep water ports.

The nature and extent of production of LNG at such a facility along with the geographic location of the TICO Titusville Site causes grave concerns for our clients with regard to their health, safety and well being. These concerns exist despite whether the facility is constructed with or without a special permit. Specifically, members of United Florida Residents, LLC, and their families reside less than 2,100 feet from the TICO property boundary, while Oak Point Mobile Homeowners Association, Inc. is even closer at a distance of less than 200 feet. We would also note that Palm Harbor Mobile Village sits approximately 400 to 500 feet from the TICO property. Thus, the population within two miles of the TICO Titusville Site is in excess of 14,000 people.

Our clients are rightfully concerned about the serious risks associated with the dangerous process of converting natural gas into LNG for storage and/or transport. By approving a hazardous facility such as this so near a population center, PHMSA would be placing 14,000+ members of the public in harms way. Given the well documented volatility associated with processing LNG, any accidental or intentional spill or breach of an LNG containment tank, including piping, almost certainly would result in a catastrophic loss of life. Furthermore, with the tremendous potential for a disastrous event, it would be foolish for anyone to ignore the real possibility of terrorism at this site given the proximity to a population center.

Our clients also object to the location of this facility because pursuant to §193.2155 (b), an LNG storage tank must not be located within a horizontal distance of one mile (1.6 km) from the ends, or ¼ mile (0.4 km) from the nearest point of a runway, whichever is longer. The TICO Titusville facility at best, is located only 3/5th of a mile from Space Coast Regional Airport, giving further credence to the potential for terrorism at the TICO site.

Additionally we note that in an effort to substantially minimize the grave risks of operating such a site near a population center, the Pipeline Safety Act, includes provisions concerning LNG facility siting. 49 U.S.C. § 60103 encourages remote siting