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Report finds National Grid's Greenpoint LNG project would pose significant risks to already overburdened communities in North Brooklyn

Brooklyn, New York - A cumulative impact [assessment](#) conducted by the Applied Economic Clinic (AEC) found that National Grid's proposal to build two new fracked gas vaporizers at its Greenpoint liquefied gas (LNG) storage facility poses a significant risk to the surrounding Environmental Justice Communities.

The report is part of a [submission](#) by Earthjustice on behalf of Sane Energy Project and Alliance for a Green Economy (AGREE) that argues the vaporizers violate the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) and that the Public Service Commission (PSC) should deny rate recovery for the project.

In August, National Grid asked the New York State Public Service Commission to allow the utility to raise its rates to pay for the vaporizer project, which the company estimates will cost nearly \$70 million. The corporate utility has already spent over \$45 million on the vaporizers, with the assumption the PSC would approve their rate hike, money they will be out if it is denied.

The Greenpoint LNG facility is located at the head of the controversial North Brooklyn Pipeline route. The proposed expansion at the LNG facility has been widely opposed by local community members, elected officials, and National Grid customers across Downstate New York. Over 1,400 public comments have been submitted since August, calling on the PSC to reject National Grid's rate hike for the project.

An assessment by an independent consultant hired by the PSC and paid for by ratepayers last month found that there is currently no need for the new vaporizers, delivering a serious blow to National Grid's chance of getting approval for the project.

"The excess gasses are released right in our immediate community," **said Elisha Fye, Vice President of the Cooper Park Resident Council, which represents 700 families that live across the street from National Grid's LNG facility in a NYCHA complex.** "Most of the people my age that I grew up with, right now and I'm 68, in Cooper Park have health issues, and I dare say that seventy percent of that is coming from that air and the pollution that is coming in our area. I'm a double transplant patient and I also have respiratory problems. I felt like because of them [National Grid] part of my life is becoming shorter, as well as my neighbors. I think they contribute to this health situation."

"With the safety issues and the health issues that this project contains, our community, this community of color, this low-income community, we consider this project to be a race massacre," **said Karen Leader, Cooper Park Resident Council Secretary, in September at a**

public hearing. “Cooper Park Resident Council executive board members along with our residents demand that you move towards clean energy and stop looking to invest in fossil fuels.”

"The cumulative impact assessment confirms what local community members have been saying for years about National Grid's LNG vaporizers and the North Brooklyn Pipeline- these projects are racist and pose a significant risk to predominantly BIPOC, working class neighborhoods that have been polluted by the fossil fuel industry for decades," **said Lee Ziesche, Sane Energy Project.** "It's disappointing that New York State never assessed the impact of these fossil fuel projects on Disadvantaged Communities, but AEC's report makes it clear that they violate the CLCPA. The Public Service Commission must reject National Grid's rate hike."

“New Yorkers fought for and won a landmark climate law clearly intended to stop fossil fuel infrastructure expansion, especially in communities already overburdened by pollution,” **said Jessica Azulay, Executive Director of Alliance for a Green Economy.** “National Grid has flouted this law by continuing to propose and build unnecessary fossil fuel projects like the LNG vaporizers and the North Brooklyn Pipeline in disadvantaged communities. It’s time for the Public Service Commission to require National Grid to put its enormous resources behind projects that will reduce pollution like heat pumps, rather than continue to raise rates to fund endless fossil fuel expansion.”