

**SENATE RESOLUTION No. 58**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**214th LEGISLATURE**

---

INTRODUCED MARCH 15, 2010

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator SEAN T. KEAN**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**Senator ROBERT M. GORDON**

**District 38 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Stack, Buono, Ciesla, Connors, Girgenti and Vitale**

**SYNOPSIS**

Opposes development of liquefied natural gas facilities off NJ coast.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/3/2011)**

- 1   **A SENATE RESOLUTION** opposing the development of liquefied  
2       natural gas facilities offshore of New Jersey.  
3
- 4   **WHEREAS**, The New Jersey/New York Clean Ocean Zone (COZ) is  
5       defined as the waters from Montauk Point, New York, to Cape  
6       May, New Jersey, extending offshore 100 miles to the outer edge of  
7       the Continental Shelf, and consists of over 19,000 square miles of  
8       the Atlantic Ocean; and
- 9   **WHEREAS**, The COZ is an ecologically rich area the economic  
10      viability of which is dependant on a clean marine environment, and  
11      the COZ is now targeted as the location for industrial liquefied  
12      natural gas (LNG) port facilities; and
- 13   **WHEREAS**, The physical, hydrodynamic, and biological characteristics  
14      of the COZ are extraordinarily unique, as more than 300 species of  
15      fish, nearly 350 species of birds, five species of sea turtles, 20  
16      species of whales, dolphins, and porpoises, and several species of  
17      seals frequent this region, which serves as an essential migratory  
18      pathway for many of these species; and
- 19   **WHEREAS**, Neighboring states, New York and Connecticut, rejected a  
20      LNG proposal for the Long Island Sound, instead offering two sites  
21      off the New Jersey coast and south shore of Long Island as  
22      locations for LNG facilities, and three other LNG facilities are  
23      currently proposed off the New Jersey coast; and
- 24   **WHEREAS**, Construction of a LNG facility will devastate important  
25      fish habitat, impact endangered, threatened, and protected species,  
26      damage seafloor habitat, destroy vast quantities of marine life when  
27      ocean water is used to refill huge emptied tankers with billions of  
28      gallons of seawater to replace LNG cargos, and create potential  
29      exposure to stronger and more frequent hurricanes, nor'easters, and  
30      wind and wave risks; and
- 31   **WHEREAS**, The proposed LNG facilities will straddle shipping lanes in  
32      the New York/New Jersey Harbor region, the busiest port on the  
33      East Coast and third busiest in the country, dramatically affecting  
34      shipping traffic patterns when tankers approach and depart the  
35      facility, interfering with port traffic, and increasing the risk of  
36      shipping accidents; and
- 37   **WHEREAS**, The additional lifecycle stages of liquefaction,  
38      transportation, and gasification emit harmful greenhouse gases  
39      (GHG), and LNG produces approximately 20% to 40% more GHG  
40      than domestic natural gas; and
- 41   **WHEREAS**, This country is energy independent for natural gas with  
42      97% of the natural gas used in the United States coming from North  
43      America, and recent discoveries of new natural gas fields in the  
44      United States and Canada supplement an already growing domestic  
45      supply, while existing LNG ports are significantly under-utilized  
46      and can more than meet the region's energy needs; and
- 47   **WHEREAS**, LNG imports will increase the nation's dependence on  
48      foreign fossil fuels, with over two-thirds of the world's natural gas

1 reserves located in Russia and the Middle East, and the likely  
2 sources of energy for the facilities proposed for the COZ include  
3 offshore drilling in Russia, Trinidad, Libya, and other locations  
4 where environmental laws and controls are often less stringent, thus  
5 increasing this country's use of and dependence upon LNG from  
6 unstable foreign energy sources; and

7 **WHEREAS**, LNG is expensive, and will only become more so as the  
8 world competes for LNG, making it globally priced and locked into  
9 price wars; and

10 **WHEREAS**, The ever-increasing amounts of GHG from burning fossil  
11 fuels is changing the chemistry of the sea by increasing its acidity,  
12 and thereby diminishing the ocean's ability to serve the vital role as  
13 the earth's largest and most effective absorber of major GHG  
14 emissions, as well as making the sea itself harmful to marine life;  
15 and

16 **WHEREAS**, LNG projects will permanently exclude the public from  
17 the ocean as vast areas of ocean will be off limits to the public,  
18 boaters and fishing vessels; and

19 **WHEREAS**, It is altogether fitting and proper for this House, and in the  
20 public interest, to oppose the development of LNG facilities off the  
21 New Jersey coast; now, therefore,

22

23 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:

24

25 1. This House opposes the development of liquefied natural gas  
26 facilities off the New Jersey coast, and supports increased energy  
27 efficiency and energy conservation and the promotion of renewable  
28 energy technologies and projects.

29

30 2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the  
31 President of the Senate and attested by the Secretary thereof, shall  
32 be transmitted to the Governor, the Commissioner of Environmental  
33 Protection, the President of the Board of Public Utilities, the  
34 Commandant of the United States Coast Guard, each commissioner  
35 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Administrator of  
36 the United States Maritime Administration and the Administrator of  
37 the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration in the  
38 United States Department of Transportation, the Administrator of  
39 the Transportation Security Administration in the United States  
40 Department of Homeland Security, the Administrator of the  
41 Environmental Protection Agency, and each member of the United  
42 States Congress elected from this State.

43

44

45

STATEMENT

46

47 This resolution opposes the development of liquefied natural gas  
48 (LNG) facilities off the New Jersey coast. The resolution further

1 expresses support for increased energy efficiency and energy  
2 conservation and the promotion of renewable energy technologies  
3 and projects.

4 By focusing efforts on energy efficiency, energy conservation  
5 measures, and renewable energy technologies, the region can create  
6 a win-win situation by decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and  
7 encouraging long-term job creation in the field of renewable energy  
8 technologies.