



CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION

# CLF News

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **BOSTON HARBOR LNG PROPOSAL CRITICALLY FLAWED**

### ***CLF Calls On Legislature to Reject LNG Project Developer's Effort to Remove Protections from Boston Harbor Islands Parkland***

**Boston, MA (October 17, 2005)** – Today, Conservation Law Foundation joins with other leading environmental organizations in opposing a developer's effort to construct a liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal on a protected Boston Harbor Islands site.

"For more than two decades the Conservation Law Foundation has successfully fought to restore Boston Harbor and its diverse ecological and recreational values," said CLF President Phil Warburg. "We believe the current proposal to build an LNG terminal on state and federal parkland within the Boston Harbor Islands would be a significant – and unacceptable – step backward from this progress." The LNG terminal proposed by AES Battery Rock, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of AES Corporation, would be located on Outer Brewster Island, part of the Boston Harbor Islands State Park and a federally protected National Recreation Area within the National Park System. Before any development could occur at the site, AES must secure a redesignation of Outer Brewster Island that would remove the existing parkland protections. In exchange for developing the Outer Brewster site, the corporation has indicated that it would contribute \$10 million or more annually to public coffers, possibly to support activities in remaining Park areas.

"CLF calls upon the Massachusetts Legislature to reject any effort to remove public parkland protection from Outer Brewster Island and its surroundings," Warburg added. "The Legislature's acceptance of the AES proposal would undermine state and federal parkland protections, and would signal that our parks are for sale to the highest bidder."

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The AES proposal would require the construction of a docking terminal and storage tanks on one of the least developed reaches of the Harbor Islands. If constructed, the facility would regularly dock 900-foot long LNG tankers, each approximately 130 feet high, that would dwarf Outer Brewster Island and transform the area into a closed security zone dominated by major industrial infrastructure.

While rejecting the proposal to construct an LNG terminal at this inappropriate location, CLF reiterated its call for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to undertake a comprehensive review of the anticipated need for LNG in the region and where best to locate LNG terminals. "We recognize the need to enhance our ability to supply the region with natural gas – a cleaner burning fossil fuel – but we firmly believe there are more appropriate alternatives for meeting this need than constructing an LNG facility on Outer Brewster Island," said CLF staff attorney Sue Reid. "The sort of regional assessment of natural gas demand and siting options that many of us have long called for would bring to light preferable alternatives."

The Conservation Law Foundation works to solve the environmental problems that threaten the people, natural resources and communities of New England. CLF's advocates use law, economics and science to design and implement strategies that conserve natural resources, protect public health, and promote vital communities in our region. Founded in 1966, CLF is a nonprofit, member-supported organization. It has offices in Boston, Massachusetts; Concord, New Hampshire; Providence, Rhode Island; Montpelier, Vermont; and Brunswick, Maine.