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The Brewster Archipelago, the jewel in the Harbor Islands crown, is not an industrial site. The concept that pristine Outer Brewster Island serve as an LNG offloading terminal is deeply offensive. This wilderness is not an empty wasteland, but a well-protected refuge teeming with flora and wildlife. National Parks and Recreation Areas serve all and defend timeless, precious places from private, short-term interests. The notion that Outer Brewster Island be sacrificed to protect metropolitan Boston from a terrorist threat is ill-conceived and misleading. While not offering the security the proposal implies, it also promises to thoroughly degrade a precious natural environment. Would the government give serious consideration to a plan for the Statue of Liberty be used as an oil terminal or Yosemite to store nuclear waste? Would AES Inc., of Arlington Virginia, suggest that Monticello's lawn be used as a runway for quick response fighter jets to protect the nation's capitol?

The Hull Lifesaving Museum's reasons for opposing the AES proposal are numerous, but the main concerns we have are:

1. **Safety:** No other operational LNG facility in the United States is situated off-shore, and the behavior of Liquefied Natural Gas as it travels across water are not sufficiently understood or tested to ensure the safety of Hull, its citizens, and our children. Some vapor cloud and explosion-fireball scenarios are deeply chilling.
2. **Financial Benefit:** AES is one of many competing, out of state companies seeking to profit by seizing a market share in the quickly-growing LNG business. A new facility on Outer Brewster would not replace the existing Everett facility, but would be built in addition to it. (This means an increase in the number of LNG tankers transiting and offloading in Boston Harbor.) A new facility would financially benefit AES, but with no guarantee of lower gas prices for the people of the South Shore or New England.
3. **Supply and Demand:** Our region will have sufficient gas to meet the demands of the coming winter. Until a thorough study is made (of regional needs, and until issues of efficiency are comprehensively addressed, we cannot understand the region's, or the nation's, true needs.
4. **Commercial and Recreational Boating:** An LNG site will create an immediate off-limits area which will impact boating, recreation and commercial fisheries and lobstering, as well as have a long-term impact on the surrounding waters and marine life.
5. **Environmental Heritage and Stewardship:** Outer Brewster is a National Park, meant to be preserved for all and not sold for short-term interests. An LNG site will forever destroy natural habitat and wildlife on and surrounding Outer Brewster Island.
6. **Quality of Life:** Our region has resisted carpetbagger get-rich-quick schemes time and again, and this is another opportunity for us to show good sense and an appreciation of what makes the South Shore a remarkable place to live. AES is hoping to push local Selectmen and the Massachusetts legislature into a rushed decision – one that benefits the company at our town's expense. Let us insist on a thorough, independent safety evaluation, as well as a study of the complete environmental impact of this proposal on a timeline that values sense for the town, not the company that seeks to profit from our resources.

Sincerely,


Lory Newmyer
Executive Director

*Preserving and Perpetuating the Maritime Heritage and Lifesaving Tradition
of Hull, Boston Harbor, and the Surrounding Region*