

Reject proposal for liquefied natural gas import terminal at Corio Bay

This petition draws to the attention of the Legislative Council in the State of Victoria the community's safety and environmental concerns regarding Viva Energy's proposal for a liquefied natural gas import terminal at Corio Bay in Geelong. The community thinks it should not go ahead.

We request that the Legislative Council call on the Government to reject Viva Energy's application to implement their proposed liquefied natural gas import terminal at Corio Bay for the following reasons:

- The proposed LNG Terminal poses substantial health and safety dangers for residents, businesses, ferries and other shipping, as well as to community health and wellbeing.
- LNG tanker collisions, groundings, chemical spills or intentional attacks can have catastrophic
 consequences causing multiple fatalities. The Corio Shipping Channel, which Viva proposes to use
 for transiting LNG tankers is a mere 200 metres from the North Shore residential area. The channel
 is too narrow and shallow to be safely used by LNG tankers. Such close proximity to the shoreline
 introduces unacceptable risks to residents and visitors.
- Reduction of risks to all life in the vicinity of hazardous LNG tankers requires restriction of public
 access to shipping channels which adversely impact community use and enjoyment of Corio Bay.
 Those who will have their right to use the Bay banned or restricted include people who enjoy
 boating, fishing, swimming, and other water sports, and will harm Geelong's tourism economy.
- Many businesses and residents look to Geelong becoming a renewable energy hub. Geelong has the infrastructure, skilled workforce and manufacturing heritage to be the heart of the region's clean energy industry. Viva Energy's LNG import terminal takes our community backwards, to fossil fuels instead of a future in renewable energy. Australians want to move away from dangerous and polluting fuels such as LNG (gas) which contribute to the climate crisis. Gas leaking into the atmosphere is more effective than CO2 in trapping more heat, increasing the risk of severe temperatures, drought, bushfires and sea-level rise. Viva's proposed LNG Terminal would significantly increase Victoria's climate pollution when we, in Geelong, look to the Government to lead the transition to clean and safe renewable energy.
- Australia does not need Viva's proposed LNG as Victoria produces much more gas than it consumes.
 Analysis by Australia's Energy Market Operator shows that Victoria has sufficient, reliable and
 diversified gas until at least 2026. Unconventional fracked coal seam and shale sources of gas
 may be imported through Viva's proposed Terminal in circumventing the Victorian Government's
 ban on 'fracked' gas. Gas is on its way out as Victorian Government programs to reduce gas
 demand are kicking-in with Victoria's Gas Substitution Roadmap outlining a 50% reduction in gas
 usage by 2030 resulting in gas terminals becoming stranded assets.
- We call on the Victorian Government to instead support Geelong with investment in renewable energy jobs.

PETITION

TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF VICTORIA

The Petition of certain citizens of the State of Victoria draws to the attention of the Legislative Council the community's safety and environmental concerns regarding Viva Energy's proposal for a liquefied natural gas import terminal at Corio Bay in Geelong. The community thinks it should not go ahead.

The Petitioners therefore request that the Legislative Council call on the Government to reject Viva Energy's application to implement their proposed liquefied natural gas import terminal at Corio Bay in Geelong

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