



## GOLDBORO LNG LETTER

In May, Martha Justice Ministry sent a letter to MP Sean Fraser regarding the possible application for funding from the federal government to support the Goldboro LNG project. On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Pieridae Energy announced that it would not be proceeding with the project. We were happy to join our voices with the significant campaigns from the Council of Canadians, Responsible Energy Action Antigonish, and Mi'kmaw grassroots women that raised awareness about the potential damaging social, economic, and environmental impacts of this project.

May 11, 2021

Dear Mr. Fraser,

On behalf of Martha Justice Ministry, Sisters of St. Martha, Antigonish, I want to share with you our concerns about plans for the Goldboro LNG project in Guysborough County and the possible financial contribution of up to \$1 billion dollars to this project by the federal government.

We share the concerns of environmental groups and Mi'kmaw grassroots women about the risks involved with this project. First, while less polluting than coal or oil, liquid natural gas (LNG) still contributes to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and exacerbates the climate crisis. We believe that the federal government should be supporting projects that reduce GHG emissions, as Canada has committed to doing through the Paris Accord and through the recent legislation on GHG emissions reduction targets, Bill C-12.

The Goldboro LNG project has been under discussion for many years, and in that process local and national groups have raised concerns about its social, economic, and environmental impacts. Following on campaigns by the Council of Canadians and statements from grassroots Mi'kmaw grandmothers, our letter outlines the risks involved in this project and points to the more beneficial use for federal funds in the region.





*Embracing Our Neighbour  
and Our Common Home*

## GOLDBORO LNG LETTER *continued*

Further, the Goldboro LNG project has highly questionable viability. There are a number of barriers to even getting this project off the ground, and a number of reasons why providing financial support to this project is a poor use of Canadian tax dollars, as highlighted by the Council of Canadians, among others. There are other ways to support the community and region that would have better immediate and long-term impacts socially, economically, and environmentally.

Finally, I am sure you know of the concerns being raised by Mi'kmaw grassroots women about the development of a "man camp" to work on this project, potentially housing up to 5000 construction workers. While Peiridae Energy has claimed that Mi'kmaw communities will benefit from this project, Mi'kmaw grassroots women are raising significant concerns about a lack of consultation and the potential for violence against Indigenous women that could result. There is clear evidence that "man camps" in other locations have been associated with violence against women and increased trafficking of women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people.

We hope that the federal government is not led by the promise of short-term financial benefits from this project, a promise that must be challenged, at the cost of the long-term economic, social, and environmental well-being of this region and our planet.

We hope that you will give these concerns a great deal of consideration. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you further.

Sincerely,

*Darlene O'Leary, PhD  
Coordinator, Martha Justice Ministry  
Sisters of St. Martha, Antigonish*

Cc. Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Minister  
of Finance

