

DEMONSTRATION AT CORK CITY HALL URGES PASSING OF COUNCIL MOTION AGAINST LNG

Saturday 26th August 2025, 6:15pm, Cork City Hall, a group of climate campaigners, activists, Councillors and concerned members of the public, led by Not Here Not Anywhere (NHNA), held a demonstration against liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals. With banners reading “NO LNG TERMINALS” and “KEEP CORK LNG FREE”, the spirited group chanted “Flooded Lee, rising seas, We say no to LNG” and handed out leaflets to passers-by.

They highlighted that the Government’s scrapping of the policy banning imports of fracked gas earlier this year has opened the door to LNG companies [seeking to develop polluting LNG import terminals](#) around our coast - including in the Port of Cork. The campaigners are pushing for the passage of an anti-LNG motion that was submitted in June by Cork City Councillor Oliver Moran (GP) and is due to be discussed by the Council after the Summer break.

The text of the Council motion reads “That, as a Mission City to be climate neutral by 2030, Cork City Council is opposed to the development of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals, as new fossil fuel infrastructure, and will work to ensure no LNG terminals are developed in the Cork region; and shall focus its support on the development of large-scale renewable infrastructure for energy security instead.” The motion is due to be debated and voted on at the Council’s Environment, Water & Amenities Strategic Policy Committee in September.

Councillor Moran, who attended the demonstration, said,

“Cork City Council is a member of regional energy stakeholder groups and an EU Mission City to be climate neutral by 2030. LNG has no part in that and buying into LNG is only playing a card against ourselves.

He continued,

“Cork’s future is in renewables. It’s why the Port of Cork is investing €100m in a deepwater berth dedicated to servicing offshore energy. It’s why Cork ETB, UCC and MTU have come together to provide a first-of-its-kind Maritime and Offshore Safe Pass course at the National Maritime College in Ringaskiddy.”

He concluded,

“That’s to train people in the skills to work on turbines at sea. It shows how offshore energy will bring jobs and energy security tied to Cork. LNG will bring neither of those. So as a region we need to keep our focus and everybody else’s on the work underway for offshore renewables, without distraction.”

NHNA campaigner and PhD Researcher, Niamh Guiry said,

“The people of Cork have made it repeatedly clear, we do not want and cannot afford any new fossil fuel infrastructure in the midst of a widespread and devastating climate crisis. We stopped Next Decade’s LNG terminal in 2017, and we

halted Pilot LNG's terminal in 2022. We are at a pivotal point in history. Now is the time for radical action and political bravery, not new LNG infrastructure, especially since Cork is particularly vulnerable to sea-level rise and flooding. It is critical that the Cork City Council motion passes to send a signal to the Government that the fossil fuel era must end now.”



In reaction to a new Environmental Protection Agency [report](#) disclosing that Ireland faces a total of 115 risks ranging from projected changes in climate conditions, UCC's Dr Paul Leahy said that Cork [risks suffering significant damage](#) on a number of fronts, particularly when threats from weather events are compounded.

LNG terminals are expensive to develop and operate, [which incentivises the LNG operator to use the terminal as much as possible to recover costs](#). This would lock us into high-carbon energy, delaying the energy transition. If Ireland fails to meet its 2030 climate targets, [the country will face fines of up to €26 billion](#). Earlier this year, the head of Predator Oil and Gas, a company seeking to bring LNG to Ireland, [admitted that](#) he would not live beside an LNG facility in case it exploded.

A groundbreaking Advisory Opinion [delivered by the International Court of Justice](#) (ICJ) earlier this week means that if states approve fossil fuel projects or provide fossil fuel subsidies, they may be in breach of international law. It also means that States must regulate businesses' climate impacts.

Ms Guiry said,

“It’s unthinkable that Ireland could be locked into fossil fuel infrastructure and dependency for years to come. We welcome the historic ICJ Advisory Opinion, which means that pursuing the production and consumption of fossil fuels may risk running afoul of international law. We hope that this will make the Government reconsider any plans for LNG infrastructure, put in place necessary policy and legislation to prevent new fossil fuel infrastructure, and facilitate a rapid transition away from fossil fuels. Meanwhile, passing anti-LNG motions that champion a just transition and the development of widespread renewable energy infrastructure like the one before Cork City Council is hugely important.”



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