

City of Long Beach Working Together to Serve

Memorandum

R-22

Date:

August 23, 2005

To:

Honorable Mayor O'Neill and Members of the City Council

From:

Bonnie Lowenthal, Councilmember, First District

Dan Baker, Councilmember, Second District

Frank Colonna, Councilmember, Third District

Rae Gabelich, Councilmember, Eighth District RY

Subject:

AGENDA ITEM: Liquefied Natural Gas Facility

Background

On August 16, 2005, the City Council unanimously agreed to direct the City Manager to communicate to the Harbor Commission the position of the City Council that public safety should be the overriding consideration in its decision to site a Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) facility in the Port of Long Beach.

The recently enacted Federal Energy Bill provides for governors in coastal states to have the opportunity to submit a Safety Advisory Report to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission through, in California's case, the California Energy Commission.

Safety considerations which are to be included in the report include the option of encouraging remote siting. The City Council has not yet provided policy direction to the City Manager on this important component of the report.

It is now clear that there is an urgency for the need of the City Council to take a position on the appropriateness of siting an LNG facility in an urban area and to make that position known to the Board of Harbor Commissioners and to all appropriate governmental agencies.

Recommended Council Action

Request the City Manager to communicate to all pertinent parties, including the State of California via the California Energy Commission, the opposition of the City Council to the siting of an LNG facility in the Port of Long Beach.