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July 13, 2021

Chair Chad Harrod
Port Tampa Bay Board Chair

CC:

Charles Klug, Principal Counsel, Port Tampa Bay
Mayor Jane Castor, Tampa
Commissioner Harry Cohen, Hillsborough County
Marcia Meija, District Director for U.S. Representative Kathy Castor

Dear Chair Harrod,

We are writing this letter to confirm statements made by the Principal Counsel at the Port of Tampa Bay Board meeting of June 15th. During the Board meeting on that date, several concerned citizens urged the Board to speak to a [tentative agreement that Strom Inc claims to have reached with the Port of Tampa to export liquefied natural gas \(LNG\) from the Port](#). Strom Inc's insistence in [several reports to the Department of Energy](#) that such an agreement exists prompted our decision to express our disapproval of exporting LNG at the June 15th meeting and to seek further clarification from the Board about this project. We were relieved, however, by Mr. Klug's comments towards the end of the meeting clarifying that no agreement with Strom Inc exists and that Port does not plan to ever export LNG from the port.

Considering Strom Inc has claimed this agreement exists in several public documents, we urge you to issue a written public statement refuting the company's statements that will further assure Tampa residents that dangerous LNG will not be transported through the City to the Port for export.

The transport of LNG by rail or truck would be a dangerous affair in our region and the surrounding communities: a train derailment or a truck collision would turn disastrous as LNG is extremely flammable. Over the last several years, LNG export facilities have been built in Jacksonville and Miami, causing concern that the Tampa Bay region will also be a target of the expansion of LNG infrastructure, a fear further exacerbated by Strom's stated plan to build an LNG facility in Citrus County that would be transported from that county to the Tampa Bay's Port for shipment overseas.

Our hope is that the Board will make it abundantly clear there is no plan to export LNG from Port Tampa Bay and finally put this matter to rest.



We appreciate your time and attention to this.

Sincerely,

Michelle Allen, Food & Water Watch

John S. Quarterman, Suwannee Riverkeeper and WWALS Watershed Coalition, Inc

Andrew Rock, Florida Earth Holders Community

Alison Date, Tampa Tree Advisory Group

Marilyn Warlick, resident of Tampa

Sarah Edwards, resident of Tampa

Diana Cowans, resident of Bradenton