

Never a need for Downeast LNG says Save Passamaquoddy Bay

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There has never been a need for Downeast LNG, either as an import project or as an export project, says Save Passamaquoddy Bay.

In a letter filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Friday, SPB's researcher and webmaster Robert Godfrey is once again calling on the company's applications to be dismissed or denied.

He notes that Downeast began its import project proposal nearly six years late, lagging behind several other regional projects further ahead in development, all constructed and commissioned while Downeast struggled and failed to obtain State

of Maine permits and faltering in the FERC permitting process.

"Now, years later, after the rest of the LNG market reversed itself, rushing to permit and construct LNG export terminals - with 46.783 billion cubic feet per day from the lower 48 states already approved by the Department of Energy for export - Downeast LNG has finally admitted to itself that its import project is fruitless.

"The company's LNG proposals lag behind the rest of the industry. Yet again, in a 'me too' moment, Downeast LNG has decided it wants to be an LNG export project - once again, years behind the rest of the industry."

Godfrey said Downeast has, during its entire existence, remained

years behind the market and perceived need.

"It should be more than obvious to FERC and the rest of the world that Downeast LNG is chasing its tail; the LNG export market is already being rapidly oversupplied by U.S. export permitting and other (e.g. Australia) LNG export capacity.

"There is demonstrable evidence that there is no need for either of Downeast LNG's proposed projects - importing or exporting; there is no public interest in permitting the proposed projects,

"Downeast LNG and FERC are wasting precious public resources on the permitting exercise of an obviously late-to-the-party, unneeded, unwanted and ill-sited project."

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