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CP06-54-000
CP06-55-000
CP06-56-000

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20426

May 11, 2006

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Steve Israel
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Israel:

Thank you for your March 16, 2006 letter regarding the Broadwater LNG Project (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Docket Nos. CP06-54-000, CP06-55-000 and CP06-56-000).

Please know that the Commission is aware of the concerns regarding the potential impacts on Long Island Sound. As we continue our environmental review process, we will ensure that the impacts are thoroughly evaluated.

Our primary objective in the review of any proposed LNG import facility is assuring public safety. The Commission applies the highest safety standards in its review. The Commission's recent action on the proposed KeySpan LNG's Project in Providence, Rhode Island (Docket No. CP04-223-000) illustrates our commitment to those standards. Although New England is suffering from high natural gas prices, and projects such as the KeySpan Project are sorely needed as a way to increase natural gas supply, the Commission rejected the project because it did not meet its high safety standards. Further, we and the U.S. Coast Guard, through the engineering review and the Waterway Suitability Assessment processes, will address safety and security issues for the Broadwater Project and include a complete discussion in our Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

With regard to the disclosure of certain information related to Broadwater's proposal, some of the information filed with the Commission has been filed as Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII). CEII is, by definition, information that is otherwise exempt from public disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. The Commission has determined that portions of the Broadwater application (Resource Report 13) are not exempt from public disclosure under FOIA. Those public portions of the Broadwater Resource Report 13 have been posted on our website in the Broadwater Docket No. CP06-54-000.

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As is our practice, your letter and this response have been placed in the Commission's public file for this project, which serves to alert the Commission to the concerns of interested individuals and groups. If I can be of further assistance in this or any other Commission matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Joseph T. Kelliher
Chairman