Dear Member of the European Parliament,

We, 66 groups and organisations from across Europe are writing to you today in light of the upcoming plenary vote on the 5th Projects of Common Interest (PCI) list. The vote takes place in the week of 7 March. **In this vote, MEPs will have the choice to either support or reject 30 massive fossil gas infrastructure projects, worth €13 billion, set to lock Europe even further into a fossil fuel future.** A rejection of the PCI list is not a call to stop fossil gas overnight - but it is an important message to stop the further expansion of a costly gas grid that is already more than sufficient and will need to downsize in the coming years.

Gas is a fossil fuel that mainly consists of methane, which is 86 times more potent than carbon-dioxide in the short term. Methane is responsible for 25% of the global warming of the planet and should make fossil gas a clear priority for phase out under the European Green Deal. On top of this, combustion of fossil gas is now the biggest source of CO2 in Europe, ahead of coal. Fossil gas is not only wrecking our climate but our environment too, with massive pipelines and supply chains disrupting ocean and land ecosystems beyond Europe.

The impact of the 5th PCI list also reaches beyond Europe, supporting gas import projects and pipelines that would transport imported gas from all across the world. Gas from the United States, extracted almost entirely by fracking, is now the biggest source of liquefied gas entering Europe. Fracking leads to very high methane emissions, pollutes our air and contaminates our water, as well as posing serious safety and health threats to communities across the country.

Right now, in the midst of a gas price crisis, the defence of the gas industry taking priority over the lives of European citizens who are feeling the direct costs of this dangerous, volatile and costly energy source. These Europeans, living with exacerbated, or being thrown into energy poverty, will hold decision makers accountable for the political decision to lock them into volatile, and expensive, fossil fuel dependency. **We believe that access to clean and affordable energy is a human right and a precondition to a life of dignity - fossil gas does not help deliver this**.

We are running out of time to act. Decisions on this matter risk furthering EU gas dependence for decades to come. In this climate emergency, every vote matters and each individual who stands up in opposition to fossil fuels can make the difference.

We need you to defend Europe from the false promise of fossil gas, now more than ever, **by voting in support of a fossil free future**.

The **5th PCI list will secure accelerated permitting procedures and the opportunity to apply for public finance support for 30 dangerous gas projects across Europe**. Including, but not limited to, the highly controversial Melita Pipeline in Malta - a project linked to corruption and the murder of esteemed jouirnalist Daphne Caruana Galizia - and the EastMed pipeline - a costly multi-billion Euro project set to further geopolitical tensions and injustices in the Middle East. In reality, each of these 30 projects are condemnable for their failure to comply with the European Green Deal, and together show the disconnect between talking about climate action, and delivering it.

A motion has been put forward to reject the 5th PCI list on the grounds that it is not climate nor Paris Agreement compatible. **Please vote in favour of this [motion of resolution to reject the list](), and therefore vote against the 5th PCI list during the March 7-10 plenary**. The motion requires the EU Commission to present, before June, a new PCI list in line with EU law and climate commitments.

We thank you in advance for raising your voice in defence of European Citizens who deserve a livable future.

Sincerely,
Eilidh Robb and Frida Kieninger
On behalf of

Salento km0

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