

Contact Us | Place an ad | Home Delivery | Site Map | Print Edition | Services

Become a mySun |



HOME MARYLAND NATION/WORLD BUSINESS SPORTS ARTS/LIFE OPINION
MARKETPLACE JOBS CARS REAL ESTATE SHOPPING

Search:

Site Web

ADVERTISEMENT

\$500 UNDER INVOICE SALE

MERCURY MILAN MERCURY MARINER LINCOLN ZEPHYR LINCOLN

ON ALL NEW 2006 LINCOLN MERCURY... and you keep the rebates!

maryland news > baltimore county

Lawyer asks power supplier to withdraw LNG proposal

He also seeks to halt dredging of Bear Creek, Patapsco River

BY LAURA BARNHARDT
SUN REPORTER

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED MAY 13, 2006

An international trade and investment lawyer who has agreed to represent eastern Baltimore County residents opposed to a proposed liquefied natural gas facility on Sparrows Point yesterday asked the company that wants to build the \$400 million facility to withdraw its plan.

Washington attorney Bart S. Fisher also requested yesterday that Sparrows Point shipyard owners, BWI Sparrows Point LLC, which has a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit to begin dredging nearby, not begin the process of moving sediment until federal officials make a decision about the LNG proposal.

"It's like the Hippocratic oath: Do no harm," Fisher said.

Fisher said he is working pro bono for the Greater Dundalk Alliance's LNG Opposition Team because "the entire project is ill-conceived. I wanted to do what I could to help."

Kent Morton, the Sparrows Point LNG project manager for global power supplier AES Corp. which last month filed a preliminary federal application to build the LNG terminal, didn't respond directly to the withdrawal request yesterday or to news that the

ADVERTISEMENT

HARRIETT WASSERMAN
~Opening doors.~

410-458-5300
HWasser940@aol.com
25 Hooks Lane, #210
Baltimore, MD 21208

Prudential Caruthers REALTORS

- Talk a
- E-mail
- Print i
- Conta
- XML RS

IN
 **Baltim
Hometow**

PHOTO
 **The D.
Pictures**

RELO
G

COLLE
**On Cam
Learn**
 **Ou
fe:
of
colleges a
universitie
photo gall
listings, st
tips and r**

FREE
**We now
Breakin
Alerts v**

community now has a lawyer.

In a written statement, Morton said, "The benefits of the Sparrows Point LNG facility are just beginning to surface -- good, high-paying construction and permanent jobs, training opportunities for local residents, millions of dollars yearly in tax revenues, clean energy, the prospect of tempering both high natural gas and soaring electricity costs ... and once the full story is told, we believe that the AES Sparrows Point LNG facility will be viewed as a welcomed community-orientated business that's good for everyone."

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Lose 10 pounds in 2 weeks The #1 Diet Pill that Controls Your Appetite As seen on The Today Show www.hoodiamiraclediet.com</p> | <p>Car Insurance: Save \$500 We track down the best CAR insurance rates. Get your quotes in minutes www.bestcarinsurancesite.com</p> |
| <p>Buy a link here</p> | |

The shipments of the super-chilled liquefied gas would arrive by tanker two to three times a week. It would be transformed into natural gas at the terminal and pumped from the plant through an 87-mile pipeline, which would connect with BGE gas lines and extend through Harford County and into southern Pennsylvania, where the gas would be distributed to locations along the East Coast.

The project calls for dredging Bear Creek and the Patapsco River to accommodate the tankers that would import the gas.

Officials with Barletta Willis Investments, the company that holds the dredging permit, could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Residents and elected officials at the county, state and federal levels, have raised objections to the AES proposal. Residents say they are worried about pollution in the riverbed that would be disturbed by dredging, which they say would have disastrous effects on fish and crabs.

Community leaders have also expressed fears that the facility or tankers could become targets for terrorist attacks or could compromise the safety of nearby residents in the event of an accident.

The closest neighborhood, the historically black enclave of Turners Station, is less than two miles from the proposed LNG facility.

"This in an environmental misjustice," said Sharon Beazley, one of the Dundalk activists leading the opposition to the LNG plan. "And we believe it's a civil rights issue."

Fisher, who during the mid-1990s made a bid to buy a major league baseball team and move it to Northern Virginia, also represents the government of the Dominican Republic in its lawsuit against AES Corp. for allegedly dumping rock ash on two beaches. AES officials have denied the claims, according to Associated Press reports, and have said the dispute is between the Dominican government and a Florida company that AES hired to transport the ash.

laura.barnhardt@baltsun.com

The Associated Press contributed to this article.

> Sign up

WIF ED

Take i
View balti articles or device.

ALS

Maryland

- > Anne Ar
- > Baltimo
- > Carroll C
- > Harford
- > Howard

Columnis

- > Gregory
- > Jacques
- > Dan Ro
- > Laura V

Features

- > Back St
- > Police E

More cov

- > Educatio
- > Obituari
- > Politics
- > Traffic
- > Weathe
- > Lottery



Tuesday
May 23, 2006

54
Forecast

Home

Calendar

Classifieds

About Us

Subscribe

Place an ad

community

SPONSORS

- Top Stories
- News
- Sports
- Columns
- Obituaries
- By the People
- Weddings & Engagements
- Heritage
- Eagle History
- Archives
- Reunions
- Guestbook
- Community Links
- Health
- Entertainment
- Stocks
- Contact Us

LNG OPPONENTS HIRE ATTORNEY

Fisher has filed suit against AES for Dominican Republic

by Joseph M. Giordano

The LNG Opposition Team has added more ammunition to its growing arsenal aimed at stopping a proposed liquefied natural gas plant at the former Sparrows Point Shipyard.

On Friday, international trade lawyer Bart S. Fisher reached an agreement with team leader Sharon Beazley to work pro bono to help the St. Helena-based group through the twisting paper trail that ultimately will lead to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC has the power to grant or deny AES Sparrows Point Corp. a permit to build a 16-acre LNG processing plant, a decision that could take place next year, according to Fisher.

"[AES] has no idea what they're getting into," Fisher said during a phone interview from his Washington, D.C., office on Tuesday. "The Chesapeake Bay is a treasure, and an [LNG] plant does not belong there."

Fisher is no stranger to dealing with Virginia-based AES. He is locked in a legal battle over the company's alleged dumping of 57,000 tons of rock ash on a beach in the Dominican Republic last year.

"They are not good at their word," Fisher said. "In the Dominican Republic, the company did not honor the permits they were granted from the government and bribed an official to dump the ash."

An AES spokesman said he could not find anyone to comment about the case Tuesday.

When it comes to the Sparrows Point LNG project, Fisher said that enough is enough.

"It's time to stop dumping industrial waste and factories on Dundalk and Turner Station," Fisher said. "It's also a possible environmental disaster. I don't think [AES] realizes how their [Sparrows Point] project will affect the fishermen, watermen and recreational boaters in the area."

Fisher hopes to have the LNG Opposition Team's paperwork ready by the fall to present to FERC.

"This is a project that I believe was wrong from the start," Fisher said. "It's a disaster no matter how you look at it, and it has to be stopped."

On Friday, Fisher asked AES Sparrows Point by letter to withdraw its request for a permit to build the plant, which would cost about \$400 million to construct three holding tanks and an 87-mile pipeline from the plant to Pennsylvania.

"This is the wrong project for that area," Fisher said. "I can't believe that they would dredge there and stir up all the pollutants at the bottom."

Fisher also wrote a letter to Barletta Willis Inc. which owns the property and was granted permission to dredge by the Army Corps of Engineers last May. Permission

for that project was sought before AES proposed the LNG plant.

"No one should be permitted to dredge up that bottom," Fisher said. "It's an environmental hazard to everything around it."

But AES thinks otherwise.

Project manager Ken Morton said in a statement provided by the company that other communities were satisfied after the construction of an AES plant.

"Our sister AES facility in Cumberland [Maryland] has earned the goodwill of the community," Morton said in the statement. "[Cumberland was satisfied] with its clean coal-fired plant and the heavy involvement in community betterment projects with similar outreach efforts."

Morton defended the proposed LNG plant in Sparrows Point, though the community might have to wait to judge for itself.

"The benefits of the Sparrows Point [plant] are just beginning to surface," Morton said in the statement. "[There will be] good, high paying construction and permanent jobs. Once the story is fully told, we believe that AES Sparrows Point will be viewed as a welcomed community-orientated business that's good for the community."

Beazley and the Greater Dundalk Alliance, of which the Opposition Team is a part, do not believe the plant is good for the community and decided that the group would need a lawyer in order to formally file opposition with FERC.

About a month ago, Beazley scoured Washington looking for an attorney who could help.

"I was exhausted," Beazley said Tuesday. "Every law firm I talked to was either representing BGE or AES in other cases and would have [had] a conflict of interest."

But after talking to Fisher in late April, Beazley was pleased to get a call from him a few days later offering his assistance.

"To say I was ecstatic was an understatement," Beazley said. "[Fisher] is a brilliant man who can really make a difference for us. I can't tell you how blessed we are to have him."

Fisher is no stranger to helping out the those who need it.

The Harvard grad and Brookings Institute Fellow founded both the Give Life Foundation to raise the public's awareness of the country's blood shortage and the Aplastic Anemia and MDS International Foundation, which he started in 1983.

"I can't say enough good things about [Fisher]," Beazley said. "With him on our side we can't lose."

Copyright © 2006 Dundalk Eagle

Contact Us | Place an ad | Home Delivery | Site Map | Print Edition | Services

Become a mySun |



HOME MARYLAND NATION/WORLD BUSINESS SPORTS ARTS/LIFE OPINION
MARKETPLACE JOBS CARS REAL ESTATE SHOPPING

Search:

Site Web



maryland news > baltimore county

U.S. attorney asked to stop LNG project

Opponents' lawyer says facility would violate U.S.-Beth Steel cleanup agreement of 1998

BY LAURA BARNHARDT
SUN REPORTER

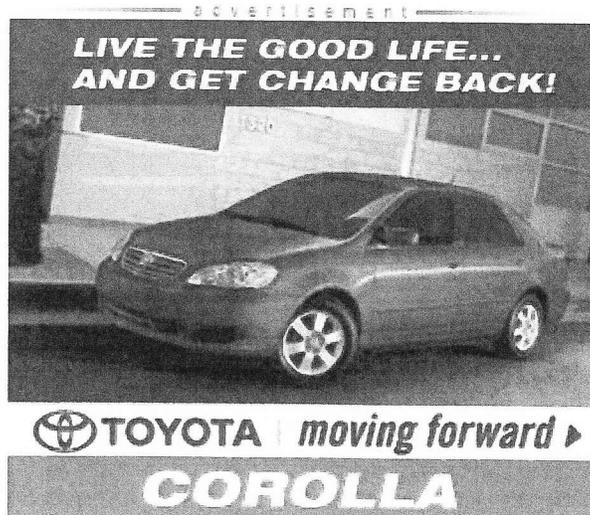
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED JULY 14, 2006

Saying that construction of a liquefied natural gas facility at Sparrows Point would violate an agreement that requires the former Bethlehem Steel shipyard to be cleaned up, a lawyer for Baltimore County residents opposed to the LNG terminal is asking the U.S. attorney to stop the project.

A 1998 consent decree between the federal government and the defunct steel giant requires that owners of the 250-acre Sparrows Point property continue cleanup efforts and prohibits activities that could cause more environmental problems, lawyer Bart S. Fisher wrote in a letter to U.S. Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein.

Fisher contends that the proposed LNG terminal would violate the terms of the 1998 agreement because the project requires dredging the Patapsco River to accommodate tankers carrying shipments of the fuel. Dredging, Fisher contends, would disturb toxic substances settled deep in the muck.

The lawyer also says that the process of



- Talk a
- E-mai
- Print i
- Conta
- XML RS

IN
 Baltim
Hometow

PHOTO
 The D.
Pictures

RELO
G

On the I
Baltimore:
guide to re
Maryland

COLLE
On Cam
Learn

Ou
fez
of
colleges a
universitie
photo gall
listings, st
tips and r

FREE
We now
Breakin
Alerts v

turning the liquid back into natural gas would release industrial toxins into the air, also prohibited by the 1998 agreement and by regulations for federal Superfund sites.

Vickie E. LeDuc, a spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney's office in Maryland, said that the office doesn't comment on correspondence, as a matter of policy.

Kent Morton, Sparrows Point project manager for the global power supply company that wants to build the LNG plant, said the project would not violate the 1998 agreement.

"Our understanding is that the shipyard was removed from the consent decree," Morton said.

AES Corp. wants to process LNG -- super-chilled natural gas -- at the old Sparrows Point shipyard. The Arlington, Va., company has proposed building a \$400 million shipping terminal and processing plant on a 60-acre plot near the Key Bridge.

AES' plans also call for construction of an 87-mile natural gas pipeline -- at a cost of \$200 million to \$250 million -- from Sparrows Point through Harford County to southern Pennsylvania.

For months, residents and elected officials have been opposing the LNG project, saying it would harm the environment, create a terrorist target and negatively affect the economy and quality of life.

"They're valid concerns," said Fisher. "But the project can't go forward on legal grounds. The whole thing has to stop."

In his July 12 letter, Fisher also alleges that the current owner of the property, Barletta Willis, is tearing out bulkheads that contain asbestos and contaminated wood to build a ship-repair facility -- work that Fisher says also violates the 1998 agreement.

Officials at Barletta Willis did not return phone calls yesterday.

County inspectors went to the Barletta Willis site yesterday, prepared to issue a stop-work order, said Donald I. Mohler, a county spokesman. They didn't find work being done, but, he said, the county "put the company on notice" that it needed permits before removing piers.

The county also denied a request by AES for access to county easements along its proposed pipeline for survey work. "The county executive is opposed to this project," Mohler said. "We're not going to do anything to facilitate it moving forward."

Fisher's letter to Rosenstein, Maryland's top federal prosecutor, is the latest attempt to stop the project by residents and elected officials who oppose it.

4.5% Fixed Consolidation

Student Loan Consolidation rate locked, Pre-qual in min. Apply online.
www.nextstudent.com

Hoodia Diet: Seen on 60 Minutes

New Hoodia Diet Patch Promises Fast Weight Loss, No Hunger! 1 Week Free
www.curbyourcravings.com/hoodia

[Buy a link here](#)

> Sign up

WIF ED

Take i
View balti
articles or
device.

ALS

- Maryland**
- > Anne Ar
- > Baltimor
- > Carroll C
- > Harford
- > Howard
- Columnis**
- > Gregory
- > Jacques
- > Dan Ro
- > Laura V
- Features**
- > Back St
- > Police E
- More cov**
- > Educatio
- > Obituari
- > Politics
- > Traffic
- > Weathe
- > Lottery

Last month, the Baltimore County Council approved a ban on liquefied natural gas facilities within 5 miles of homes -- a measure designed to, if nothing else, delay construction of the LNG plant at Sparrows Point, which would be built less than 1 1/2 miles from the nearest homes in the historically black neighborhood of Turners Station.

Fisher, on behalf of Dundalk-area residents opposed to the LNG facility, is calling upon Rosenstein to join other Maryland officials, including Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr., Baltimore County Executive James T. Smith Jr. and Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley, in opposing the project.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission decides what LNG projects are built in the United States. It is currently reviewing AES' preliminary plans, though the commission will not decide whether or not the AES project can move forward until later this year, after the company files a formal application.

The federal agency held public hearings last month on the proposed project.

laura.barnhardt@baltsun.com

Ads by Google

Get LNG Project Details
Global Coverage w/Project Contacts Online
Access - Wall Map Available
www.industrialinfo.com

LNG Journal
Daily news and technology review and analysis. 10x pa
www.lngjournal.com

Liquefied natural gas
Optimise your entire LNG production chain
www.shell.com/globalsolutions

Waterborne LNG Statistics
Detailed forward & historical LNG global movements and statistics
www.waterborneLNG.com

Oil and Gas
Investor returns climb as oil and gas drilling ventures succeed.
www.northstarenergyinc.com

Related News from the Web

- > [Environmental Law](#)
 - > [Law](#)
- Powered by Topix.net

Copyright © 2006, The Baltimore Sun | Get Sun home delivery

-  [Talk about it](#)
-  [E-mail it](#)
-  [Print it](#)
-  [Contact us](#)

Top baltimore county headlines

- [Police Blotter](#)
- [Volunteers clear path for new 'Big Backyard'](#)

- [Panel opposes busing to ease school crowding](#)
- [U.S. attorney asked to stop LNG project](#)
- [Baltimore County Datebook](#)

Top baltimoresun.com headlines

- [Prospects for Barbaro poor](#)
- [Israel, Hezbollah escalate attacks](#)
- [Bush forced to reverse course again](#)
- [Preterm births and their costs growing](#)
- [As attacks reach deeper, fear spreads](#)

Most e-mailed in the past 24 hours

1. [Base realignment bringing jobs, costs](#)
 2. [Gun shop lost license, but can sell inventory](#)
 3. [Edison schools see drop in scores](#)
 4. [Prospects for Barbaro poor](#)
 5. [Mike Himowitz: Getting help to remember passwords](#)
- [More most e-mailed](#)

[baltimoresun.com](#) > [baltimore county](#)

[back to top](#)

[Anne Arundel](#) | [Baltimore County](#) | [Carroll](#) | [Harford](#) | [Howard](#) | [Education](#) | [Obituaries](#) | [Politics](#) | [Traffic](#) | [Weather](#)
[Home](#) | [Maryland](#) | [Nation/World](#) | [Business](#) | [Sports](#) | [Arts/Life](#) | [Opinion](#)
[Marketplace](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Cars](#) | [Real Estate](#) | [Shopping](#)

Contact us: Submit feedback, send a letter to the editor, submit a news tip, get subscription info, or place an ad

baltimoresun.com (TM) and sunspot.net (R) are copyright © 2006 by The Baltimore Sun.
[Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

Maryland Weather

Classified partners: [Jobs](#) | [Autos](#) | [Homes](#) | [Apartments](#) | [FSBO](#)

[Become a mySun member](#) | [Login](#)

Search:



Site

Web



Top News

Local

U.S.

World

By State

By Topic

Politics

Sports

Entertainment

Business

Technology

Science

Health

Strange

Search
 Photos

Opinion
 Editorials
 Letters

Classifieds
 Autos
 Jobs
 Real Estate
 Marketplace

Blogs

LOCAL

ARTICLE EXAMINER: There is a **more recent** version of this article. View article history.

LNG: Opponent has conflict of interest with dual roles



(Arianne Starnes-Teeple/For The Examiner)

Gov. Robert Ehrlich visited Sharon Beazley at the LNG Opposition Team headquarters June 1 in Dundalk 1 to show the state's support against the proposed liquid natural gas plant at the Sparrows Point Shipyard.

Printer Friendly | PDF | Email | digg
 Jaime Malarkey, The Examiner
 Oct 19, 2006 5:00 AM (8 mins ago)
 Current rank: # 591 of 8,461 articles

BALTIMORE - The firm trying to build a liquefied natural gas plant at Sparrows Point Shipyard wants to remove an outspoken opponent of the project as chair of a state-appointed task force studying the proposal.

Attorneys for AES Corp. filed a complaint with the Maryland Ethics Commission saying Sharon Beazley's dual roles as

coordinator of the LNG Opposition Team and co-chair of the neutral task force organized to study the proposal is a conflict of interest.

"[Beazley] is not able to co-chair the LNG task force in an objective and unbiased manner," the company said in a statement.

The state group decided Beazley and Joel Baker of the University of Maryland Chesapeake Biology Lab would serve as co-chairs during its first meeting in September — though only after a brief debate when one member said Beazley's leadership might tarnish "public perspective" of their mission.

Half of the task force's members have publicly denounced the proposed \$400 million facility, which would reheat liquefied gas and send it through an 87-mile pipeline passing through Harford County into southern Pennsylvania.

The LNG Opposition Team said the plant is too close to homes and worry dredging will stir toxic sediment at the bottom of the Bay.

Attorney Bart Fisher called the 41-page complaint an "insult" from "billionaire bullies."

"I think it's outrageous and an attempt to intimidate the task force," Fisher said.

"I believe it's an unfortunate effort on their part to disparage the work of the task force by implying they could be influenced by someone with a point of view."

The General Assembly passed legislation calling for the 14-member task force this year, tasking appointees to compile facts on the siting and safety of LNG

facilities.

The complaint comes less than a month after AES sued Baltimore County for a zoning law that bans LNG terminals within five miles of homes.

The company is arguing the federal government's exclusive authority to determine LNG sites supersedes local zoning laws.

jmalarkey@baltimoreexaminer.com

[Ads by Goooooogle](#)

[Advertise on this site](#)

Get LNG Project Details

Global Coverage w/Project Contacts Online Access - Wall Map Available

www.Industrialinfo.com

Engineering Manager

Apply for this position now! In Oil & Gas Industry

www.worldwideworker.com

Shell Career Vacancies

Make a difference Apply online today

www.shell.com/careers

Employment Law Firm

High-quality legal representation in D.C. and Northern Virginia.

www.searcy-lawoffices.com

Examiner

[Add News to Your Website](#) | [RSS](#) | [News by Topic](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Join Examiner](#) | [Copyrig](#)

Google

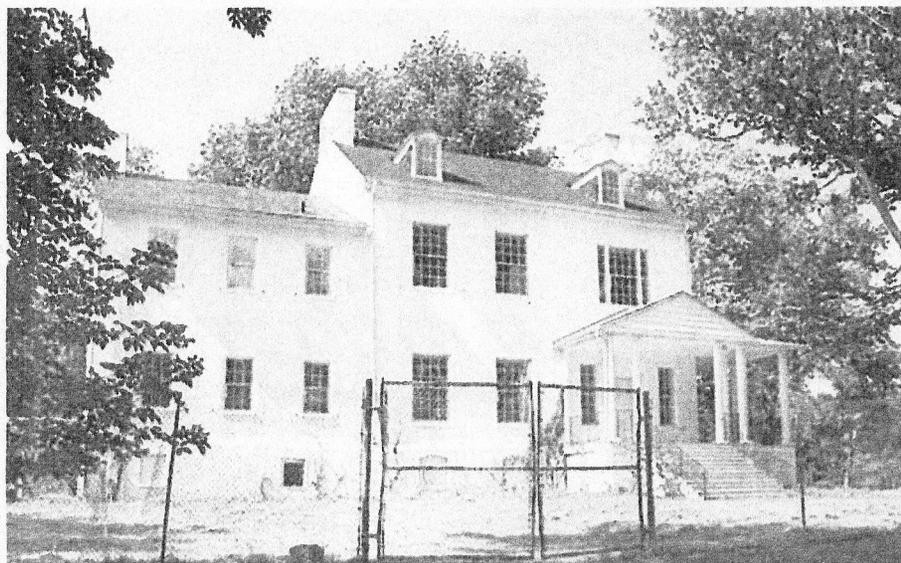
Search

East County TIMES

July 19, 2007 • Volume 12, No. 41

Serving Essex, Middle River, Chase, Rosedale, White Marsh, Perry Hall, Edgemere & Dundalk

Perry Hall Mansion: Can You Dig It?



A new group, Friends of the Perry Hall Mansion, has plans to conduct an archaeological dig on the grounds of the historic structure. They hope to find some interesting artifacts, including the grave site of Harry Dorsey Gough. See the full story on page 8.

- photo by Diane Carliner -

LNG Behind the Scenes

- by Diane Carliner -

According to Bart Fisher, AES-LNG did not suddenly spring full blown into Sparrows Point and wanting to locate a Liquefied Natural Gas facility there. Existing conditions led them to the area. "This is an environmental justice issue. AES and other polluters look for areas where there are very poor people who can't afford to hire a lawyer. They look for areas that have already been polluted."

Fisher is the Washington, D.C. attorney for the grassroots LNG Opposition Team. He is fighting to keep LNG out of Sparrows Point pro bono - for free. A local person found him by following a previous case he won against AES in the Dominican Republic, where he got AES to stop dumping waste on beaches.

- see LNG, page 7 -

INSIDE:

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| News | Page 4 |
| Community Resources | Page 9 |
| Seniors | Page 10 |
| Business Matters | Page 12 |
| Where We Worship | Page 14 |
| Books | Page 16 |
| Obituaries | Page 17 |
| 911 | Page 18 |
| In Your Words | Page 19 |
| Politician's Soapbox | Page 20 |
| Your Health | Page 22 |
| Sports/Rec. | Page 24 |
| School Notebook | Page 25 |
| Spotlight | Page 26 |
| Classifieds | Page 30 |

VISIT US ONLINE AT:
www.eastcountytimesonline.com



Make Your Workplace Even Cooler

NEWS

LNG

- Continued from page 1 -

Fisher believes that an AES facility in Sparrows Point would be detrimental not only to the immediate area, but up and down the entire Chesapeake Bay. "It would be bad for commercial and recreational fishing. It would be inviting for terrorists because it would be near a heavily populated area. It is out of scale in size. Each supertanker that would be coming in is longer than a football field and 12 stories high," he said.

Although Fisher practices law in Washington, D.C., he has empathy for the people in the Sparrows Point - Dundalk area. "There is an epidemic of asthma in Turners Station [the area closest to where AES wants to locate]. About 25 percent of the people living there are disabled. Maryland has the third highest rate of cancer in the nation. The smell is unbelievable with vile odors and terrible air quality."

Fisher believes existing area pollution contributed to AES' trying to come in. The problem includes waste disposal at Grey's Landfill in Sparrows Point at the Tin Mill Canal. Nearby industry has filled the air with asbestos and streams of particulate. The consent decree to clean up Bethlehem Steel was never fully enforced. Fisher said the attitude of a prominent Maryland government attorney is typical, that the area is a

"dump and let's dump some more." "People in that area are being treated like an abused wife," he observed.

He noted that AES has deep pockets with about \$12 billion a year in revenue. A few years ago an AES strategy was to hire then-Governor Ehrlich's attorney and fundraiser who was highly visible. "AES knows how to work the system. I feel much more hopeful with Governor O'Malley," he opined.

Fisher added that in his opinion, AES is trying to get in anywhere they can on the east coast. "They tried to locate in the Fort Lauderdale area, but people there have money and were able to defeat them. Boston is putting up a huge fight now."

Fisher and Sharon Beazley, LNG Opposition Team Leader, are a mutual admiration society. Beazley says, "Bart is our community's miracle. He is a very capable, brilliant man." Fisher says, "If it were not for Sharon, LNG would be on its way to Sparrows Point. Sharon rallied people and got volunteers to make politicians listen. The volunteer group is amazing."

The latest information is that AES has appealed Judge Richard Bennett's decision to keep an LNG facility out of sensitive Chesapeake Bay coastal waters. Fisher informed the *East County Times* that AES is still filing papers with the

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) which is the final authority in the matter - FERC wants more information than what AES originally filed.

Funds will be needed to hire expert witnesses for Baltimore County against building an LNG facility. Any amount will be welcome. Checks should be

made payable to the Greater Dundalk Alliance. For questions about your donation, phone Sharon Beazley, 443-756-0980. Address: Greater Dundalk Alliance, C/O Sharon Beazley, Opposition Team Leader, P.O. Box 21803, Dundalk, MD 21222.

W.O.W. Thanks the Essex Community for Supporting Our Cause

- by Debra Gallio -

The fireworks tent located at 900 Eastern Boulevard was manned by Women of Worth (W.O.W.) volunteers from June 22 - July 4. Volunteers from the Apostolic Life Center, Daybreak Christian Assembly and the Essex Church of God were relentless in their efforts to make this fundraiser a great success. It is an awesome thing to see your neighbors come together because of love, compassion and the desire to make a difference. These people sacrificed their time and their money, but most importantly their holidays with their families, in order for others to eat, have a roof over their heads or clothes to wear. W.O.W. thanks each of our volunteers for their efforts and would like to give special thanks to Ric Metzgar, Brenda & Mike Stiffler, Holly Toft, Tony Gallio, Pam, Amy & Angie Vaughn, Holly Toft and Chuck & Connie

amount of time during this event. W.O.W. would also like to salute our star salesman, Dayle Boller, who really put in an awesome effort and emptied out the tent. W.O.W. graciously thanks Mike Vaughan, owner of Meineke, for hosting the fundraiser on his parking lot. W.O.W. would also like to thank Mr. Singh, local business owner located next door to Meineke, for his donation and support of our program during our fundraiser.

Despite all of the hard work that Women of Worth has put into their fundraisers, there are never enough funds or manpower to go around. We invite all local businesses to become involved with either your time or your money. W.O.W. is not a giveaway program. We must sift through the many requests we receive and find the earnest cries for help. Our program is designed to help those people who want and des-

Groups file LNG appeals, say decision was rushed

Energy regulators might review Sparrows Point terminal project

BY MARY GAIL HARE | mary.gail.hare@baltsun.com

Nearly a dozen government, business and community groups in three states have asked federal energy regulators to rescind approval of a proposed liquefied natural gas terminal at Sparrows Point in eastern Baltimore County and an 88-mile pipeline to Pennsylvania.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will have until March 16 to reply.

"The number of appeals is not at all unusual, given the interest in this issue," FERC spokeswoman Tamara Young-Allen said yesterday. "All requests will be addressed. The commission can reaffirm its decision, modify it, or maybe the arguments are so compelling they will rehear the request."

Besides filings by Maryland's attorney general and Department of the Environment and Baltimore County's attorney, appeals were submitted by homeowners' associations, developers and environmental activists in Maryland and Pennsylvania and by Columbia Gas Transmission LLC of Fairfax, Va.

Most appeals contended that the FERC's Jan. 15 decision in favor of Virginia-based AES Corp. was rushed. Columbia Gas said the proposed pipeline would be too close to its pipelines.

"There are so many points of law that FERC just blew by in its haste to issue this permit," said Russell Donnelly, who represents LNG Opposition, an eastern Baltimore County neighborhood coalition. "They made legal and fatal errors by putting this project in the fast lane."

The commission gave AES permission to proceed with the project once the company meets 169 conditions based on environmental and safety concerns. AES declined to comment yesterday.

The appeals, which had to be filed by Tuesday, criticized the commission for ruling before critical environmental reviews by various state and federal agencies were completed.

Jon Wellinghoff, the only commissioner to dissent on the FERC's 4-1 decision, said AES failed to demonstrate the need for the project and did not adequately address adverse environmental impacts. He is now the FERC's chairman.

"Wellinghoff's appointment should work to the benefit of those who want reconsideration of this decision," said Bart Fisher, a Washington attorney

who represents LNG Opposition. "There is a good chance the commission will rehear"

In addition to raising environmental issues in his appeal, Fisher discussed what he called the injustice of placing the project in the midst of some of Baltimore County's poorest neighborhoods, such as Turners Station.

"The company is doing this to populations living below the poverty line who don't have the means to fight back," he said. "FERC is an accomplice in the environmental lynching of these neighborhoods."

Should the FERC refuse to rehear the application, most opponents have indicated they will seek redress in the federal appeals court.

www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/baltimore-county/bal-md.co.lng13feb13,0,3507056.story

baltimoresun.com

Lawsuit seeks to scrap LNG terminal

Plaintiffs say Sparrows Point project would harm environment, safety

By [Mary Gail Hare](#) | The Baltimore Sun

February 13, 2010

Neighbors of the proposed liquid natural gas terminal at Sparrows Point asked the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington on Friday to scrap federal regulators' approval of the \$400 million project.

The lawsuit comes a year after the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved the proposal of AES Sparrows Point LNG to build the terminal on the site of the former Sparrows Point shipyard.

"We are asking the court to look at the entire record and see the error of FERC's decision, which was arbitrary and capricious," Washington attorney Bart S. Fisher said. "We are basically suing FERC and asking it to reverse its decision."

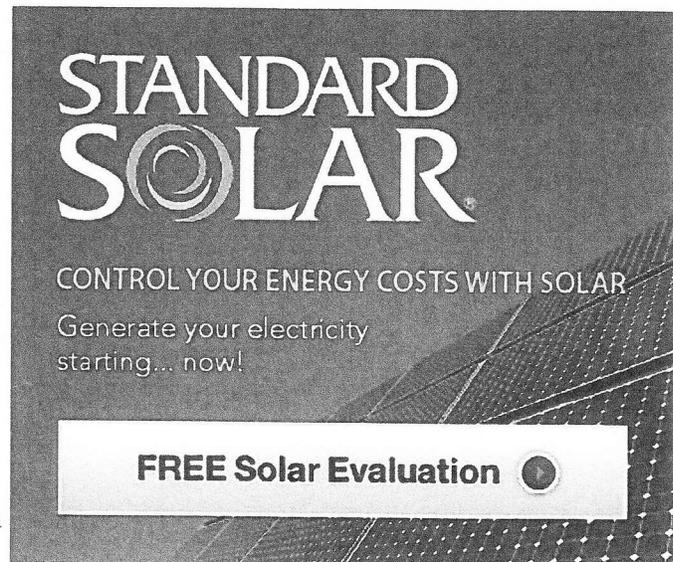
Representatives of AES, headquartered in Arlington, Va., could not be reached for comment on Friday.

FERC approved plans for the terminal and an 88-mile pipeline to Pennsylvania, provided that AES meets 169 conditions. The company has yet to fulfill most of them.

Nearly a dozen government, business and community groups, including the state of Maryland and Baltimore County, filed appeals of the FERC decision. The five-member panel declined to hear any of the appeals. The lawsuit Friday, filed by the community group LNG Opposition Team, is also asking the appeals court to review that FERC action.

Fisher said a reversal of the approval would "drive the final stake" into a project that has drawn strong opposition from government officials and neighborhood groups. Among the few supporters are area labor unions that are eager for the jobs the project would create.

"We will remake the same arguments" against the proposal, Fisher said. "It will have adverse environmental impacts and it will increase the threat of terrorism. It will also pose a direct threat to the safety of those who live near it."



STANDARD SOLAR

CONTROL YOUR ENERGY COSTS WITH SOLAR

Generate your electricity starting... now!

FREE Solar Evaluation

The advertisement features a dark background with a grid pattern of small white dots. The text is in white and black. A white button with a play icon is at the bottom.

He said he expects Attorney General Douglas F. Gansler and Baltimore County to pursue similar appeals, but neither was able to confirm that Friday.

Among the conditions AES must meet is receiving a water-quality permit from the Maryland Department of the Environment. MDE has denied approval of the company's plan to dredge the Baltimore harbor to depths that could handle the large LNG tankers, saying that it would remove significant amounts of contaminated sediment and create a dead zone by depleting oxygen vital to aquatic life. AES has also not submitted a plan for disposal of the sediment.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Va., upheld MDE's denial of the permit in December. That same court denied AES' petition for a rehearing on the water quality issue last week.

"This is all good news," said Guido Guarnaccia, a founding member of the LNG Opposition Team. "We have had two strikes against AES, and with a third one, we can tell this company to take a hike. Our whole community is rejoicing."

Discuss this story and others in our talk forums

Most recent local news talk forum topics:

- [Roof collapsed, Ambulance had to park down the street.](#)
- [no work, no pay?](#)
- [Amber alert - elkton, md](#)

More news talk forums: [Local](#) | [Nation/World](#) | [Business](#) | [Health/Science](#) | [Computers/Technology](#)

Note: In-story commenting has been temporarily disabled due to technical issues. We are working to correct the issue and will bring back this feature in the future. In the meantime, please use our talk forums to discuss stories.

Copyright © 2010, [The Baltimore Sun](#)