

Gas is a fossil fuel that destroys the climate and cannot play a role in our future energy system if we want to stop dangerous climate change. Combustion of gas emits not only carbon dioxide (CO₂), but also methane, which in a shorter period of time is as much as 86 times more powerful than CO₂. Additionally, if gas leaks only three percent of its methane content, it becomes a higher pollutant than coal, but most European companies ignore methane emissions.

The Green Action calls on citizens to sign an international petition asking the European Commission not to approve a new list of priority energy projects because it includes harmful projects such as the onshore LNG terminal on Krk.

The European Commission is currently drawing up the fifth list of projects of common interest (the so-called PCI list – Projects of Common Interest) for infrastructure projects that should gain access to EU funds and benefit from accelerated implementation. As many as 74 large gas projects have been applied for a place on this list, and one of the proposed is the continuation of the LNG project on Krk, the so-called the second phase, together with the associated piping / interconnectors and the gas compressor.

Although the documents published on the European Commission's website do not state exactly what the second phase is, according to the Environmental Impact Study for the floating LNG (UPP) terminal on Krk, it refers to the construction of an onshore LNG terminal in Omisalj, according to Zelena akcija.

"The EU should not continue to spend hundreds of millions of taxpayers' euros on expanding the pipeline of questionable sustainability and cost-effectiveness. On the contrary, the goal should be for our energy system to become fully based on renewable energy sources and energy efficiency measures," they point out in the Green Action.

The green action reminds that gas, as a fossil fuel, cannot be considered transitional, ie. transitional fuel in tackling the climate crisis. The European Commission has repeatedly promised that the next PCI list will be aligned with the European Green Plan. However, this harmonization means that this list should not include gas projects. The Green Action also points out that the European Ombudsman warned in her report that the Commission had given priority status to gas projects on previous PCI lists, including the floating LNG terminal on Krk, without properly assessing their impact on climate change.

A public consultation on the draft of the new PCI census is open until 8 April, after which the Commission will present its responses to the regional groups with a view to assessing the projects and completing the census, which is planned to be adopted by the end of 2021. "This is a crucial moment to tell the Commission that no project involving gas should be on the priority list," said Marija Mileta of the Green Action.



Unacceptable expansion of LNG terminal on the Croatian island of Krk

Source: ekovjesnik.hr