



**KEN KEECHL**

Commissioner  
Board of County Commissioners - District 4  
e-mail: kkeechl@broward.org

Kathy Singer, Chief Aide  
Natalie Levy  
Administrative Coordinator  
954-357-7004  
FAX 954-357-7798

May 30, 2008

The Honorable Governor Charlie Crist  
The Capitol  
Plaza Level 05 Office of the Governor  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Subject: Suez/Calypso Deepwater Port Project

Dear Governor Crist:

As the Broward County Commissioner representing a significant portion of coastal Broward County, I am writing to express my opposition to the Calypso Deepwater Port Project ("Calypso Project") proposed by the Suez Energy North America Company ("Suez"). As you know, if approved by your office, the Calypso Project would be situated directly off the coast of Broward County.

Since a significant portion of my district encompasses the coastal communities of Broward County, I have the ultimate responsibility of responding to the many telephone calls, letters and emails from my constituents who overwhelmingly disfavor this project.

As a result of the concerns expressed by my constituents, I personally met with the principals of Suez to learn more about the Calypso Project. I have also met with the President of the Galt Mile Community Association, Pio Ieraci, and the representatives of the 100+ condominium associations directly adjacent to the proposed Calypso Project.

Moreover, on May 28, 2008, I attended a public forum held by Suez and the U.S. Coast Guard ostensibly to address the concerns of my constituents. Understandably, Suez asserted that its Calypso Project is a safe and environmentally-friendly venture and that it will provide a much-needed new supply of natural gas for South Florida.

Nevertheless, I continue to have grave concerns relating to Calypso Project and, in particular, the safety of our mutual constituents.

Eric Berkowitz, editor of the Galt Ocean Community Association News, has extensively researched the benefits and detriments of Liquefied Natural Gas ("LNG") facilities and, in particular, the Calypso Project. I strongly urge you, and your staff, to review his research, including the source documents referenced therein. This article may be found at <http://www.galtmile.com/>.

Reply to:  
115 South Andrews Avenue, Room 412, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

In pertinent part (and of particular concern to me) are the following statements:

*Dozens of counter-terrorism authorities have warned against the establishment of LNG facilities in densely populated areas. A December 2007 Government Accounting Office (GAO) Maritime Security report confirms that LNG tankers face "suicide attacks from explosive-laden boats, 'standoff' attacks with weapons launched from a distance and armed assaults" resulting in a "severe threat to public safety, environmental consequences, and disruption of the energy supply chain." This Congressional Report by the GAO exhorts that "the Coast Guard – the lead federal agency for Maritime Security – has insufficient resources to meet its own self-imposed security standards."*

*On April 24, 2008, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved a bill (HR 2830) by a vote of 395 Yeas vs. 7 Nays making the Coast Guard enforce security zones around 8 LNG terminals and any arriving tankers – all potential terrorism targets – despite a threatened Administration veto.*

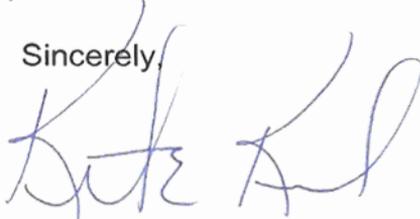
*Serving as terrorism chief under President George W. Bush and Bill Clinton until retiring in 2003, Richard Clarke admonished that senior Bush Administration officials knew "that al-Qaeda operatives had been infiltrating Boston by coming in on liquid natural gas tankers from Algeria" prior to the 9-11 terrorist attacks.*

*LNG terminals are "a terrorist attack waiting to happen" said Anne Korin, director of policy and strategic planning at the Institute for the Analysis of Global Security, a nonprofit think tank in Washington, D.C. that focuses on energy security issues. Korin said the type of attack conducted against the double hulled French oil tanker Limburg, in which a boat loaded with explosives rammed into the ship, and penetrated both hulls, could be a disaster when directed at an LNG tanker.*

It is our duty as elected officials to protect the health, safety, and welfare of those who elected us to office. Upon serious reflection, I have concluded that the possible benefits to Florida are unquestionably outweighed by the risks.

Thus, I respectfully urge you to disapprove of the Calypso Project at the appropriate time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ken Keechl', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Broward County Commissioner Ken Keechl