May 7, 2021

Energy Facilities Siting Board
89 Jefferson Boulevard
Warwick, RI 02888

Dear Energy Facilities Siting Board:

We write to you asking that you reject Sea 3’s proposed expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure in the Port of Providence.

Our communities in Providence, specifically the dense Washington Park and the South Side neighborhood, are already overburdened by fossil fuel development and polluting industries. Unfortunately, environmental assessments by the EPA have found that these community members, most of whom are predominantly low-income and people of color, are actively being exposed to high levels of dangerous pollutants, including diesel-based particulate matter, hazardous waste, and toxic air contaminants all of which are extremely harmful to one’s health. As a result, residents of these neighborhoods experience higher rates of respiratory diseases, lung damage, neurological disorders, and cancer.

Therefore, the expansion of Sea 3 would further harm the public health of our neighbors. After all, Sea 3 is proposing an expansion of their Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) facility. This expansion would allow more LPG to come in by rail and be stored in new storage tanks that would add to the dozens upon dozens of tanks already storing toxic, explosive material. The proposed expansion of this facility would also increase diesel emissions in the Port area, which is already smogged by industrial activities and truck traffic. Furthermore, this expansion would set our state back from achieving our recently established goal of net-zero emissions by 2050. Clearly, this proposal raises public safety concerns that must be vetted by the EFSB and ultimately rejected.

We respectfully ask that the Energy Facilities Siting Board reject Sea 3’s proposed expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure in the Port of Providence, an already burdened neighborhood with some of the highest rates of asthma in the country.

Sincerely,

Representative David Morales, District 7
Representative Anastasia Williams, District 9
Representative Rebecca M. Kislak, District 4
Representative Marcia Ranglin-Vassell, District 5
Representative Raymond Hull, District 6
Representative Scott Slater, District 10
Representative John Lombardi, District 8
Representative Nathan Biah, District 3
Representative Ramon Perez, District 13
Representative Susan Donovan, District 69
Representative Deb Ruggiero, District 74
Representative Lauren Carson, District 75
Representative Liana Cassar, District 66
Representative Teresa Tanzi, District 34
Representative Leonela Felix, District 61
Representative Justine Caldwell, District 30
Representative Michelle McGaw, District 71
Representative Brandon Potter, District 16b
Representative Brianna Henries, District 64
Representative Joshua Giraldo, District 56

Senator Tiara Mack, District 6
Senator Sam Bell, District 5
Senator Jonathon Acosta, District 16
Senator Kendra Anderson, District 31
Senator Josh Miller, District 28
Senator Alana DiMario, District 36