



# Congressman Tim Bishop

*FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK*

## NEWS RELEASE

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**CONTACT: JON SCHNEIDER  
PHONE: (631) 696-6500**

### **BISHOP ANNOUNCES CONGRESSIONAL FIELD HEARING ON LNG TERMINALS**

*Congressional Subcommittee to hold LI hearing on impact of LNG terminals*

Washington, DC—Today Congressman Tim Bishop (NY-1), a member of the House Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, announced that a Congressional field hearing will be held May 7 on Long Island concerning the effects of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals on the U.S. Coast Guard's manpower and resources.

“We already know from the Coast Guard's ‘Waterways Suitability Report’ that guarding Broadwater from threats will require more resources than the Guard can spare, including more patrol boats, crews, security boarding teams, and facility inspectors,” said Bishop. “Coast Guard resources are finite. Accordingly, congressional oversight is needed to determine what additional strain LNG terminals will cause.”

Bishop will be joined for this hearing by Subcommittee Chairman Elijah Cummings (D-Maryland) and Ranking Member Steve LaTourette (R-Ohio). Among other invitees, the Subcommittee will invite representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard, Government Accountability Office, Broadwater, and local elected officials to testify at this congressional hearing.

Broadwater is one of a growing number of offshore LNG terminals seeking licenses for construction in different regions of the country. Similar concerns in response to overextending the Coast Guard as well as potentially adverse effects upon maritime traffic and the environment have stirred strong opposition from citizens and community groups across the nation.

“There are many unanswered questions about what impact Broadwater and similar facilities around the country will have on the Coast Guard's limited resources and upon the residential communities and environment surrounding them,” said Bishop. “As a member of the Coast Guard's oversight committee in Washington, I want answers.”

Earlier this year, Congressman Bishop introduced another legislative challenge to Broadwater -- the National Estuary Protection Act of 2007, which would block highly volatile and environmentally hazardous LNG facilities from being placed in estuaries of national significance, such as the Long Island Sound.

The Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation will hold the field hearing on “Safety and Security of Liquefied Natural Gas” on Monday, May 7, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. in the Town of Brookhaven Auditorium, One Independence Hill, Farmingville, New York. Members of the press and the public are encouraged to attend.

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