

Postcard from Outer Brewster : 1

D : Wed, 15 Feb 2006 08:03:44 -0600

There seems to be some confusion as to whether Outer Brewster Island in the Boston Harbor Islands National Park and Recreation Area is an isolated, bleak, lonely, abandoned former industrial site in the middle of nowhere, or a beautiful sanctuary for both wildlife and visitors right in the heart of our great new national park.

The situation was complicated somewhat by the recent appearance of a grainy black and white photograph which was mistakenly captioned Outer Brewster Island, but was in fact another island altogether.

To help clarify the matter, and to help you better understand the impacts of the AES proposal to site the largest LNG terminal and storage depot in the country in our Boston Harbor Islands national park, beginning today we are distributing a series of photographs of this spectacular place.

Attached (and included)you will find the first in this series, a beautiful photograph by Jeremy D'Entremont, which shows historic Boston Light in the foreground and Outer Brewster Island in the background.

Please distribute this image widely - to friends and family, decision makers, opinion leaders, co-workers, elected officials and their staffs, etc. Please credit photographer Jeremy D'Entremont for letting us use his fine work.

If you would like a higher resolution version for publication, please contact me by return email. Thanks for your attention to this important matter.



Postcard from Outer Brewster : 2

D : Thu, 16 Feb 2006 06:25:00 -0600

Thought you'd like to see this article from today's Boston Globe.

For Foes Of LNG, Image Says It All

By Robert Knox, Globe Correspondent
February 16, 2006

What's the cost of putting a liquefied natural gas terminal on one of the Boston Harbor Islands?

It's the priceless view of Boston Harbor and Boston Light, one of the best known landmarks on the Massachusetts coast, according to Save The Brewsters, a grass-roots organization based in Hull that has put up a roadside billboard on busy Route 3A pointing to what it says would be lost if the LNG terminal were built.

The billboard, erected on the Weymouth side of the Fore River Bridge, features a colorful photograph of the harbor islands, including Outer Brewster Island -- the site of the proposed facility -- and its neighbor, Little Brewster, home to Boston Light. Jumping off the ad is the Hull group's fundamental message: "The Harbor Islands Are Not For Sale."

In a statement, the group said siting the terminal on Outer Brewster would "irreparably destroy natural habitat and marine wildlife, including the harbor's only major seal population, on and surrounding Outer Brewster Island while destroying a National Park, meant to be preserved for all and not sold for short-term interests."

The organization said it put up the billboard to counter efforts by the company proposing the LNG terminal and the public relations firm it hired, Regan Communications, to persuade the Legislature to approve putting the facility



on the island, part of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area.

AES Inc. of Arlington, Va., wants a 99-year lease to build a \$500 million LNG regasification plant on the island, which is 2 miles from the Hull shore and about 8 miles from downtown Boston. A legislative hearing on a bill to remove the island's state park designation, a step toward granting a lease, will take place next month.

AES is one of the world's largest energy companies, with operations in 26 companies. While its proposal to build on Outer Brewster requires a two-thirds vote of both houses of the Legislature, its opponents say they are afraid the regional energy situation might lead some legislators to support the company's plan.

Many people are under the erroneous impression that the LNG terminal in Everett would close if a new one were to be built on the harbor island, said Lory Newmyer, a spokeswoman for Save The Brewsters and also the executive director of the Hull Lifesaving Museum.

Since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, state and local officials have worried about the possibility of an assault on a tanker serving the Suez-Distrigas LNG terminal in Everett, close to the population

center of Boston. But Newmyer said that since different companies would own the facilities, the opening of one would have no consequences for the other.

Proponents have cited the region's growing hunger for natural gas in pushing for another LNG terminal in New England. AES has also sought to bring the local advantages of the plan home to Hull residents, saying that an estimated \$3.5 million a year in property taxes on the facility would go to their town.

Jason Lefferts of Regan Communications said his company has made this argument with Hull officials.

"The overwhelming [benefit] is, frankly, the money," he said, pointing out that \$3.5 million would be a significant bump to the town's tax levy. The town currently collects \$19.3 million a year in property taxes, according to the assessors' department.

Lefferts said the \$3.5 million could be used to help pay for the town's long-term capital needs, such as school projects and maintenance of the local beaches and harbor.

Hull selectmen opposed quick approval of the proposal last fall, but are still studying the issue. Newmyer said she hopes the board will take a position before the Legislative committee hearing on March 8.

She questions proponents' argument that New England needs another terminal to receive its supply of natural gas.

In fact, LNG facilities are national suppliers, she said, and a terminal on Outer Brewster would serve "anywhere in the whole country, not just New England." So while New England would gain no special benefit from a second terminal, the Boston area would undertake a bigger burden -- and an increased security risk, Newmeyer said.

She said such a facility would mar the natural attractions of the harbor and its islands -- the

point of her group's billboard.

The average LNG tanker ship is 900 feet long, 150 feet wide, and 120 feet tall -- and would dwarf Boston Light, at 89 feet tall with a diameter of only 22 feet, according to Save The Brewsters. Furthermore, construction work would destroy fisheries near the island, and the presence of the tankers would deny the area's waters to boaters, Newmyer said.

But Lefferts said AES proposes to make significant efforts to reduce the effect of the facility on the Harbor Islands park system.

AES plans to build most of the facility underground, with the tanks protruding only 20 to 30 feet above the island's current horizon. The plant would be sited on the north side of the island, the side farthest away from Point Allerton in Hull and a safe distance from the town, he said.

Those efforts are not likely to mollify the company's opponents. Newmyer said that even if state and national policy makers decide a new LNG terminal is needed, "a national park is the wrong place."

The billboard pushing that view on Route 3A motorists will be up for a month. Save The Brewsters says the ad costs \$1,500, paid for by donations to the group.

Robert Knox can be reached at rc.knox@gmail.com.
w

Postcards from Outer Brewster : 3

D : Fri, 17 Feb 2006 06:23:16 -0600

AS YOU MAY KNOW, THERE IS STILL SOME CONFUSION AS TO WHETHER OUTER BREWSTER ISLAND IN THE BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK AND RECREATION AREA IS AN ISOLATED, BLEAK, LONELY, ABANDONED FORMER INDUSTRIAL SITE IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, OR A BEAUTIFUL SANCTUARY FOR BOTH WILDLIFE AND VISITORS RIGHT IN THE HEART OF OUR GREAT NEW NATIONAL PARK.

TO HELP CLARIFY THE MATTER, AND TO HELP YOU BETTER UNDERSTAND THE IMPACTS OF THE AES PROPOSAL TO SITE THE LARGEST LNG TERMINAL AND STORAGE DEPOT IN THE COUNTRY IN OUR BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK, WE HAVE BEGUN TO WE DISTRIBUTE A SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF THIS SPECTACULAR PLACE.

HERE IS THE THIRD IN THIS SERIES, A MAGNIFICENT PHOTOGRAPH OF BREWSTER COVE AND CALF BAY BY SHERMAN MORSS FROM OUTER BREWSTER LOOKING BACK TOWARDS THE REST OF THE PARK. YOU CAN SEE CLEARLY THAT THE NEXT ISLAND IS JUST A FEW HUNDRED FEET AWAY.

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS IMAGE WIDELY - TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY, DECISION MAKERS, OPINION LEADERS, CO-WORKERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS AND THEIR STAFFS, ETC. PLEASE CREDIT PHOTOGRAPHER SHERMAN MORSS FOR LETTING US USE HIS FINE WORK. IF YOU WOULD LIKE A HIGHER RESOLUTION VERSION FOR PUBLICATION, PLEASE CONTACT ME BY RETURN EMAIL.

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS IMPORTANT MATTER.



Postcard from Outer Brewster : 4

S : Herald Flip-Flops on LNG?

D : Mon, 20 Feb 2006 09:23:15 -0600

In an unsigned President's Day editorial which appears to endorse both the Fall River and the Boston Harbor Island National Park LNG proposals, the Boston Herald asserted that Outer Brewster Island "is an ugly step sister to the other harbor islands - with no chance of being kissed by any public investment to help turn it into an island worthy of being called a "national park."

However, in a piece which ran on page 19 of Sunday's Herald, reporter Jenna Wolf describes the island as "picturesque" and the photos of the park's only colony of seals which accompany the piece are captioned "SPECTACULAR VIEWS".

As part of our ongoing effort to set the record straight, and to let the public and opinion leaders decide for themselves whether Boston should have a second LNG terminal, we have included a copy of Sunday's Boston Herald article and the accompanying photographs (which were taken on our Save the Harbor / Save the Bay's annual "Marine Mammal Safari" to Outer Brewster Island) as today's Postcard From Outer Brewster.

FYI: DCR Invested more than \$90,000 on Outer Brewster in 2005 as part of their work to make historic "Battery Jewel" and other WWII fortifications on the island safe for the public to visit and enjoy.

Harbor coalition works to keep island LNG free.
By Jenna Wolfe, Boston Sunday Herald, February 19, 2006

After years of battling to clean up Boston Harbor, Bay State activists are ramping up efforts to save what they say is a little-known harbor island sanctuary that is being eyed as a base for the state's second liquid natural gas terminal.

"We're very proud of the work we do," said Bruce Berman, a spokesman for "Save the Harbor/Save the Bay," a grass roots environmental organization of civic leaders, scientists and conservationists founded in 1986.

To support their cause, they've begun sending out images of picturesque Outer Brewster Island and its surrounding area "so people would know its not



SPECTACULAR VIEWS: On a trip to Outer Brewster Island, boaters look through binoculars at a colony of seals.

a tiny, bleak little island out in the middle of nowhere but instead a really diverse sanctuary," Berman said.

Outer Brewster Island is home to hundreds of species and the Boston Harbor Islands national park area's only colony of seals. The marine life could be threatened, activists fear, by a proposal to lease the land to A.E.S. Corp., one the largest enegy company's in the world.

The company wants to develop a \$500 million L.N.G. on the island. "Nine out of 10 days, we don't deal with projects like this," Berman said. "But when we have to, they take a lot of our energy." Berman, who also teaches a history course on the lengthy, costly harbor clean-up at Boston University, lives on a boat 200 days a year and said he "eats, sleeps, drinks and lives the harbor."

Save the Harbor wants to continue sharing the delights of the harbor with Boston. Each year, the group brings 3,500 inner-city kids to the islands to experience nature. "Everyone in our group believes in their heart that a healthy harbor is good for our city and our economy," he said. "Its one of the most fantastic places on earth."

Postcard from Outer Brewster : 5

S : Wish you were here!

h Thu, 23 Feb 2006 07:05:01 -0600

Since we first began our campaign to help the public and our decision makers understand the beauty and value of Outer Brewster Island and the adjacent outer islands of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park, we have been overwhelmed with requests for information about how to visit the Park this winter.

As part of the long-term plan to increase visitation to our island park (which was up 30% in 2005!) the Island Alliance and the National Park service have launched a series of fantastic winter trips from both Boston and Quincy. The next trip is this weekend, Saturday February 25th.

So don't be a couch potato. Visit the Boston Harbor Islands this weekend, and see for yourself why we are so proud of our park!

Outer Harbor and Georges Island Tour, Saturday, February 25, 2006. Cruise to the outer harbor and explore Georges Island on guided nature and history walking tours.

Depart from either the Fore River Shipyard, Quincy or Long Wharf, Boston. From Quincy: the boat departs at 10:00 AM and returns at 3:00 PM. From Boston: the boat departs at 11:00 AM and returns at 3:30 PM.

For tickets & reservations call Harbor Express at 617-222-6999.

Adult: \$17, Senior/Student: \$15, Child: \$12 FBHI Member: \$15.00

Kids under 5: Free

For more information about winter activities in the park, check the park's events database at http://www.bostonislands.com/events_search.asp.

For more information about why we oppose the plan to put an LNG terminal in the Boston Harbor Islands National Park, visit <http://www.savetheharbor.org>

Today's "Postcard from Outer Brewster" is a copy of a great article from the Boston Herald about winter programming in the Boston Harbor Islands National Park.

Hub's hot winter cruise

By Jennifer Heldt Powell

Wednesday, February 15, 2006 - Updated: 08:49 AM EST



Boston Lighthouse keeps watch on approach to the city.

(Staff photo by John Wilcox)

The harbor islands are blanketed in more than a foot of snow. A snowy owl inhabits an empty fort on Georges Island.

Harbor seals bask in the February sun. Migrating birds frolic in the chilly water, enjoying their winter home. It's a transformation of the vast park that until this year was open only to those with their own boats. The Island Alliance launched winter tours this year as part of an ongoing campaign to draw in more visitors - morning trips to Georges Island geared toward children and mid-day cruises around the islands for all ages. "We think the islands are a magnificent resource and this is an opportunity to show them off in the various seasons," said Tom Powers, head of the Island Alliance, which coordinates the various groups involved with the harbor's islands. Collectively, the islands comprise the Boston Harbor National Park, which is managed by the National Park Service. Some are owned by the state, which runs activities on them through the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Others are owned by other

agencies and organizations. Last year, 80,000 took ferries out to Georges Island, the harbor park's flagship and largest island. That's up 33 percent over the previous year. "It was a substantial jump and we're hoping to build on that success," Powers said. "The islands are the largest open space near downtown Boston. They really are at the fingertips of visitors in Boston." The numbers don't include people who took their own boats out to Georges. The push to promote the parks follows the cleanup of the harbor, which has made it more appealing. It helps that, because of the Big Dig, ugly highway girders have been knocked down, reuniting the city with its waterfront. The effort to draw more visitors comes as the city's tourism industry rebounds, approaching record numbers. Last summer, two high-speed ferries were introduced that cut the time of the trip to Georges from 45 to 20 minutes. (The ferries are heated, which allows for the winter trips.) The Island Alliance coordinated with the Boston Children's Theater last summer to offer children's performances Fridays on Georges. On Saturdays, there were programs about the islands' history and nature. This year, the group is working with a grant from REI to set up free kayaking on a weekday at Georges Island. The group hopes to also offer kayak rentals at other times. The winter trips are an opportunity to offer a different type of more in-depth tour than visitors find in the summer, said Kelly Felner, supervisory park ranger with the National Park Service. "It's part of our long-range plan to increase visitation with trips through the year," she said. "We attract people who want to dive deeper into the history and nature of the parks." Tours are scheduled for Feb. 22, Feb. 25, March 25 and April 19.

Postcard from Outer Brewster : 6

S : This island is for the birds!

D : Mon, 27 Feb 2006 06:22:46 -0600

As part of our ongoing efforts to help the public and decision makers understand the impacts of the AES plan to locate the nation's largest LNG terminal and storage depot in the Boston Harbor Islands National Park, here is today's Postcard From Outer Brewster.

The first photo, by Rebecca J. Harris, PhD, shows the heronry on Outer Brewster Island , home to great egrets, snowy egrets, black-crowned night herons, and glossy ibis. Outer Brewster is one of only two islands in the harbor that support breeding colonies of ibis, the largest in Massachusetts, and one of only four (or fewer) breeding colonies of glossy ibis in the state at last count (mid-nineties). The second photo is a stock photo of an LNG tank similar to the two AES proposes to locate on the island.



Postcard from Outer Brewster : 7

D : Tue, 28 Feb 2006 07:40:02 -0600

Just last week, proponents of the plan to put a gas plant in the Boston Harbor Islands National Park described Outer Brewster Island as “an ugly step sister to the other harbor islands”, and flatly assert that it is “unworthy of being called a national park.”

The 24 groups that make up our coalition, the hundreds of people who helped create the Boston Harbor Islands National Park and the tens of thousands of people who visited the Islands of the National Park last summer disagree with that assertion. (FYI: island visitation was up 30% in 2005!)

Outer Brewster Island and the adjacent waters are among the most popular destinations in the park for boating, fishing, diving, lobstering and for sailing. Each season they are an important destination for thousands of recreational boaters and visitors from across New England, and around the world.

As part of our ongoing effort to help decision makers and the public understand the value of Outer Brewster and the other Outer Islands of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park, here is today's postcard from Outer Brewster.



This photograph of sailboats rounding Outer Brewster Island and approaching historic Boston Light was taken last fall during the 1st Annual Harbor Island Regatta. More than 80 sailboats and 300 sailors competed in the race.

Postcard from Outer Brewster : 8

S : The view from Hull...

D : Wed, 01 Mar 2006 08:22:13 -0600

Next Wednesday March 8th, at 11:00AM in room B2 at the State House there will be a hearing on HR 4500, AES's special legislation to lease Outer Brewster Island in the Boston Harbor Island National Park and convert it into Boston Harbor's second LNG terminal and storage depot.

We hope to see you there.

To remind decision makers and the public just what is at stake at that hearing, here is today's postcard from Outer Brewster Island



Thanks to Steven Lathrop for the use of this spectacular photograph!

Postcard from Outer Brewster : 9

S : A very busy place?

D : 2 Mar 2006 14:34:58 -0600

You may be surprised to learn that the Outer Islands of the Boston Harbor Island National Park can be a very busy place, as recreational vessels, whale watch and excursion boats pass through this scenic gateway into Boston Harbor and the park.

Today's Postcard from Outer Brewster shows a whale watch boat heading out through Hypocrite Channel as our Marine Mammal Safari heads into Calf Bay to look at the national park's only breeding colony of seals. Even a minimal 500-yard security zone around the proposed LNG terminal and depot on Outer Brewster Island would restrict access to this important part of our national park for 99 years.



Postcard from Outer Brewster : 10

S : The most productive waters in the park.

D : Fri, 3 Mar 2006 08:48:43 -0600

The shallow bays adjacent to Outer Brewster Island are among the most popular and productive waters in the Boston Harbor Islands national park for fishing, diving and lobstering.

Today's Postcard from Outer Brewster shows one of the many lobster boats that lay and haul traps in the area, which is considered common ground for lobster fisherman from the North Shore, the South Shore and Boston Harbor.

Even a minimal 500-yard security zone around the proposed LNG terminal and depot on Outer Brewster Island would restrict access to this important part of our national park for 99 years, wrecking havoc on an important industry that is already struggling to survive, and destroying the integrity of our national park.



Postcard from Outer Brewster : 11

S : The most productive waters in the park.

D : Tue, 11 Mar 2006

As part of our ongoing efforts to help decision makers and the public understand the potential impacts of the proposed LNG terminal and depot on Outer Brewster Island in our Harbor Island park, here's today's Postcard From Outer Brewster, taken on this mornings cruise to the Boston Harbor Islands National Park.

The weather was fantastic (for early March!) the ocean calm, the turnout was terrific, and the seals were cooperative: We saw several at the entrance to Black Rock Channel, several more in Brewster Cove, and one brave seal feeding just off Boston Light, with Outer Brewster providing a dramatic backdrop.

Thanks to the Boston Harbor Islands national park area's Superintendent Bruce Jacobson, the National Park Service staff, and to Harbor Express for hosting this trip for park superintendents, the Boston Harbor Islands Partners and the Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council.

Thanks as well to those legislators and staffers who were able to attend.



Postcard from Outer Brewster : 12

S : Seal of Approval?

D : Tue, 08 Mar 2006

Every year (weather permitting) Save the Harbor / Save the Bay takes hundreds of area children out to Calf Bay and Brewster Cove to see the seals with which we share the harbor and the harbor Islands.

The fragile cluster of islands that make up the outer islands of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park is the winter home to quite a collection of seals, mostly harbor seals, but we have seen the occasional harp and grey seal there as well.

These shallow bays are quite small, and the islands, Green, Little Calf, Calf, Middle Brewster, Outer Brewster, and Shag Rocks are quite close to each other. The distance across the bays themselves is also quite small, about a thousand yards wide, just three times the length of the average LNG tanker.

Seals are pretty mobile, and they often travel quite a distance in the search for something good to eat, or

a comfortable place to lie in the sun. We have seen them on every island in the cluster. Just yesterday we saw one feeding near Shag Rocks, just off Outer Brewster. By the end of the month there should be dozens more, sunning themselves on the rocks during low tide.

If you would like to see them for yourself this year you are welcome to join us on our annual Marine Mammal Safari during spring vacation. Let us know you are interested, and we will save you a spot on the boat.

Today's postcard from Outer Brewster shows just a few of the many seals which make this special place their home. The photo was taken from my boat, the Shamrock, as we cruised around Calf Bay, just a tanker length away from the proposed LNG depot site on Outer Brewster Island.

--



Postcard from Outer Brewster: 13

S : Not For Sale

As part of our efforts to help decision makers and the public understand the impacts of the proposal to site the nation's largest LNG terminal and storage depot in the Boston Harbor Islands national park, we have been distributing images of Outer Brewster Island itself, and the other islands that make up the fragile and scenic cluster of islands and bays known as Brewster Cove and Calf Bay.

Today's Postcard From Outer Brewster is an original postal card from 1905, which shows two men in a small dory off Boston Light on Little Brewster, rowing towards Hull with the other Brewsters in the background.



We will leave it up to you to decide just what visual impact the proposal to bring 1,200 Ft. long, 200 Ft. wide, 150 Ft. tall LNG tankers into Brewster Cove will have on Boston Light, which is just 89 Ft. tall.

This postcard was purchased on e-bay, where images of Boston Light are routinely auctioned off to the highest bidder in an open and competitive process.

We strongly believe that the islands themselves should not be for sale.

Postcard from Outer Brewster : 14

S : Still Not For Sale

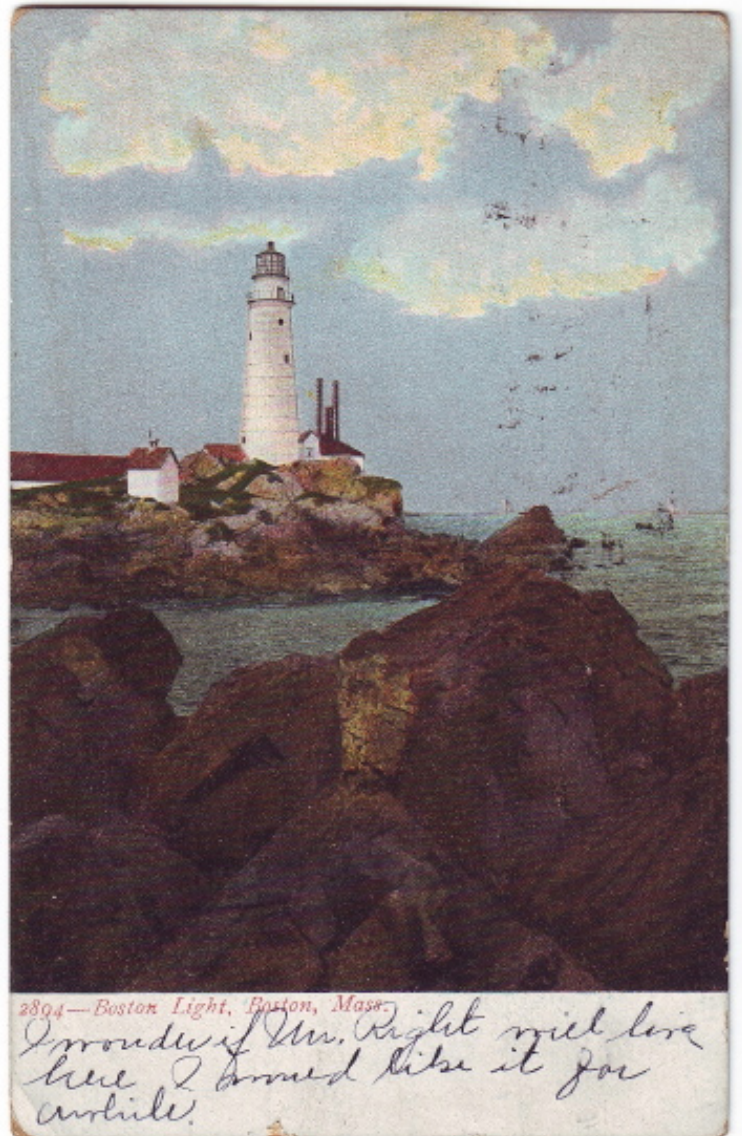
As part of our efforts to help decision makers and the public understand the impacts of the proposal to site the nation's largest LNG terminal and storage depot in the Boston Harbor Islands national park, we have been distributing images of Outer Brewster Island itself, and the other islands that make up the fragile and scenic cluster of islands and bays known as Brewster Cove and Calf Bay.

Today's Postcard From Outer Brewster is another original postal card, with a romantic hand written message from the turn of the last century. It shows Boston Light on Little Brewster with the other outer islands in the background, and one of the many rocky ledges that make up this remarkable place in the foreground.

The AES proposal would require extensive blasting of Outer Brewster, down to 23 feet below sea level. It would destroy critical nesting habitat for heron, ibis, egrets and other magnificent sea and shore birds. AES proposes to use the "excavate" to "regularize" the natural shoreline of the island itself, replacing it with rubble and riprap.

This postcard was purchased on ebay (at <http://www.ebay.com>) where images of Boston Light are routinely sold or auctioned off to the highest bidder in an open and competitive process.

We strongly believe that the islands themselves should not be for sale.



Postcard from Outer Brewster : 15

S : The Big Red Boat

For yesterday's hearing (Which went great!) on House Bill 4500, to permit an out of state energy company to build the nation's largest LNG terminal on Outer Brewster Island in the Boston Harbor Islands National Park, we were asked to prepare a composite which would help committee members understand the visual impact of the proposal.



Original Photograph : Steven Lathrop. He is in no way responsible for the simulation.

Here is the image we presented to the committee. It shows a computer simulation of a 1,200 ft. long, 200 ft. wide, 150 ft. high "next generation" LNG tanker docked in Calf Bay adjacent to Outer Brewster Island.

Calf Bay is just 1,000 yards wide. Outer Brewster itself is 60 feet tall. Boston Light is just 89 feet tall. For the record, the typical adult harbor seal is about 5 ft. long.

P.S. Here is a copy of an opinion piece from today's Boston Globe that I thought might interest you. The original title was "A Better Way"

From Paradise to LNG depot?

By E. Bruce Berman Jr. | March 9, 2006

LOCATED LESS than a mile from historic Boston Light, Outer Brewster Island is the seaward gateway to the treasured Boston Harbor Islands national park. This beautiful island is the heart of a fragile cluster of islands and bays that provide critical habitat for protected sea and shore birds, juvenile fish, trophy striped bass, and the lobsters that are so important to the region's maritime economy.

These waters are among the most popular recreational destinations in the park for fishing, diving, bird-watching, and boating. The views are magnificent, the water clean and clear. Each spring Save the Harbor/Save the Bay brings hundreds of young people to Outer Brewster Island and Calf Bay to see the park's only breeding colony of seals.

So it is dismaying to learn about a Virginia company's plan to lease Outer Brewster Island to build the largest liquefied natural gas terminal and storage depot in the United States.

The proposal by AES Corp. to locate a second LNG terminal on Boston Harbor and convert the national park into an industrial park wouldn't replace the terminal in Everett or reduce LNG tanker traffic into Boston's inner harbor. It wouldn't put a stop to any of the 16 other LNG terminal proposals in the region, such as the one proposed for Weaver's Cove in Fall River.

In fact, the AES proposal for the construction of a second LNG terminal on Boston Harbor would substantially increase LNG tanker traffic in the region while further restricting the use of these waters by other vessels.

The plan requires extensive blasting of Outer Brewster Island itself and of the rocky ledges of the adjacent bay. Construction of the proposed Fenway Park-sized facility would destroy the integrity of the park and the fragile ecosystem as well as spoil the views of Boston Light.

Today high-speed commuter and excursion boats, whale watch vessels, fishing boats, and many other commercial and recreational vessels regularly pass within a few hundred yards of Outer Brewster through Hypocrite Channel. The security zone that this facility would require would severely restrict commercial and recreational access to this part of the park. Since 1986, billions of dollars have been invested in the Boston Harbor cleanup and millions more in the park itself. Today that investment is beginning to pay off, with island visitation up 30 percent in 2005. The proposed LNG terminal would destroy the integrity of a magnificent recreational resource, damage critical habitat, restrict public access, and spoil the views of Boston Light. Permitting it to proceed would send the wrong message to industry -- that public parklands are for sale for private gain.

There are currently 17 proposals to site LNG facilities in the Northeastern United States and Canadian Maritimes, including two off Gloucester that would feed the same pipeline as the Outer Brewster proposal, and two in Canada that are already permitted and ready to proceed. These proposals need further review. Surely there is a better way to meet energy needs than by siting another LNG terminal in a densely populated area -- or in a national park.

E. Bruce Berman Jr. is communications director of Save the Harbor/Save the Bay.