



Memo to Council

From the Office of Councillor Amy Lubik

Date: August 24, 2020

Subject: Support for Opposition to Fortis BC's Proposed Tilbury Phase 2 LNG Expansion Project

In August, the Mayor of Richmond wrote Port Moody and other municipalities requesting support in opposition to the Fortis BC Proposed Tilbury Phase 2 LNG Expansion project. Opposition to this project is in keeping with Port Moody's values as a leader in the battle against climate change, considering that the transport and use of methane and liquified natural gas figure as major factors threatening to [prevent BC from meeting its urgent goals for climate protection](#).

In addition, to the reasons outlined in the attached report, [the social and biological health](#) of BC residents would be put into jeopardy by the proposed expansion of Fortis BC's LNP pipeline, while delivering doubtful economic benefits.

Richmond's reasons for requesting our City's support in opposition are as follows, and I have interpolated some additional points:

- The Project represents another industrial upgrade that is further contributing to the industrialization of the Fraser River estuary and its sensitive ecosystems. There are currently a number of major projects (proposed and/or approved), at or near the Fraser River estuary including the Robert's Bank Terminal 2 Project, the Delta Grinding Facility Project, the Vancouver Airport Fuel Delivery Project and the George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project (Attachment 3 of the letter). The City relies on the ecosystem functions of the Fraser River estuary to reduce the impacts of flooding and improve the community's quality of life. Recent updates under BC's *Environmental Assessment Act* and federal *Impact Assessment Act* have not been tested and have the potential to not adequately mitigate the long-term cumulative effects of climate change caused by the Project and others.
- Fortis states that additional work will be required to commission the marine jetty, should that project be approved (under separate environmental assessment). The City expects that this additional work be detailed as part of this Project so potential, related issues can be fully assessed.

Note: Port Moody is bringing a shoreline management strategy to UBCM to protect sensitive marine ecosystems in a coherent and collective fashion; this project potential to go against that.

- The Project does not align with Metro Vancouver's regional air quality objectives. Richmond is concerned that the Project will impact the region's air quality during construction and operation as volumes of contaminants (nitrogen oxides, carbon dioxide,

sulfur dioxide, hydrocarbons, and particulate matter) are expected to be released from the Project's related infrastructure.

Note: As a Metro Vancouver municipality we share an airshed and should be concerned about the collective health of Metro Vancouver residents. We also know that poor air quality makes residents susceptible to other diseases.

- Fortis is proposing to increase LNG production and storage capacity, and is preparing their operations to include marine shipping to offshore markets. Staff have concerns with the potential impacts that increased noise, light and atmospheric pollution will have on local wildlife and the community.

Note: As a climate leader, Port Moody should be opposing atmospheric pollution. Further, shipping LNG to offshore markets does not help Metro Vancouver and BC meet our climate targets.

- It is unclear if the City's road network will be impacted from increased LNG truck traffic.
- The site is currently located on land in the City of Delta that is designated for industrial uses. Fortis will be required to occupy additional land outside of the proposed project footprint for temporary construction laydown and staging areas. Land within the provincial Agricultural Land Reserve should not be developed to support these areas during construction.

Note: Food security of the Metro Vancouver Region is dependent on the health of agricultural lands. COVID-19 has highlighted just how greatly Metro Vancouver needs a food security and sovereignty strategy, as shocks have made our residents vulnerable.

- This project does not align with local, provincial national strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce BC's economic reliance on fossil fuels. Fortis should be directed to develop alternative and renewable fuel sources that have less socio-economic and environmental impacts than drilling, processing and transporting LNG.

Note: a climate and environmental leader, Port Moody should be opposing opposition to LNG industry expansion.

Suggested Recommendation:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council states its opposition to the Tilbury Phase 2 LNG Expansion Project;

AND THAT the council send a letter of support for the critical assessment outlined in the report from Richmond Council, titled "Tilbury Phase 2 LNG Expansion Project," including health impacts of upstream fracking of LNG, to the BC Environmental Assessment Office and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada to support the provincial and federal environmental assessments.

Attachment

1. Letter dated July 31, 2020 from City of Richmond regarding Support in Opposition for Fortis BC proposed Tilbury Phase 2