May 2020

BC Nature Press Release

Roberts Bank Terminal 2

The May 11 2020 meeting of the BC Nature Board of Directors reaffirmed BC Nature’s position opposing any further port or industrial development on Roberts Bank in Delta. The Board represents a membership in excess of 6,000 belonging to more than fifty clubs across British Columbia.

BC Nature became involved with this proposed development at its inception some five years ago, appointing Roger Emsley as its special representative for Roberts Bank. Mr Emsley has monitored the progress of the environmental assessment, reviewed and commented on submissions to the Panel, attended meetings convened by both the Port Authority and the Panel, and commissioned, on behalf of BC Nature, expert testimony that outlined the negative effects that would result from the proposed terminal construction.

President Dr Kees Visser stated “The Environmental Assessment Panel report for the project confirmed our view that adding a second container terminal at Roberts Bank will do irreparable damage to an ecosystem of international significance”, going on to say that “The Panel’s identification of significant adverse environmental impacts in so many different areas must result in the Federal Government denying approval for the Port of Vancouver’s Terminal 2 project”.

Dr Visser noted further, “The Panel’s concerns about damaging environmental impacts led to it recommending further study and monitoring. Should the project proceed, such investigations would be too late! There would be no reversing their negative consequences.”

In consideration of the importance of Roberts Bank’s biodiversity, its marine resources for wildlife and people, and its ranking as one of the top Important Bird Areas in the world, BC Nature now calls on the Environment Minister and the federal cabinet to deny approval for Roberts Bank Terminal 2.

For further information: Please contact Roger Emsley