October 17, 2019

Honourable Catherine McKenna  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
Via email: Catherine.McKenna@parl.gc.ca

Dear Minister McKenna:

I write to you on behalf of BC Nature regarding the Federal Panel review for the Roberts Bank Container Terminal 2 Project (RBT2). BC Nature has expressed many environmental concerns about this project to the Panel and we have opposed it going ahead, based on the significant adverse environmental effects that will result.

BC Nature (the Federation of BC Naturalists) represents more than 50 naturalists’ clubs and 6000 members province-wide. Our membership consists of dedicated naturalists and scientists who are connected to, have expertise in, and concern for the preservation of British Columbia’s landscapes, its wetlands habitat and the diversity of wildlife that relies on them.

Specifically, BC Nature voices our concern about the absence of closing remarks from Environment and Climate Change Canada in the panel record for RBT2. Closing remarks constitute a key part of the Panel deliberations, and were specifically requested from individuals, groups, stakeholders, and most importantly, government agencies. Many groups and agencies did submit closing remarks, but where are those from Environment Canada?

We believe that the Environment Canada scientists working on this project did prepare closing remarks and submit them to your senior management in Ottawa prior to the panel imposed deadline. Why were they not then submitted to the Panel? Who made the decision that no closing remarks would be submitted to the Panel? There are rumours that Transport Canada did not like the concerns expressed by your scientists in their closing remarks and so squashed them. Is this true?

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours truly,

Cornelis (Kees) Visser, Ph.D., P. Geol.

CC Prime Minister Trudeau - pm@pm.gc.ca  
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