July 16, 2020

Via Email Honourable George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Re: Tillbury LNG Phase 2 Expansion

BC Nature is concerned and has questions about the Fortis LNG plant expansion plans on Tilbury Island and its effects of LNG on our local and global environments.

BC Nature (the Federation of BC Naturalists), represents more than 50 naturalists’ clubs and 6000 members province-wide. Our membership consists of dedicated naturalists, including scientists, who are connected to, have expertise in, and have concern for the preservation of British Columbia’s landscapes and the diversity of organisms inhabiting them. We support any effort to promote the integrity of our natural ecosystems, not only to protect their biodiversity, but also to protect our lives and the lives of future generations in British Columbia.

We express our concern over the impacts of fracking expansion to supply the Tilbury Island operation. Not only will wells leak methane, but the prospect of well failure and a future that will see the collapse of the oil and gas industry and orphaned wells does not bode well for the atmosphere and global warming.

The project proclaims to align with the provincial government’s Clean BC Plan. However, that plan demands an 80-per-cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2007 levels by 2050. David Hughes, one of the nation’s foremost energy analysts, suggests that Canadian LNG is dirtier than the burning of high efficiency coal over a 20-year period.

Shell’s LNG Canada project in Kitimat alone will exceed the province’s 2050 target by 160 per cent. We believe that the numbers do not add up already, and the Tilbury Island project will make matters worse.

The construction of a temporary floating bunkering terminal, followed by a permanent one, along with implications for the local aquatic environment, means more shipping traffic (up to 69 bunkering barges and 68 LNG carriers annually) to add to that generated by TMX, with all that means for the endangered Southern Resident Killer Whales and our Salish Sea ecosystem. The present stressors on the Fraser Estuary are considerable and we fear that we may approach a tipping point of irreversibility to this globally significant ecosystem.
Yours truly,

\[Signature\]

Harry Crosby
President, BC Nature

Cc  Environmental Assessment Office
Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Honourable John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia

\[1\] https://thetyee.ca/Analysis/2020/07/09/LNG-Fail-For-BC/