

# Enbridge Northern Gateway Project Joint Review Panel

## Letter of Comment

Contact information and written comments will be placed on the public registry for this project.

Hard copy filings may be made by mail, courier, hand delivery or fax at the address below.

Joint Review Panel - Enbridge Northern Gateway Project

444 Seventh Avenue S.W., 2nd floor mailroom

Calgary, Alberta T2P 0X8

Facsimile: (403) 292-5503, or toll free at 1-877-288-8803

Date: **26/02/2012**

### Contact Information

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Please ensure that your letter of comment includes:

- the nature of your interest in the proposed project
- comments on the proposed project
- any relevant information that will explain or support your comments

### Comments

Attach additional pages if necessary.

To: **Carolyn Dunn, Enbridge Northern Gateway Project Joint Review Panel Manager, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency**

Dear Ms. Dunn,

I am writing to vigorously oppose the Northern Gateway pipelines which would transport Alberta's filthy tar sands through British Columbia's world class temperate rainforest



National Energy Board  
Office national de l'énergie

Canada



Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

Agence canadienne d'évaluation environnementale

and coastal ecosystems. The project will industrially develop and destroy water, land and ocean ecosystems across a vast swath of your country's intact ecosystems. The pipelines would significantly ecologically impact temperate rainforests, coastal waters and slews of inland waterways. The vital First Nations salmon economy will be devastated. I am pleased to see reports that the project has been delayed, now we want it ended. We are writing to demand that the Gateway pipeline project be permanently canceled immediately, and no environmental approvals granted ever for future tar sand oil pipelines.

The project's ecological unsustainability is made worse by the fact it would be carrying filthy tar sands synthetic oil - derived from the clearcut mining of old growth boreal forests. We know the tar sands production is ecocide, and this pipeline will increase oil dependency. The extraction and refining of tar sands oil requires massive deforestation, tremendous amounts of fresh water, and leaves behind toxic and cancer-causing chemicals. Its transport threatens half a continent's wetland ecosystems, waterways and aquifers - and to release tar sand and boreal forests' huge carbon stores.

Enbridge has a history of pipeline problems, leaks, and regulatory violations including a recent major spill into the Yellowstone river. The pipeline would skirt the northern edge of the Great Bear temperate rainforest - threatening the home of the revered all-white spirit bear. There will be severe ecological impacts of the pipeline construction including erosion, forest fragmentation, water pollution, riparian habitat damage, and near certain leaks. While operational a serious pipeline break could occur at any time - destroying any one of the approximately 1,000 pristine streams, rivers, lakes, and natural wild salmon spawning grounds to be crossed.

First Nations' rights and way of life - including a wild salmon economy - are being violated; and their and other rural communities would be at risk from a pipeline or oil tanker spill. Some one thousand-five hundred massive supertankers will carry tar sands oil to Asia annually, passing through the narrow and treacherous, yet fragile and pristine, northwest coast passageways. One mishap will bring disastrous results and long-term loss of marine life and sensitive coastal ecosystems.

Canada has a special responsibility to fully protect intact ecosystems and end their industrial development. And to stop obstructing international climate change talks, as you have with abandoning Kyoto. The scale and type of ecocidal tar sands development is not acceptable to First Nations or to concerned global citizenry. We demand that the Enbridge Northern Gateway Project Joint Review Panel reject the project and not provide necessary environmental approvals

**for the project to progress or commence. The world has better energy choices than dirty tar sands oil - including efficiency and conservation, and the development of critical renewable and energy-saving technologies and policies. Canada had better start behaving justly in regards to climate, the world is watching.**

**With grave concern,**

**Heike Schoenegge**

**Heike Schoenegge  
Germany  
seni23963@googlemail.com**

**cc:  
Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Enbridge officials, Enbridge Northern Gateway Project Joint Review Panel staff, National Energy Board staff, Canadian Embassies, Oil Sands Developer Group, Government of Alberta**

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Date: **26/02/2012**

### Contact Information

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I am a bi-partisan citizen of Canada, who is fully aware of the global demand for fossil fuels, and its inevitable increase over the course of this century. However to risk the future health and safety of the environment, the people, and the biome is irresponsible, unjustifiable, and saddest of all profitable. My interest for this proposed project is its rejection.

I find that this pipeline will pose a great threat to not only the environment on which it will carry these hydrocarbons, but also the people who inhabit it. The area proposed is prone to avalanches as well as slides. The hydrocarbons that will be sent through the pipe will be mixed with other toxic chemicals and heated to allow for transfer, causing increased stress upon the pipeline increasing the risk of a rupture.



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When pipelines have leaked in the past, it has had a severe detrimental effect upon its wildlife, the people around it, and the tax payers dollars, which go into the long cleanup process. When the Lakehead Pipeline 6B ruptured in 2010, the river had to be closed due to the high toxin levels present in the water there. A survey conducted by the Michigan Department of Community Health three weeks after the Kalamazoo incident found that 60 per cent of nearby residents were experiencing headaches, vomiting, respiratory troubles and other health problems due to the spill. If the short term effects of an oil spill result in 60% of residents experiencing health problems, imagine the long term impact which is effecting them to this very day, the river is still closed. Their people are still sick. And worst of all, the pollutants are still in the water spreading across the entire animal kingdom there. The bio accumulation that is occurring will result in the deaths of thousands of predators and will be felt for generations to come.

The company heading this project, is no stranger to oil spills and their performance record is lacking proper safety standards that can allow for this pipeline to be guaranteed 'safe'. According to Ottawa-based advocacy group the Polaris Institute, Enbridge is responsible for 610 spills - involving more than 22 million liters of oil - between 1999 and 2008. This is approximately half the amount of oil spilled during the Exxon Valdez disaster in Alaska in 1989. This track record is unacceptable to allow this company to create this pipeline, especially due to the increased risks associated with this project.

I believe that a pipeline that carries some of the most toxic materials on earth, approximately 10 times more toxic than regular crude. Headed by one of the most irresponsible companies in the oil industry, sending it through pristine environments is illogical. If one oil spill were to occur from this pipeline, it would devastate the entire region. I ask you as a concerned Canadian citizen, to stop these flagrant risks in the name of profitability. Our future is not in the hands of capital, nor is it in the interests of our share holders. It is in sustaining the health and well being of our children, and the land on which they live.

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Facsimile: (403) 292-5503, or toll free at 1-877-288-8803

Date: 27/02/2012

### Contact Information

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### Comments

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To whom it may concern,

my name is Megan Gould and I have been a citizen of British Columbia my entire life. I would like to think of myself as an openminded person and look at each situation two ways. However, when it comes to our beautiful coast and the many people and beautiful animals that thrive there by allowing oil tankers to go through no matter how "safe" they seem to be. You can't ignore that fact that accidents do happen and after seeing what happened in the Gulf this cannot happen here. I refuse to allow it happen here.



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British Columbia is beautiful and is home to some of the most rare and beautiful creatures on our planet. I have not had an opportunity to ever see a kermode (spirit bear) and not only are they rare but they are only found here. I want to see one, and the chances will be slim if we do not protect what is rightfully theirs. Animals and trees, these were here long before we were and even if it is happening slowly, it is still happening. We are pushing them out and hurting them to benefit our selfish needs as people. Yes we might have the ability to walk and to talk to express our feelings, and just because they can't does not mean that they do not have anything to say. You are putting them at risk for having their home destroyed and the possibility of extinction. We may be humans, but they are animals and they do feel too and we need to protect them and the beautiful province we live in.

If there are 220 oil tankers going through Vancouver every year, you would be putting shame on us when it seems that the majority of first world countries are fighting to be clean and green. What will they say of us? That we chose to give up so much beautiful land, and sacrificed our animals and the people who live their to bank on dirty money.

I ask you please, reconsider because if something terrible happens and I think we all know it will; it will be on your conscience. Please do not let this happen.

Sincerely,  
Megan Gould