

From: Dan Foster [<email address removed>]

Sent: March 11, 2016 1:37 PM

To: Pacific Northwest LNG / GNL Pacific Northwest (CEAA/ACEE)

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Subject: Pacific Northwest LNG

March 11, 2016

Pacific NorthWest LNG Project
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
410-701 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, British Columbia V7Y 1C6

Dear Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my support for the Pacific Northwest LNG Project.

I am incredibly enthusiastic about BC LNG. This clean fossil fuel has the potential to unlock more economic opportunities for Northeastern British Columbia and the entire province by exporting this resource to new and growing markets.

In reality LNG is a just a new tool – a method of transportation if you like – to get our natural gas into emerging markets in Asia. While LNG will be a new industry for British Columbia, it's important to note that our province has a long and successful history of safely extracting natural gas and oil.

Why does LNG matter for the people in my community? Fort Nelson is currently experiencing its worst economic downturn since the 1980s. Unemployment in the Peace Region has gone from nearly zero per cent to almost nine per cent. The development of a new LNG industry will do wonders in creating jobs and stability for our region. Now is the perfect time for Pacific Northwest LNG's project to proceed, bringing new opportunities and growth to this region.

The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) have projections that shows without a new LNG market place, Canada's 14 BCF of daily production will be reduced to 12 BCF by 2020. With a new LNG industry, the production of natural gas will go to 18 BCF by 2020 and all off that additional number will come from production in B.C. and Alberta.

I am encouraged to see Pacific Northwest LNG has made excellent progress with the release of the draft environmental assessment report by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. Such positive steps are instrumental in maintaining the delicate and essential balance between economic growth and environmental stewardship. Exposing and delivering this clean burning fuel to new markets in Asia will act as an economic catalyst for the entire northeast region as it has already done since the first development in 1952.

Furthermore, I am optimistic of the federal government's environmental assessment process and their commitment to reaching a decision on a project that is so critical to the Peace. I cannot stress enough the importance of a strict and effective regulatory process to ensure the sustainability of this industry for generations to come. This project represents how British Columbia continues to diversify its economy and deliver opportunities for its residents to contribute to shared and growing success.

Beyond my own support, I am pleased to be joined by my peers, fellow residents and the business communities of Northeastern B.C. Ultimately, this is a project that will require not only public engagement and consultation but also participation. Participation in the form of jobs that directly and indirectly assist in the development of this new and expanding industry. I urge this process to make a positive recommendation on this project so that proponents can make a Final Investment Decision to proceed.

Evidently, this project poses extreme economic benefit and has the feature of maintaining British Columbia's reputation of environmental stewardship and sustainability. I have included several points that outline the reasoning for my unequivocal support in more detail. Such opportunities must be seized when presented and we must be steadfast in our commitment to this initiative.

Yours truly,

Daniel Foster, resident Northeast BC

Backgrounder and History

- Natural gas (and oil) activities have been taking place in British Columbia since the first wells were drilled in the East Kootenay region 1905.
- The Northeastern region of the province has been a focus of exploration and development since 1952
- Since that time, the natural gas section has been an economic catalyst for the entire northeast region – for the communities like Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Fort Nelson and more.
- Some of the world's most promising natural gas resource areas are found in northeast BC, including the Horn River Basin, the Montney Formation, the Cordova Embayment and the Liard Basin shale gas plays.
- B.C.'s natural gas sector creates jobs, supports local businesses and sustains economic activity in our rural communities.
 - o The Canadian Research Institute recently indicated natural gas developments in British Columbia supported 52,720 jobs in 2015 (includes direct, indirect and induced).
- Economic benefits will only increase as BC's prospects of export liquefied natural gas (LNG) move forward. The province already estimates industry has invested over \$20 billion to further BC's LNG opportunity – capital spent, in large part, in northeast B.C.'s exploration and production activities.
- Example: Progress Energy Canada and their partners are investing \$2 billion-plus annually, representing 4,000 sustainable jobs in upstream (exploration and production) development.

Pacific Northwest LNG – Federal Interim Approach and Provincial EA Certificate • A B.C. Environmental Assessment Certificate was granted November 25, 2014. The assessment focused on provincial interests

- Additional federal and provincial government permits and a federal EA are required. The federal assessment is in progress as you well know.
- The federal draft assessment report and associated draft conditions were released by CEAA on February 10, 2016 for public and First Nations comment.

- CEAA is seeking comments by March 11 on: the federal assessment report; and federally proposed conditions"

- The provincial certificate includes eight legally-enforceable conditions. CEAA's proposed Conditions are complementary to the provincial conditions. The EA Certificate includes a condition requiring a Greenhouse Gas Management Plan to address GHGs, and a condition requiring a Blasting Management Plan, a Pile Driving Management Plan, and an Environmental Monitoring Plan that would mitigate potential effects to marine life, including harbor porpoises.

The provincial environmental assessment took into account the scope of assessment conducted by CEAA and focused primarily on consideration of potential effects outside of federal lands, including the sea bed administered by the Prince Rupert Port Authority.

Pacific Northwest LNG – Draft CEAA Report • British Columbia works closely with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency on assessments triggering both federal and provincial review • One of the key considerations in these regulatory processes is to protect the salmon. All of us take this very seriously, and want to ensure there is no significant adverse impacts to salmon in this area.

- CEAA has found Pacific Northwest LNG will not impact Flora Bank and the livelihood of the Skeena River salmon fishery.

- I believe the science behind the Pacific Northwest LNG proposal is sound, and this report supports that.

- I note there are concerns that focus on harbour porpoises, and I understand PNW will work to mitigate that.

GHGs/Upstream Emissions

- Our new liquefied natural gas industry is marked by strict regulation and produced from the cleanest LNG facilities in the world.

- B.C. is making progress on reducing GHG's, by doing the following:

- o We've brought in rules which have virtually eliminated routine flaring.

- o We are addressing methane emissions, in part through a leak detection program.

- o We're increasingly using electricity to power gas production, with further electrification under way.

- o And as part of the world's cleanest LNG, we're establishing a technology fund that will allow for further investments in upstream methane reductions.

- B.C. is working closely with industry/stakeholders to further identify ways to reduce emissions, including carbon capture and storage.

- B.C. has already defied those who've said they couldn't reduce our overall emissions while still growing our economy.

- The challenge of continuing to reduce upstream natural gas emissions is one we embrace, and are committed to achieving.

Global Benefits of LNG

- British Columbia has a new climate leadership plan in development to further outline our goals to reduce GHG emissions, and position B.C. to take advantage of the low carbon economy of the future.

- As the cleanest burning fossil fuel, British Columbian natural gas resources can play an important role in the transition to a low carbon economy.

- B.C.'s clean LNG can make a global difference, by helping nations like China and India reduce their use of coal-fired electricity.

Federal Timing

- I am looking forward to the outcome of the public comment period on this extremely important project.
- I am pleased the federal government understands the time requirements, and are committed to making a timely decision.
- If this facility is built, audits and inspections will be carried out to ensure Pacific Northwest is meeting or exceeding BC's standards and regulations. BC's Oil and Gas Commission is an extremely wonderful regulator and will ensure this project is initiated properly and appropriately.

World's Cleanest LNG Facilities

- The greenhouse gas emissions cap BC has placed on its LNG facilities will make B.C.'s the cleanest in the world.
- A major aspect of BC's LNG strategy is to foster innovative approaches to managing natural gas sector emissions.
- The GHG emission benchmark's flexible mechanisms - offsets and the technology fund - are incentives to invest in emissions reduction projects in the natural gas and other sectors in B.C.
- This is yet another example of B.C.'s international leadership on climate action.
- B.C. was the first jurisdiction in North America to introduce a broad-based, revenue-neutral carbon tax, and to have a carbon-neutral public sector.
- The B.C. LNG industry will pay the carbon tax on all its combustion emissions from fossil fuels, as do all other industries in the province.
- B.C. remains a global climate leader, BC is moving their climate agenda forward through the confirmation of the Climate Leadership Plan.

In conclusion, I cannot say strongly enough how important this LNG facility will be for the economy and employment opportunities of Northeastern BC and also the economy of Canada. I also want to say that this project has a huge amount of support from the people in Northeast British Columbia and also from many people along the pipeline path of this project.

I urge this process to make a positive recommendation on this project so that the proponents can make a Final Investment Decision to proceed.

Sent from my iPhone