

July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Shannon Potter  
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada  
778-657-8547 | Email: Shannon.Potter@canada.ca

**Re: Letter of Support for the FortisBC Tilbury LNG Phase 2 Expansion Project**

Dear Shannon,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input in the Early Engagement phase of the Environmental Assessment process. The Delta Chamber of Commerce, which represents member businesses across the service, retail, industrial, fishing and farming sectors, acknowledges the vital roles that our community has in nurturing Canada's trade capability and competitiveness.

As home to Canada's largest container terminal, we understand the importance of meeting current customer needs for cost-effective, low carbon alternative fuels for transportation. We also appreciate the importance of Canada's role in the global economy, in leading the transition away from high carbon-emission fuels to meet new global shipping emissions regulations.

FortisBC's Tilbury Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) plant has been safely operating in the Tilbury Industrial Park of Delta since it was first constructed in 1971 and has been producing LNG for marine customers such as BC Ferries and Seaspans Ferries and storing LNG to meet the energy needs of FortisBC customers here in BC for over a decade.

We know from FortisBC's history of engaging with our community, and from their work in Phase 1, that this project provided direct economic and employment benefits for the people of Delta and neighbouring communities. Since the beginning of construction and through Phase 1, FortisBC has demonstrated a notable commitment to the engagement of local contractors – including 28 companies in Delta alone – and that commitment has generated an estimated \$60 million in direct economic benefits. Expanding to Phase 2 could bring significantly greater economic opportunity; not only in the initial construction and over 100 local permanent positions and ongoing community contribution through property taxation, but also for our region as a marine LNG hub as more ships switch to LNG for fuel as a lower-carbon alternative.

We also note that the construction involved with Phase 2 of the project would result in the decommissioning of the old tank. This would result in not only larger capacity, but also improved safety measures incorporated into the build design. We highlight that this is a 50-year old brownfield, and that the construction work is to be completed within the existing footprint of that site.

Finally, and critically, we want to emphasize that FortisBC has a solid history of safe operations at its Tilbury LNG plant. As noted in the recent City of Delta Staff Report to Mayor and Council, FortisBC and Delta Fire and Emergency Services have a long-standing relationship related to the Tilbury LNG facility dating back to when the facility was first constructed in 1971, which “has included regular reviews of FortisBC’s Fire Safety Plan for the site over the years as the facility has evolved and ongoing participation in emergency exercises.”<sup>1</sup> As noted in the report, there have been no major incidents and FortisBC will be actively consulting with Delta Fire and Emergency Services throughout the Environmental Assessment Process for the Phase 2 Expansion project.

As a Chamber of Commerce with a long history of representing business Delta, we appreciate the ongoing commitment to safety and shared value for community that FortisBC has expressed in its operations at the Tilbury LNG plant and support its application to move to newer, even safer facilities; and its desire to find an opportunity to be a part of the transition to a cleaner, lower-emission fuel source as the marine and transportation industry moves towards alternatives in the future.

We look forward to continuing to engage on this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yvonne Anderson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Yvonne Anderson  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Delta Chamber of Commerce

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://delta.civicweb.net/document/197474>