



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Alistair MacGregor

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT - COWICHAN-MALAHAT-LANGFORD

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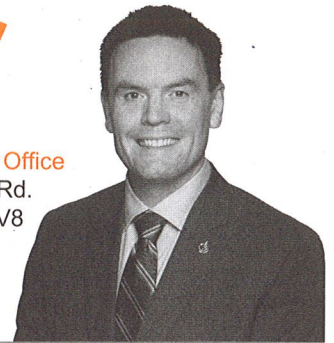
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April 19, 2018

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Re: The expansion of the Kinder Morgan Pipeline

Dear Prime Minister,

As a proud resident and representative of part of Canada's Pacific Coast, I am writing on behalf of my constituents to express my serious concerns with your government's support for the Kinder Morgan Pipeline expansion and what it means for our country's future. The environmental, economic, and Indigenous Rights' considerations all lend themselves against this project going forward, and I respectfully ask that your government re-invest its support in a clean and renewable energy future.

The expanded project's terminus in our western port will make the already busy Salish Sea become even more congested with oil tanker traffic. The project's proposed increase to nearly 900,000 barrels per day of diluted bitumen from the Alberta oil sands to the BC coast and the potential for environmental catastrophe from resulting from a spill cannot be ignored.

Beyond the obvious environmental concerns from an impending oil spill disaster, I remind you that on National Aboriginal Day, June 21, 2017, you made the following statement: *"No relationship is more important to Canada than the relationship with Indigenous Peoples. Our Government is working together with Indigenous Peoples to build a nation-to-nation, Inuit-Crown, government-to-government relationship – one based on respect, partnership, and recognition of rights."* It is in this spirit that I make the next point:

Since 1982, Section 35 of the Constitution of Canada has been an important tool in protecting Indigenous Rights. It has been interpreted as necessitating a duty to consult First Nations with respect to land claims and treaty rights. As you are aware, your Minister of Natural Resources received briefings in January from his own department, which told him that consultations with First Nations in British Columbia concerning the Kinder Morgan pipeline have been "paternalistic," "inadequate," and "unrealistic." During the process, some First Nations were not even notified until after consultations

had concluded. This is why the Tsleil-Waututh Nation, representing a territory of more than 1,800 square kilometres, has challenged your government before the courts in BC to stop the expansion.

In addition to the impact on Indigenous Rights and the threat of an oil spill, the proposed expansion threatens our country's climate change efforts and commitments under the Paris Accord. The additional 30 million tonnes of annual carbon emissions from expanded oil sands production will be equivalent to roughly 6.4 million passenger vehicles driven for a year. As well, an estimated 100 million tonnes of added annual downstream emissions will result from an expanded Kinder Morgan pipeline. The burning of this heavy oil will generate the equivalent of another 21.4 million cars on the road, which roughly translates to 42.8 billion litres of gasoline. Clearly, with all of the evidence that the increasing danger of climate change presents to our planet, this project cannot be allowed to proceed.

Jobs in the renewable energy sector now outnumber those of the fossil fuel industry, and the trend will continue. With the expected slow-down in oil demand worldwide, now is not the time to double down and invest billions of dollars in what will end up being a stranded asset. There is no guarantee that oil prices will reach sustainable levels again, and in the global oil supply chain, Canada's oil sands deposits are too costly to produce. It is for these reasons that our bitumen ranks so low in value, something that even a Kinder Morgan expansion will fail to address.

We are at a time when our country stands on the crossroads, and we have a very real opportunity to invest in clean energy for future generations. I implore you to abandon the Kinder Morgan expansion in respect of the Constitutional rights of First Nations and in the interest of preventing the inevitable environmental catastrophes we would be sure to see if this project were to go ahead.

Thank you.

Respectfully,



Alistair MacGregor, MP
Cowichan-Malahat-Langford

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