

4609 West 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V6R 2M6

Terry Beech  
Member of Parliament for Burnaby North - Seymour  
3609 Hastings Street  
Burnaby B.C. V5C 6C1

**Re: Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion: Review of Related Upstream Greenhouse Gas Emissions (May 19, 2016)**

Dear Mr. Beech,

I am concerned about the present course of the Liberal Government in the matter of the Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion. I live in Vancouver Quadra rising, represented by Joyce Murray. I believe, however, that the entire group of elected Liberal MPs from the Vancouver area, in particular you because of your prominent role in the local pipeline discussion, have a rare opportunity - and an enormous burden of responsibility - to ensure that our new government takes the greatest care before any final decision is made about this pipeline project.

I appreciate that you and other Liberal members are convening a meeting on September 7 at Simon Fraser University. I will attend.

I enclose a paper that explains my concern about the adequacy of the process followed by the government during the past six months.

In British Columbia, pipelines are broadly opposed because of the risk of pipeline failure. Along the Pacific coast – including in many aboriginal communities – the risks posed by heavy oil tanker traffic and marine spills drive much of the opposition. Those risks are profoundly important. I focus here, however, on the reasons for questioning the approval of the project based on the evidence we have about GHG emissions and disruption of the climate system. As you well know, the repeated refusal of the National Energy Board (NEB) to admit and consider any evidence (including any scientific evidence) about the impact of upstream emissions from oil sands operations in Alberta – including the NEB's

Canadians. During the last election, in response to public anger about the NEB process, the Liberal Party (and individual Liberal candidates including yourself) promised the electorate that a Liberal Government would replace the NEB process or reform it.

On January 27, 2016, the Liberal government announced a modification of the pipeline approval process. The existing NEB process for the Kinder Morgan and Energy East projects has in fact not been changed, but the government offered a new procedure to assess “upstream emissions”. When the government published details of the new procedure on March 19, 2016, it promised that the new process would provide Canadians with an assessment “of the project’s potential impact on Canadian and global emissions”.

A proper emissions review process can only be one that provides Canadians with the essential information we need to make an informed decision – so that we fully understand the consequences of project approvals now that will increase our annual level of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during the next fifteen years.

There is no dispute about the consequences of the path we are currently on. The atmospheric carbon concentration level is 400 ppm; during the past four years it has increased by an average 2.4 ppm per year. The scientific evidence (which the Government of Canada says it accepts) tells us that a level of 450 ppm CO<sub>2</sub>eq will take us above the 2°C threshold. The International Energy Agency warns us unequivocally in its 450 Scenario that absolute reductions in global oil production *must start by 2020* if we are going to keep within the 2°C limit.

The Kinder Morgan report affirms that oil sands production will continue to grow between now and 2040. The rationale for building new pipeline capacity is to enable that growth. The report has adopted the NEB’s view that global oil consumption, especially in Asia, will remain strong for at least another twenty-five years. Based on that forecast of growing global oil demand, the report adopts the NEB’s forecast that *oil sands production will increase from the 2014 level of 2.4 million bpd to 4.8 million bpd by 2040* – a doubling of production over the next twenty-five years (see the Kinder Morgan assessment report, section B.2.1 at p. 15, “Canada’s Oil Supply Growth”).

The Kinder Morgan expansion, if built, will have the capacity to transport an additional 590,000 bpd, which is 25% of the proposed total expansion of oil sands production between now and 2040. This project is a major step down an unforgiving path.

The fundamental question we must ask before we go down that pathway is *can we achieve a 30% cut in Canada’s total emissions by 2030, down to 524 Mt, if emissions from expanding oil sands production keep rising*. That is the question a principled assessment would be bound to answer.

question. The report is silent about whether we can obtain large enough reductions from other economic sectors to obtain the deep cuts we need and to offset the continued increases in oil and gas sector emissions. *The report provides no data or analysis to demonstrate that could be done.* It almost certainly cannot be done. It would require that all of our other economic activities cut their emissions by more than 45%.

The Kinder Morgan report does not tell Canadians whether the further expansion of oil sands production enabled by approval of the Kinder Morgan expansion is consistent with our commitment to cut our emissions to 524 Mt by 2030.

It would be helpful if you would explain your position about the adequacy of the Kinder Morgan emissions assessment, released by the Liberal Government almost four months ago on May 19, 2016. To find our way to the right result, I think we are going to need a lot of candour in the public discussion. I hope my enclosed analysis of the Kinder Morgan assessment will assist you.

David Gooderham

[dagooderham@gmail.com](mailto:dagooderham@gmail.com)

604-224-3382

Enclosure