

**From:** [John and Karen Wood](#)  
**To:** [corporate](#)  
**Cc:** ["Claire Ruddy"; tracey@myseatosky.org](#)  
**Subject:** Woodfibre LNG should not receive an extension to its environmental assessment certificate  
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June 11, 2020

Dear Mayor and council,

I ask that you on behalf of the community of Whistler support the Squamish council on the issue of the Squamish LNG development. I believe the priorities of Whistler align with resisting the development of such a facility in our corridor and that the expired environmental certificate for the project NOT be extended. The time limit is in place to ensure that certificate conditions do not become outdated as a result of changes over time in government policy, technical standards, scientific information, legal/regulatory expectations and other factors.

From chapter 10 of our new OCP “Confirming the community’s belief that climate change is real, that reducing GHG emissions is beneficial to our broader well-being and that governments should act promptly to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change.”

Besides the commitment to expanded and continued reliance on fossil energy just the operations of this proposed LNG facility will alone create local GHG emissions that will negate many fold any possible efforts Whistler (Big Moves Strategy, CECAP) and the other community efforts in the corridor can achieve to reduce our contribution to atmospheric carbon levels. This does not even include the emissions from the fracking operations that supply the gas, to the emissions from transporting the gas and of course the emissions from its ultimate combustion.

The suggestion that Canadian natural gas will reduce world GHG by being a transition fuel needs to define a timeline for this transition, a plan for a transition and what alternative energy will be transitioned to. None of this is in place so the transition fuel logic does not make sense. This logic also discounts emissions for acquisition, processing and transport to the customer which needs to be included as a total in the GHG emissions of

natural gas. Even if one buys the transition theory there is no shortage of natural gas on the market yet coal power plants are still under construction. Canadian gas is therefore not required for current transition fuel needs.

What really needs to be a priority now is to develop the energy sources that will be required in the very near future if there is ever going to be a transition at all. I believe this needs to be the priority for energy development in our country and in our local corridor. Perhaps the gas under Canada should just stay in the ground for now or at least wait until a day it might be truly needed by a future generation with better extraction processes and more value.

Projects like Squamish LNG simply commit Squamish, our corridor and our province to consequences of operations to facilitate the export of over 150 years of gas supply reportedly available due to fracking technology being used in northern BC. Exporting this product at this time also gives it away at record low market prices. This project will also make it harder if not impossible to prioritize development of the non-fossil energy that will be needed to achieve what needs to be done in just the next 10 years to avoid a GHG tipping point.

There are many other impacts and issues connected to the Squamish LNG project which have been provided by Tracey Saxby in a letter received at the May 26th council meeting from My Sea to Sky. I hope and expect our RMOW councilors and staff, if they were not already, are aware now that this thorough and complete package of information has been made available for review.

I was pleased to read of our mayors comments at an AWARE AGM covered in the recent Pique. Mayor Jack Crompton speaking of how environmental issues can be a part of our post Covid recovery. The answer was advocacy. He explained that locally environmentalism has driven governments to make better decisions. I hope this can be applied to helping our provincial authorities make the right decision.

Also in this article were comments from Mike Douglas, chair of Protect our Winters, who explains at the same AWARE meeting that he does not feel it is OK to be a bystander anymore. "There's too much at stake, and you

realize that governments alone are not going to make things happen, or at least not going to make the right things happen on their own. They need people to keep up the pressure." It is said that silence can be interpreted as permission and I also feel that as carbon levels in our atmosphere continue over 417 ppm and counting we should not be bystanders.

Whistler needs to step up with the Squamish council and help BC EAO and Minister Heyman make the right decision.

Woodfibre LNG should not receive an extension to its environmental assessment certificate due to changes in economic context ;changes to local, provincial, and federal policies; new and emerging scientific understanding; and the implications of developing new fossil fuel infrastructure in a climate emergency.

I am proud of the position Squamish council and My Sea to Sky has taken and would like this support to be reflected by my local RMOW council.

Yours truly,

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