



December 21, 2015

Teresa Morris, Project Manager
WesPac Tilbury Marine Jetty Project
BC Environmental Assessment Office
PO BOX 9426 STN PROV GOVT
VICTORIA BC
V8W9V1 CANADA

via email: eaoinfo@gov.bc.ca

Re: WesPac Tilbury Marine Jetty Project / FortisBC -Tilbury Island LNG expansion project

Dear Teresa Morris,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the Delta Farmers' Institute (DFI). We have been established since 1898 and currently represent over 100 members of the farming community in Delta BC. It is our goal to keep the business of agriculture economically viable and sustainable for future generations.

Farming is an important socio-economic asset in Metro Vancouver, generating 25% of BC's food production on 1.5% of the province's agricultural land. Delta alone produces over \$300 million in farm receipts. We are unique as over 90% of farms are family owned and operated by multi-generational families on large parcels of some of the best soils and climate for agriculture in Canada. Farmers want and need more farmland.

We appreciate the benefits of liquefied natural gas (LNG) and its potential economic spin offs to BC's economy; however it should not be at the expense of farmland and agriculture businesses. It is with great concern that actively farmed prime agricultural land could be compromised for FortisBC to construct a 230KV over-head electric transmission line from the Tilbury LNG plant to BC Hydro's substation.

There are many important points that need to be addressed in completing the environmental assessment:

- 1) The proposed WesPac Tilbury terminal and the FortisBC Tilbury expansion are directly related and should be part of one environmental assessment application for the EA certificate. A study to evaluate the cumulative impacts of both projects should be part of this process.
- 2) The South Fraser Perimeter Road project required an Agriculture Impact Assessment to evaluate mitigation and compensation values. The same should be required for this EA certificate.
- 3) Federal regulations are necessary to protect public safety, health and impacts to the environment on the Fraser River. Increased traffic, potential hazard risks and costs to the environment should be measured and evaluated as part of the assessment. This includes negative effects associated with climate change.

P.O. Box 18565 | Delta, British Columbia, Canada v4k 4v7 | tel / fax 604 940 2024 | toll free 1 888 940 2024 | email lyeedfi@telus.net

The Delta Farmers' Institute (DFI) has been established since 1898 and currently represents over 100 members of the farming community in Delta BC. Farming is a vital socio-economic asset in Metro Vancouver, generating 25% of BC's food production on 1.5% of the province's agricultural land. Delta produces over \$300 million in farm receipts. Over 90% of farms are family owned and operated by multi-generational families on large parcels of farmland with some of the best soils and climate for agriculture in Canada.



Fresh water quality from the Fraser River is vital for productive farming. Currently irrigation water is drawn at a river intake in the Tilbury area near 80th Street. DFI with other stakeholders is directing a Fraser River modeling and monitoring study on the effects to salinity from climate change, dredging and changes in sea level. In addition, the change in tidal flows and movement of the salt wedge as a result of these proposed developments (including dredging) also need to be part of the environmental assessment.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. We trust your office and the CEAA will conduct a thorough and transparent review and look forward to being informed on the process and outcomes of this environmental assessment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Ryall". The signature is written in a cursive style.

David Ryall
President

cc:

Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, MP
Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment, MP
Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Sport and Disabilities, MP
Mayor and Council, Corporation of Delta
Frank Leonard, ALC Chair
Norm Letnick, Minister of Agriculture, MLA
Mary Polak, Minister of Environment, MLA
Scott Hamilton, MLA
Vicki Huntington, MLA
John Yap, MLA
Michael Mulcahy, President FortisBC

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