

12 January 2015

Andre' Baugh, Chair
Planning and Sustainability Commission
City of Portland
1900 SW 4th Ave., Suite 7100
Portland, OR 97201

Re: Terminal 6 Environmental Overlay Zone Boundary and Code Amendment

Dear Chairman Baugh and PSC Members:

The fact that Portland was recently honored with the White House designation of Climate Action Champion is a source of great pride and hope. It recognizes all the efforts the City of Portland has made to plan for a vital transition away from fossil fuels, into a flourishing post-carbon economy and environment. For this reason it is dismaying to see that plans for a propane terminal are being rushed through the evaluation and approval process. I am writing in the hopes that you will slow the process down and evaluate many aspects of this proposal which appear not to have been adequately examined at this point, if at all.

My understanding is that the issue being considered at the hearing tomorrow, specifically, is whether to make a change to code protecting environmentally protected zones so that, for example, an aboveground pipe can be run through the protected zone near Terminal 6 from the proposed Pembina terminal to awaiting vessels. The pipe would contain deeply chilled liquid propane gas.

There are many local economic, social, and environmental risks to such a proposal which need to be examined carefully and in depth, as an affirmative decision for the project risks a dramatic setback to our citywide greenhouse gas emissions goals, as well as causing potential harms in the several areas of risk just mentioned. Additionally, the code change would alter the approval landscape in terms of further proposals which may come along.

Thank you for taking time for citizen input to the decision process tomorrow and, further, for considering a more careful and specific analysis of the proposed Pembina project as well as the repercussions of the proposed zone change.

I look forward to the hearing tomorrow.

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