

Gregory P. Monahan, Phd
7225 SW 13th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97219
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Oral Testimony

My name is Gregory Monahan and I am a resident of Portland, living in the Hillsdale neighborhood. My family and I have enjoyed hiking and canoeing in the area surrounding this proposed project.

I oppose this project because I believe it is not in the best interest of Portland's people or its wildlife. Weakening Portland's protections of environmentally sensitive wetlands along rivers' edges is simply the wrong thing to do. Furthermore, this project will have a global impact on the climate through its attendant green house gas emissions. Instead of our citizens, it benefit a Canadian corporation while degrading our environment and exposing our citizens to pollution and potential explosions.

My wife and I live in Portland as do our 2 daughters and their families including our 3 grandchildren. A genuine commitment to sustainability requires us to create a society in which our grandchildren and their grandchildren can thrive. Approving this project for the sake of a handful of jobs and increased tax revenues at the expense of the environment and quality of life for our children is the wrong thing to do.

Supporting Written Testimony

Following are some of the many downsides to this project are listed below.

Green House Gas Emissions

While propane is often spoke of in glowing terms as a "transition" fuel between coal and renewable energy, the facts show that propane is just another environmentally destructive fossil fuel that would be better left in the ground. The propane planned to be used in this project generates green house gases at every step of its production and use, from fracking the wells, during refining, transportation, liquefaction, and eventual consumption. The amount of electricity required to liquefy the fuel is estimated to

Increased Congestion

Recreational use of the Columbia Slough will be impacted during the loading and transit of the large tanker ships used to export the liquefied propane from this plant. The number and length of the trains supplying this terminal will impact traffic.

Weakened Environmental Protections

Amending environmental protections to allow this project to go forward will set a dangerous precedent and set the stage for other industrial projects to occur in the environmentally sensitive wetlands along our rivers.

Risk of explosion

Propane is heavier than air so any leaks tend to settle towards the ground and accumulate in low spots with a risk of explosion and fire. There is a risk of fires and explosions both at the proposed plant as well as along the train routes leading to the plant.

Background Information for Gregory Monahan

Gregory is a retired electrical engineer who currently teaches part time in the Engineering Transfer Program at Portland Community College, Sylvania Campus. He has introduced sustainability and climate change into the engineering curriculum as a part of the Engineering Fundamentals course. Before moving to Portland last fall, he lived in Lake Oswego where he was a member of the city's Sustainability Advisory Board.