

HELZER testimony to PSC against Pembina at T-6; April 7, 2015

I speak in opposition to rolling back environmental regulations for over ground piping of propane at Terminal 6. As a founding member of Northwest Citizen Science Initiative, and as a professor of research methodologies for doctoral dissertation projects, the following three key points support our opposition based on published and juried research.

First, this "project" is antithetical to the environment-based values of this city, state, and nation. It's a fracking Canadian oil fields by-product, and the electricity required to serve this facility here would account for 0.7% of Portland's total CO2 emissions across the city. Also, the propane shipped to China from this terminal for plastics manufacture will account for 0.01% of all global CO2 emissions from everywhere.

Portland should join other northwest cities that are saying "no" to becoming part of the fossil fuel export industry.

Second, Pembina terminal's one-million gallon reservoir of propane will create a **thirteen-mile-wide hazard zone**, threatening the health and safety of Portland and Vancouver! An earthquake, tank car spill, and/or terrorist attack at this facility will cause a catastrophic **explosion three miles across**, and a flammable and toxic propane **vapor cloud to drift six miles downwind**, according to a risk assessment conducted by Pembina.

Seminal research from the University of Southern California's Dr. Carl Southwell concludes **tens of thousands of deaths** from an explosion like this, **billions in lost facilities**, and **tens of billions in lost economy** from such blasts.

Gone will be T-6, T-5, T-4, River Gate, gone will be most of downtown Vancouver, most of North Portland, the Interstate Bridges and BNSF railroad bridges. The Planning and Sustainability Commission must say "no" to Pembina because of its huge hazard zone, both here and on the thousands of miles of rail tank cars coming to Portland from Alberta!

Third, Pembina's Vice President, Eric Dyck, said in our February Hayden Island Neighborhood Network Board meeting, "If you don't want us here, we won't be here."

Please, PSC, repeat after me: "Mr. Pembina Vice President, 'Keep your project out of Portland!' You keep your propane; we'll keep everything else!"

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