

**From:** Marj Hogan [mailto:marj.hogan@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 07, 2015 6:13 PM  
**To:** Planning and Sustainability Commission  
**Subject:** Testimony in opposition to the proposed Pembina facility

Dear Planning and Sustainability Commission members:

I am writing to you as a resident of the Portsmouth neighborhood and a member of Occupy St Johns, a neighborhood group dedicated to promoting environmentally sustainable and equitable policies and practices in the neighborhood where the Pembina facility is proposed.

I attended today's hearing and It was clear from the crowd that there is significant opposition to the Pembina facility from a range of community groups and individuals. But the people of Portland who do not want this are not only those who gathered in the hearing today: the people of Portland have already been stating their opposition to this facility for over 20 years.

In 1993, Portland was the first city in the US to create a local action plan for cutting carbon. Portland has positioned itself as a leader in sustainable land-use policies, and our thriving city is a testament to the idea that local economies can stand behind these policies. We did not dedicate our time, planning, and tax dollars to these policies in order to become a world leader in the fossil-fuels export industry.

The Pembina project contradicts the spirit of the Portland Plan's Guiding Principles: this project does not support a low-carbon economy; it does not avoid or minimize negative health impacts for Portlanders; it does not recognize, incorporate, or sustain valuable ecosystem services related to air, water, and land quality. These principles are not mere suggestions that we should follow at our convenience: they are a matter of survival, and in enacting them the people of Portland have taken our responsibility to the local and global environment seriously.

The International Energy Agency warns that if we do not get our emissions under control by 2017, our fossil fuel economy will "lock-in" extremely dangerous levels of global warming. We have elected and entrusted city and county officials with forging a Climate Action Plan that commits us to reducing carbon emissions by 80% in the next three decades. Pembina represents an assault on that goal, not only because of the significant amount of energy that will be required to operate the facility, but because of its contribution to global CO2 emissions, from the extraction of the propane in Canada to its combustion in Asia.

Residents of St Johns and the surrounding neighborhoods have already borne the burden of storing and transporting hazardous materials and industrial waste. Host to the most concentrated levels of contamination along the 11-mile stretch of the Willamette designated as a Superfund site, the peninsula is criss-crossed by major trucking routes and rail lines carrying oil trains, neighbor to the Nu Star Energy Terminal Port Facility at the foot of the St Johns bridge (which receives and ships potentially combustible petroleum products such as gasoline, jet fuel, kerosene distillate, as well as residual and other fuel oils and greases, fertilizers and other chemical products), and receives the toxic emissions of nearby manufacturers such as Daimler, Vigor, and Esco Corporation. Levels of benzene and arsenic in North Portland's air exceed the state benchmarks for these toxins by five times; air quality at local schools has been ranked in

the bottom 1% in the nation. To approve the Pembina facility plan would not only add to the concentration of hazardous material transported in and out of our neighborhoods, it would also open the door to future development of similar facilities in our area and other residential areas.

For these reasons, the members of Occupy St Johns ask you to stand with the St Johns Neighborhood Association in unconditional opposition to this project.

Sincerely,  
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