Dear Members of the Commission:

First, as a citizen of Portland, I am infuriated by the Port of Portland's way of acting like an autonomous fiefdom, making decisions that will affect the City for decades with as little transparency and public involvement as they can get away with. So, I am grateful for the Commission bringing this propoaal to the light of day and opening up the process with your hearing.

Secondly, addressing the issue of propane as a "transitional" or "bridge" fuel: As President Bush famously said, we are a nation "addicted" to fossil fuels. We need to get clean and sober; this we know. Propane isn't a transition to this goal; it is like **methadone.** It may not be as dirty and destructive as coal, oil, and natural gas, but it is still an addiction. It will hang on and block out sustainable forms of energy. It is still a hobbling way of life.

It is silly and shortsighted to believe that Pembina is going to make an investment of $500,000,000 with the idea that, when we have gotten clean and sober, they will quietly pull out and walk away. They themselves say repeatedly they are in it for the long haul. If we go this route now, we are on methadone for the rest of our foreseeable life as a City. Is this the best we can do with that valuable piece of riverfront?

It is also silly and shortsighted to believe that Pembina will be a benign good neighbor, asking nothing of the taxpayers, quietly going about their business in a safe and mutually profitable way. Once their nose is under the tent and they have established themselves as a powerful and major player in the regional economy, watch the political donations and the demands for tax breaks and publicly funded amenities start piling up. They will be way too big to fail.

For these and many other reasons, I respectfully request the Commission to turn down Pembina's request. We can do better.

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