
From: Don Kiehn <kiehdix@bresnan.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:37 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Reference Application No. 2013-01/Docket No. EF-131590: Please reject the proposed Tesoro Savage oil export terminal project

Dear Governor Inslee and Washington EFSEC:

I urge you to assess the full impact of Tesoro Savage's proposal to ship 360,000 barrels of oil each day through Spokane, the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, Vancouver and the Columbia River. Oil-by-rail and export by ship is a bad deal for Washington State and the entire Northwest region. The project comes at a steep price for rail and river communities throughout the state and along the Columbia River, yet offers few jobs in return. Based on the far reaching impacts of this project, I urge you to deny Tesoro Savage's unprecedented proposal.

The public safety and environmental impacts of the state's largest pipeline-on-wheels proposal deserve close scrutiny. For example, EFSEC must assess:

- The potential impacts of a large train-related oil spill along the rail route in Washington and beyond.
- The transportation and public health impacts of additional unit train traffic through communities along the proposed oil-by-rail route. This includes evaluating emergency response capabilities in Vancouver, where oil trains would deliver and store oil, and other communities along the rail and shipping route.
- The increased risk of an oil tanker spill on Washington State waters and along the shipping route.
- The project's impact on climate change. This analysis should include climate change impacts from crude oil as well as tar sands oil from cradle to grave.

After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Recent reports by Public Citizen and CBS News cast serious doubt on the safety of the southern segment of the Keystone XL pipeline. Poor welds done by unqualified welders, dents in the pipeline and numerous other problems with the pipeline put private property and water supplies at risk. Congress has a responsibility to ensure that flaws already identified and any undiscovered flaws do not result in a public health or environmental disaster. Texas' waters should not be put at risk of contamination from pipeline breaks or spills. I call on Congress act swiftly to conduct oversight hearings to ensure that the pipeline is safe for the public and the environment before it is put into use.

I have written before regarding global warming - as a scientist it is clear to me this is currently by far the most important issue facing humanity. I believe we must take every important step to meet this challenge promptly, vigorously and comprehensively, or there truly will be dire long-term consequences we cannot afford. Below is the full range of my current concerns in this regard.

I oppose the Coast Guard's proposal to allow shale gas extraction ("frack") wastewater to be carried on the nation's rivers. Frack wastewater is highly toxic, often radioactive, and the chemical brew's "proprietary" ingredients will be kept from the public. As a Nation, we drink water drawn from rivers and want to protect the living communities whose lives depend on them. We cannot risk the pollution this wastewater will bring through spills, accidents and cumulative degradation.

I strongly support the EPA's effort to limit industrial carbon pollution from all power plants. These new clean air standards will protect public health, fight climate change, and create jobs through innovation in cleaner, safer energy

technology. It's our obligation to put people before polluters and protect our children and future generations from the effects of climate change. However, this is but one important step in what needs to be a very strong, prompt and concerted effort to address global warming.

Looking at the big picture, there are several levels of deep concern. First, global warming is truly now at the point of no return - we can no longer procrastinate by thinking in terms of "phasing out" or "phasing in" this or that action or energy source. We must take strong action now. And coal is a major problem, clearly the dirtiest energy source and China is enormously increasing its use of coal and will burn it the dirtiest way possible. A multinational group of scientists, including Chinese, recently reported that pollution due to the heavy use of coal in northern China is cutting 6 years off the human lifespan in comparison to that in southern China where less coal is burned. We must ignore the highly exaggerated profit/jobs reasoning and do the right thing here, the moral thing, and "just say NO" to coal, yes - just leave it in the ground.

Traffic congestion we already experience here in Helena, MT, due to coal trains that bisect and disable our city is more than enough. Since we now know that the coal industry lobby has craftily and severely underestimated future coal production and transport figures, it is easy to predict that the traffic stoppages here in Helena will be far higher than the already unacceptable lowball estimates of 2-5X increases when production ramps up.

Coal dust is highly toxic and needs to be intensively studied with clear baselines established before there are any commitments to new mining and transport. High standards need to be set for coal pollution of water, aquifers, air, public health, ranchlands, agriculture, Native American cultural and treaty rights, and wildlife habitat. Last winter I discovered in the snow on the Bill Roberts golf course in Helena clear and obvious contamination by coal dust, hundreds of yards north of the tracks!

Six coal export proposals would transport as much as 150 million tons through the Northwest. I have strongly opposed the construction of a coal export terminal at Cherry Point, Washington, as well as the other terminals and the transport of strip-mined coal from Montana and Wyoming on trains and ships throughout the Northwest. These proposals would negatively affect my community by increasing congestion and noise with more coal train traffic, polluting our air and local waterways, harming existing businesses, delaying emergency responders, damaging aquatic ecosystems and fishing grounds at the terminal site, increasing tanker traffic and the potential for serious shipping accidents and escalating global warming.

In addition to the coal issues, fracking is another big concern. There are huge environmental questions about fracking that are being covered-up, delayed and glossed over, and it would further this disaster to let the industry essentially "buy" elected officials in order to avoid responsible environmental oversight and regulation. Carbon dioxide and methane emissions from extracting, transporting and burning fracked natural gas are a dire threat to our climate and may be collectively worse than dirty coal. The National Academy of Sciences just released a major collaborative study showing clearly that the methane emissions from drilling are at least 50% greater than EPA estimates, in some places up to 3X more! As with other fossil fuels, fracking dramatically exacerbates the climate crisis, making communities across the country more vulnerable to extreme weather. In the wake of superstorm Sandy, we must be ever more diligent not to accelerate the process of global warming. We need to step away from our dependence on fossil fuels and focus on the development of clean renewable energy sources. Furthermore, big questions still remain regarding the contamination of ground water, soil and atmosphere, as well the potential for triggering earthquakes in certain locations due to the fracking process. Recently, USGS has reported that some of the 36,000 deep wells in the USA used for injecting fracking fluids for disposal have triggered 5X more small earthquakes in the well areas than had occurred there prior to the injections. Sufficient study and analysis of potentially very serious environmental effects of fracking has simply not been done! For example, please consider the concerns expressed by expert scientists in the recently released study in the esteemed peer-reviewed scientific journal "Nature": <http://www.nature.com/news/methane-leaks-erode-green-credentials-of-natural-gas-1.12123>

I support BLM's new proposals for oil and gas companies to obtain permits before fracking and to test wells to ensure integrity of the cement and casings that prevent leaks. These are important steps forward. However, I urge the strengthening of the proposed rules in the following ways:

- *End the use of all pits (lined and unlined) to store fracking wastewater. Pits are a well-documented source of water pollution, and should be replaced with tanks that won't leak or overflow.
- *Require all wells to be tested to make sure they are isolated from groundwater, not just "type wells". Just because one well has protective cement and casing in place, doesn't mean that every well is safe.
- *Require disclosure of chemicals before fracking to give nearby residents time to establish baseline water quality. Several states including Wyoming already require pre-fracking disclosure without impeding oil and gas development.
- *Require oil and gas companies to do baseline water quality tests to document whether contamination occurs after drilling and fracking, and share the results with residents.
- *Set "no drill" zones around homes and water supplies. Independent research shows a higher risk of air pollution and water contamination for a half mile around drill sites. A half-mile buffer zone around well bores would lower the risk of people getting sick and water supplies being contaminated.
- *Require companies to document pathways for contamination, such as any existing faults, fractures and oil and gas wells, and avoid fracking in areas where there is a high risk of contamination.

Besides the need to immediately address coal and fracking issues, the decision on the Keystone XL pipeline looms with the potential to make or break our overall effort to stop global warming. Recently I wrote a letter stating the overarching importance of this issue to President Obama and Secretary Kerry:

"I am writing to urge you to reject the Keystone XL pipeline once and for all. This dirty, dangerous pipeline remains one of the largest threats to our climate. If it is completed, it will enable the oil industry to exploit the Alberta tar sands, which contain enough carbon to radically alter our climate. The pipeline would also threaten Midwestern communities' fragile aquifers and increase air pollution from refineries on the Gulf Coast. The fact that the State Department's recent draft environmental review of the pipeline was based on work done by Big Oil's contractors only confirms that this pipeline is being built to benefit the oil industry.

It's impossible to fight climate change while simultaneously investing in the dirtiest, most carbon-intensive fossil fuels on the planet. The administration's bold advances in clean energy and vehicle efficiency have been critical, but much of that progress -- and the credit that comes with it -- will be erased if it approves the Keystone XL Pipeline and develops the tar sands.

Fortunately, environmental momentum in Canada means that other new tar sands infrastructure is no longer a guarantee, and stopping Keystone XL will indeed be a big step against the tar sands. Recently obtained government documents reveal two things: (1) Keystone is actually a necessary requirement in order to exploit the tar sands, and (2) an overall carbon analysis of potential tar sands development indicates it would become the dirtiest energy source in existence. I demand climate leadership from this administration. And that begins with the rejection of Keystone XL. Keystone is a monumental make-it or break-it symbol, either for the courage to truly address the challenge of global warming and to stand-up to Big Oil profiteering, or to give-up, give-in and fail to meet the most serious threat to our earth and its people.

And what about the issue of toxic pollution to our air, soil and water? We had two serious breaks in Montana's petroleum pipelines releasing thousands of gallons of oil into the environment. We must, we really must, slow down this crazy greedy offensive by Big Oil to extract and transport every drop of oil possible without regard to safety, environmental destruction or the huge long-term issue of whether all this effort and money shouldn't be instead

redirected towards renewable energy sources and conservation, so as to stop the acceleration of global warming. We need to seriously debate what level of climate-killing petroleum needs to be extracted relative to the important developing alternative energy sources. We also need to ensure in advance that every extraction project has a truly comprehensive plan for safety and regard for the environment, as well as realistic emergency disaster plans with available technology, and there must be continuous and tight monitoring of every step in the process, as well as thorough oversight by the government all the way. The number of oil incidents releasing massive amounts of petroleum into the environment has stayed relatively constant for decades -- this is totally unacceptable and must stop!

You both have both spoken passionately about the need to reduce U.S. carbon emissions. If you approve Keystone, your eloquent words will ring hollow and only feed peoples' cynicism about how Washington works. For the sake of generations to come, please reject the Keystone pipeline once and for all. Actions speak louder than words.

The Keystone XL pipeline is a project that should be rejected. The State Department's draft supplemental environmental impact statement misses the mark in a variety of areas, and thus does not sufficiently make clear that the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline must be rejected. In particular, the State Department's draft statement is wrong on these key points:

1) Keystone XL is a pipeline through America, not to it. It would do nothing to enhance so-called "energy security"; most of the oil it transports would be exported abroad. As shown in Oil Change International's recent report, KXL refineries already export some 60% of their products.

2) The Keystone XL pipeline would be responsible for massive greenhouse gas pollution, resulting in more global warming. This includes emissions from petcoke that is a result of the refining process of tar sands, which is not reflected in the State Department analysis adequately (as outlined in the recent Oil Change International report).

3) The State Department's impact statement was written in part by contractors who have ties to oil companies and pipeline proponents. This clear conflict of interest brings the entire analysis into question."

Thank you.

Don Kiehn

59601

From: Hugh Brady <hughman@mcn.org>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:37 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Reference Application No. 2013-01/Docket No. EF-131590: Please reject the proposed Tesoro Savage oil export terminal project

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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Hugh Brady

95468

From: Tim Wilson <tkwdco@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:37 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Reference Application No. 2013-01/Docket No. EF-131590: Please reject the proposed Tesoro Savage oil export terminal project

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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Tim Wilson

80206

From: frank depinto <fdepinto@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:37 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

frank depinto

37491

From: Barry Plaxen <barry@dhcanvas.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:37 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Barry Plaxen

12721

From: Dawn O'Rourke <dawnomail@lycos.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:37 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Dawn O'Rourke

60613

From: Chuck Hamblen <amblin@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:37 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Chuck Hamblen

32216

From: Arturo Ibarra <arturo.ibarra417@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:37 PM
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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Arturo Ibarra

65734

From: anthony montapert <amontapert@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:37 PM
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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

anthony montapert

93004

From: rachel cruickshank <QueenDraken@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:37 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

rachel cruickshank

60431

From: Denise Hudson <djh@infomagic.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:38 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Denise Hudson

86004

From: Sharon Lindemann <Sdlin60@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:38 PM
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Thank you.

Sharon Lindemann

77339

From: Jackie Byars <jbyars@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:38 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
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Thank you.

Jackie Byars

48104

From: Jacqueline Pilan <jpilan@wowway.com>
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- The potential impacts of a large train-related oil spill along the rail route in Washington and beyond.
- The transportation and public health impacts of additional unit train traffic through communities along the proposed oil-by-rail route. This includes evaluating emergency response capabilities in Vancouver, where oil trains would deliver and store oil, and other communities along the rail and shipping route.
- The increased risk of an oil tanker spill on Washington State waters and along the shipping route.
- The project's impact on climate change. This analysis should include climate change impacts from crude oil as well as tar sands oil from cradle to grave.

After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Jacqueline Pilan

48316

From: STEVEN BOUCHARD <smb@olympus.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:38 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Reference Application No. 2013-01/Docket No. EF-131590: Please reject the proposed Tesoro Savage oil export terminal project

Dear Governor Inslee and Washington EFSEC:

I urge you to assess the full impact of Tesoro Savage's proposal to ship 360,000 barrels of oil each day through Spokane, the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, Vancouver and the Columbia River. Oil-by-rail and export by ship is a bad deal for Washington State and the entire Northwest region. The project comes at a steep price for rail and river communities throughout the state and along the Columbia River, yet offers few jobs in return. Based on the far reaching impacts of this project, I urge you to deny Tesoro Savage's unprecedented proposal.

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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

STEVEN BOUCHARD

98368

From: Elizabeth Martin <bl.martin40@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:38 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Reference Application No. 2013-01/Docket No. EF-131590: Please reject the proposed Tesoro Savage oil export terminal project

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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Martin

30523

From: Nini Bloch <ninibloch@verizon.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:38 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Reference Application No. 2013-01/Docket No. EF-131590: Please reject the proposed Tesoro Savage oil export terminal project

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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Nini Bloch

01730

From: Mark Coates <mcoates@sau88.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:38 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Reference Application No. 2013-01/Docket No. EF-131590: Please reject the proposed Tesoro Savage oil export terminal project

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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Mark Coates

05001

From: Anne Streeter <astreeter@primus.ca>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 12:38 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Reference Application No. 2013-01/Docket No. EF-131590: Please reject the proposed Tesoro Savage oil export terminal project

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After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the project, I respectfully ask you to deny Tesoro Savage's application.

Thank you.

Anne Streeter

H3R 2R9