



Premier John Horgan  
MLA, Langford-Juan de Fuca  
c/o 122 - 2806 Jacklin Road  
Victoria, BC V9B 5A4

Re: Site C

Dear Premier,

Transition Sooke has been active in the Sooke Region since 2010. As our MLA and our Premier, you have been actively supportive and respectful of the advocacy work we carry out in co-operation with the District of Sooke and the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area.

We have been following the saga of the Site C Dam project for several years, particularly since the last decision to continue its development in 2017. We understand you are once again having to consider and decide about the fate of this project. We are mindful of the pressures you and your administration are facing.

The climate emergency is already affecting everyone in our community and beyond. We have to aggressively confront the situation and change the way we think and act. We have to be willing to let go of our absolute dependency on fossil fuels if we want to survive on the planet.

The province must consider how activities such as building more pipelines, shipping natural gas overseas, expanding the tar sands, and fracking, are totally reliant on the power from Site C and totally at odds with the climate emergency.

Huge amounts of energy have been and will continue to be expended to build the Site C dam. This is exacerbated by: the amount and types of construction materials needed to ensure the dam can withstand the uniqueness of the site (earthquake-prone zone on top of shale that easily shifts and crumbles); the extra construction needed to move bridges and highways out of the zone; the loss of a carbon sink as a result of flooding of farmland, wetland and forests;

the destruction of wildlife habitat; the loss of biodiversity; and even the potential extinction of some plant and animal species.

What about the impact on the livelihood, health, and culture of First Nations people who will be forced to relocate from their traditional territories? The approval of Site C was a massive slap in the face and a violation of Treaty 8 Rights to local First Nations such as the West Moberly, who fought against the dam in court. For a province that has adopted UNDRIP and now has enabling legislation to add UNDRIP to all its laws, this is a sad state of affairs.

The extra power from Site C will be used to extract more fossil fuels and to create more environmental damage through practices such as fracking and LNG production. The BC Utilities Commission has said we don't need the power from Site C. A brand-new report by the Canada Energy Regulator projects that if Canada strengthens its climate policies to cut more greenhouse-gas emissions, other mega-projects such as Trans Mountain and Keystone XL won't be needed either.

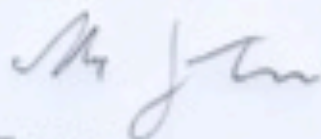
It would be much better, much cheaper and would create more jobs if electricity were generated from a combination of distributed, local renewable energy sources. Given escalating construction costs, the cost of electricity produced by the dam will be extremely high and that cost will be passed on to the taxpayers of BC for years, if not generations, to come.

Saying yes to the Site C dam means "business as usual" and leaving a big mess for our children and grandchildren. Our only chance now is to turn the corner and say "no." Our lives depend on it.

Stopping the Site C project is a difficult task that will take courage and firmness to carry out. We know you are up to it.

Thank you.

Yours respectfully,



Michael Tacon

President  
On behalf of the Sooke Transition Town Society

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