

May 12, 2015

Attention: Mr. Peter Watson
Chair and CEO, National Energy Board
517 Tenth Avenue S.W., Calgary
Alberta, T2R 0A8

Dear Mr. Watson,

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing this letter to formally request that the National Energy Board suspend its review of the Energy East pipeline. We are making this request for the following reasons:

1. The cancellation of the proposed port facility in Cacouna, QC, which renders TransCanada's application to the NEB incomplete;
2. The calls made by First Nations along the Energy East pipeline route for a halt to the review process due to the lack of adequate consultation;
3. The NEB's refusal to consider upstream climate impacts of the Energy East project despite overwhelming pressure from the public, including a potential Supreme Court Challenge over the NEB's refusal to consider climate change in their review of the Kinder Morgan Trans-Mountain pipeline;
4. The NEB's failure to provide TransCanada's application in both official languages to ensure the equal participation of communities of both languages;
5. Bill C-38 modified the NEB Act and gave the NEB the power to deny participation of concerned public citizens if they were deemed not to be "directly affected" resulting in many community members being denied access to the review process.

TransCanada has announced a two-year delay in the Energy East project timeline as it looks at other options for a marine terminal, and has indicated that it would file amendments to its application in the last quarter of 2015. Given the incomplete nature of TransCanada's application, as well as the numerous problems that have come to light with the regulatory process, we believe that the most appropriate and responsible action the NEB can take is to suspend the review of the proposed pipeline.

If built, Energy East would be the largest tar sands oil pipeline in North America, transporting crude from Alberta to Canada's east coast through vastly populated areas of Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes. It would threaten the drinking water of millions of Canadians and adversely impact the climate, while putting at risk the local environment and economies of regions such as the Bay of Fundy where the project includes an export terminal.

At the moment, the Energy East project application contains too many uncertainties to be adequately assessed and we are deeply concerned that the NEB would proceed with the review under such circumstances. We request that NEB suspend its review of TransCanada's application until the concerns listed above are addressed, and reopen the review process only when TransCanada can provide a complete and comprehensive overview of its application to Canadians.

Sincerely,

350.org; Alerte Pétrole Rive-Sud; Alliance Romaine; Alternatives; Artistes pour la paix; Association des propriétaires Privés, Agricoles (acéricoles) et Forestiers (apPAF); Association madelinienne pour la sécurité énergétique et environnementale (AMSÉE); Association québécoise de lutte contre la pollution atmosphérique (AQLPA); Baliverna Films; Coalition Objectif 22; Ciel et Terre; Citizens in Action Montreal; Citizens United for a Sustainable Planet; Climate Justice Montreal; Coalition Vigilance Oléoducs (CoVO); ConcertAction femmes Estrie; Conservation Council of New Brunswick; Convoi-citoyen du CCCPEM; Council of Canadians;

Council of Canadians Winnipeg Chapter; Council of Canadians Quill Plains Chapter; Council of Canadians Montreal chapter; Council of Canadians Thunder Bay Chapter; Craque-Bitume le collectif d'écologie urbaine; David Suzuki Foundation; Eau Secours! la coalition québécoise pour une gestion responsable de l'eau; Ecology Action Centre; Ecology Ottawa; Énergie Alternative; Environmental Defence; ENvironnement JEUnesse; Equiterre; ForestEthics Advocacy; Front d'action populaire en réaménagement urbain (FRAPRU); Greenpeace; Hearst350; Ligue des droits et libertés; Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition (MEJC); Montreal Climate Action; Mouvement Québec français; Nature Québec; NON à une marée noire dans le St-Laurent; Northwatch; Ontario Nature; Peace and Friendship Alliance; Pétroliques Anonymes de Rivière-du-Loup; Polaris Institute; Red Head Anthony's Cove Preservation Association; Regroupement national des conseils régionaux de l'environnement du Québec (RNCREQ); Regroupement Vigilance Hydrocarbures (RVHQ); Sierra Club of Canada; Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste de la Mauricie; Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste de Montréal; Société pour Vaincre la Pollution (SVP); Solidarité NABRO; SOS Territoire; Stop Energy East North Bay; Stop Energy East Pipeline Halifax; Stop Oléoduc Capitale Nationale; Stop Oléoduc Kamouraska; Stop Oléoduc Montmagny-L'Islet; Stop oléoduc Portneuf Saint-Augustin; Tache d'Huile; Toronto350; Transition Initiative Kenora