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Sent: February 3, 2021 3:24 PM
To: Info <info@againstportexpansion.org>
Subject: Time to Oppose Roberts Bank Terminal 2

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As you are aware the Cities of Delta and Richmond have voted to oppose the Vancouver Port Authority's (VFPA) Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project (RBT2).

We believe it is time the Metro Vancouver Board passed a resolution urging the federal government to deny approval.

Here is why:

1. After seven years of study, the federally appointed Environment Assessment Review Panel produced its report on the RBT2 project in March 2020. It identified many areas where the project is likely to result in significant adverse environmental effects to the Roberts Bank ecosystem, an area of the Fraser River Estuary recognized internationally for its environmental values, biodiversity, a top Important Bird Area - IBA - by Birdlife International (Designated as an IBA in Danger).
2. Almost immediately the federal Environment Minister delayed a decision until November 2020.
3. In August 2020 VFPA asked for a further delay. The Minister responded, agreeing to "pause" the decision process.
4. VFPA said it would provide the additional information prior to year end 2020.
5. November 2020 the VFPA said it will not now provide the additional information until summer 2021.
6. An e-petition (2828) with 1861 signatures from Canadians across the country, calling on the government to reject RBT2, was presented to the House of Commons on Dec. 9 2020.
7. January 26 2021 the federal government declined to act, repeating once again that a decision on RBT2 will be based on science, facts and evidence.
8. VFPA originally said RBT2 would cost in the region of \$2.4 billion to bring into operation, that procurement for the project would start in Q3/4 2020. Now procurement will not start until late 2022, with construction not starting until 2024, with VFPA estimating the cost will increase to \$3.5 billion.
9. Forty environmental and other groups, thousands and thousands of Canadians, are opposed to RBT2 and want the project rejected.

Delay, delay and further delay.

Forget the pause button, it is time to push the stop button this project.

There is no need to wait any longer. The science is clear - Environment and Climate Change Canada scientists said the RBT2 impacts on biofilm (a critical food source for million of shorebirds) *“are anticipated to be high in magnitude, permanent, irreversible, and, continuous”*. In other words unmitigable. The ECCC scientists also rebutted the Port’s claim that biofilm can be created, stating, *“there are no accepted techniques to remediate for functional biofilm for shorebirds on intertidal mudflats”* nor enough other available habitat to replace what will be lost if RBT2 is built, therefore mitigation for this habitat loss is not possible.

The Lower Fraser River and Estuary have already lost over 80 percent of natural habitat.

Attached is a one page summary, demonstrating why RBT2 is neither sustainable nor otherwise justifiable.

Need more information? visit www.againstportexpansion.org

Will the Metro Vancouver Board support the cities of Richmond and Delta?

Will the Metro Vancouver Board pass a resolution urging the federal government to reject RBT2 NOW?

There is every reason to do so. There is no need to delay the decision any longer.

On behalf of our supporters I look forward to your response.

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