

The Honourable Christy Clark
Premier of British Columbia
Box 9041 Station PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

By email: premier@gov.bc.ca

Dear Premier Clark,

I would like to commend the restraint you exhibited in your comments regarding the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway project in a recent Post Media News article on the subject. As the Northern Gateway Joint Review Panel (JRP) hearings have not yet started, I appreciate your decision to wait until the JRP has concluded before publicly articulating a position on the Enbridge pipeline proposal.

I would, however, disagree with your take on the oil tanker issue as you expressed in the aforementioned article, downplaying concerns around oil tanker traffic amongst critics of Northern Gateway. For all who care about the magnificent British Columbia coast, it is very much about the oil tankers.

If the Northern Gateway pipeline is constructed, an estimated 225 oil tankers at least as big as the Exxon Valdez would ply the Great Bear Rainforest's rocky northern coastline on an annual basis. Twice a week, over 500,000 barrels of tar sands crude would be shipped out and condensate shipped in. Is the benefit to Alberta and the shareholders of Enbridge from supplying Asian and American markets with tar sands crude worth the gamble, if it means subjecting BC's north coast to the risk of a catastrophic oil spill?

I would urge you to stand with a clear majority of British Columbians, coastal First Nations communities and the growing numbers of British Columbians, Canadians and citizens around the world who want to keep oil tankers out of the waters of the Great Bear Rainforest and who want to keep BC's north coast oil-free.

Sincerely,