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**From:** Karen Elliott and Sean Lumb [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, May 28, 2026 1:51 PM

**To:** [ECS.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ECS.Minister@gov.bc.ca) <[ECS.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ECS.Minister@gov.bc.ca)>; [ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca) <[ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca)>; [HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca) <[HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca)>; [JEDI.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:JEDI.Minister@gov.bc.ca) <[JEDI.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:JEDI.Minister@gov.bc.ca)>; [WLRS.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:WLRS.Minister@gov.bc.ca) <[WLRS.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:WLRS.Minister@gov.bc.ca)>

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**Subject:** Letter concerning WLNG/Fortis BC project

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Dear Ministers,

As two former Mayors of the District of Squamish who were involved in the environmental assessment and approval phases of the Woodfibre LNG and Fortis Eagle Mountain Pipeline projects, please find attached a letter that outlines our recent concerns about the lack of proactive regulatory enforcement and the need for more openness, transparency, and accountability with regard to the project's future.

Warm regards,

Karen Elliott & Patrician Heintzman

May 28, 2026

To:

Honourable Adrian Dix  
Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions  
[ECS.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ECS.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Honourable Tamara Davidson  
Minister of Environment and Parks  
[ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Honourable Josie Osborne  
Minister of Health  
[HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Honourable Ravi Kahlon  
Minister of Jobs and Economic Growth  
[JEDI.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:JEDI.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Honourable Randene Neill  
Minister of Water, Land & REsources  
Stewardship [WLRS.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:WLRS.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

cc: Jeremy Valeriate, MLA West Vancouver Sea-to-Sky, [Jeremy.Valeriate.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Jeremy.Valeriate.MLA@leg.bc.ca)

cc: Patrick Weiler, MP West Vancouver - Sunshine Coast - Sea to Sky Country,  
[Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca)

cc: District of Squamish Council, [council@squamish.ca](mailto:council@squamish.ca)

Dear Ministers,

We're writing to express our concern about a number of recent issues regarding the Woodfibre LNG (WLNG) facility in Squamish. We share serious concerns about the following:

- Fortis BC's prolonged failure to comply with the conditions of its permits by drastically exceeding contamination limits in local waterways;
- The increased powerline requirements by BC Hydro to supply added electricity to meet WLNG's growing needs;
- The need for an independent assessment on the health impacts of the oil and gas sector; and
- The recent admission by Federal Minister Hodgson that WLNG plans to significantly expand its export capacity despite years of denial by the proponents and senior orders of government.

As the two Mayors who served Squamish predominantly during the project development and approval phases from 2014-2022 (Mayor Heintzman 2014-2018 and Mayor Elliott 2018-2022), we have a unique perspective of its evolution, and a front row seat to the commitments made to Squamish by the proponent and the various Ministers who oversaw the Environmental Assessment of the Woodfibre LNG and the Fortis Eagle Mountain Pipeline projects. We have both resisted commenting during the construction phase of the project, however, in light of these recent developments, we felt compelled to jointly voice our deep concern.

During our terms as Mayor, we were both part of discussions with the proponents and the Provincial Government as the project proceeded through the regulatory review and approvals process, first with the Liberal government and then the NDP government. Proponents would regularly keep the Mayor and Council up to date on plans, and Provincial politicians continually assured us that they had our community's back.

As early as 2014 and into 2015, Mayor and Council were told by community members that the infrastructure being built was being designed for a much larger facility and that WLNG workers had actually seen plans outlining this. While we could not confirm the source of this information, we both questioned the proponents on multiple occasions to clarify the long-term vision for the project, why the size of the pipe capacity was so large, why more hydro capacity was required, and how a small LNG plant was viable in the global market place. Despite our pointed questions about the potential for expanding the scope of the project, at no point did WLNG or Fortis staff or government bureaucrats or elected officials tell us what has now been revealed as the truth.

In 2014 the District of Squamish struck the Squamish LNG Advisory Committee made up of community members and two councillors. It was tasked with learning more about the industry and its potential impacts (both positive and negative) on Squamish. Its work was to help assure the community that Council and District staff were being diligent about understanding and assessing the entire project and its potential impacts on the community and region, and to ultimately provide advice to Council. The committee was facilitated by an objective third party facilitator, and the committee invited various experts including the British Columbia Coast Pilots Association, the BC Energy Regulator, Fortis BC, BC Hydro, and other industry specialists to help in this endeavour.

The conclusion was a significant lack of confidence in the provincial regulatory bodies tasked with monitoring the project, as they seemed to lack sufficient experience in this emerging field and did not have clear answers on how to effectively monitor the project during construction and production. The conclusion: Council should be cautious, involved and vigilant. We now learn that Fortis exceeded contamination levels for almost a year (November 2024 – October 2025) with only a warning letter and no enforcement from the BC Energy Regulator. This lack of prompt, decisive enforcement makes our community's initial fears all too real, and deepens distrust of provincial regulators. In a second example, regulators have failed to enforce flare stack regulatory obligations on LNG Canada in Kitimat. How do these two incidents build trust between the Province and the communities that are required to host the facilities? While Canadians hear regularly that we have some of the most stringent environmental regulations in the world for projects like these, the regulations are of no use if they are not enforced.

On March 24, 2026, the Federal Minister of Energy and Natural Resources told investors at CERAWEEK that WLNG has ambitions to double and triple the size of their production. WLNG spokesperson Sean Beardow did not deny the substance of the Minister's comments. When

asked how he knew that WLNG had these ambitious plans Minister Hodgson replied he learned this through “regular contact” with the company. We too had very regular contact with the WNLG and Fortis BC throughout our terms as Mayor. We also had regular contact with the Ministers at the provincial and federal levels as well, and no one disclosed these ambitions.

Finally, doctors with the Health Officers’ Council of B.C. passed a resolution in November 2025 outlining the need for an independent assessment of possible health impacts related to the oil and gas industry to understand potential impacts on folks living near where gas is extracted, transmitted, and processed. During the pandemic, your government listened to the medical experts to keep our communities safe. Why now, when communities including Dawson Creek and Squamish are passing motions to support the independent assessment of the health impacts of the oil and gas sector, are you choosing to set aside the advice of medical experts?

Our underlying hope is that this letter serves as a reminder of this project’s complicated and often divisive history in our community, and a harbinger of the need for senior orders of government to rebuild the public’s trust in the institutions intended to protect our economic, environmental and social interests. *This includes* fulsome and transparent environmental assessment and approval processes that don’t backtrack on promises or move goal posts, and that protect public assets for future generations. *This includes* regulatory bodies that hold proponents to account and that substantially penalize bad actors with real consequences. *This includes* being honest about a project’s complete development goals and properly assessing the cumulative effects of the entire project (WLNG, Fortis, BC Hydro) from the beginning, so citizens have the whole story and all the facts when they contemplate a project of this magnitude in their community.

At a time when the social contract and trust between politicians and the citizens they purport to serve is being systematically eroded, our regulatory bodies, and the Federal, Provincial, Municipal and First Nations governments involved in this project, need to do much better to hold the proponents to account and improve openness, transparency, and enforcement.

Thank you for considering our concerns.



Patricia Heintzman



Karen Elliott