



Monday, March 17, 2014

To the YUB,

Please accept this letter as Yukon Conservation Society and Leading Edge's (YCS/LE) response to YEC's motion to have Don Roberts's evidence removed from the record.

YCS/LE believes that the evidence presented is, in fact, within the scope of this proceeding because it speaks to issues of prudence, cost risks and reasonable alternatives.

The presentation submitted by Don Roberts covers several issues around natural gas extraction and demonstrates that tying the Yukon's electricity grid to natural gas is not prudent at this time.

A significant cost risk facing the Whitehorse Diesel to Natural Gas Conversion Project is the fact that hydraulic fracturing, the current method used to extract natural gas, exacerbates climate change, wastes and pollutes water, and causes widespread industrialization of landscapes and communities.

Hydraulic fracturing is gaining increasing backlash from the public in North America and around the globe. The lack and loss of social licence and regulatory approvals of this extraction activity could have serious cost risks to Yukon ratepayers.

There is great uncertainty around the amount of economically recoverable reserves, the viability of natural as a transition to renewable energy, and a growing body of knowledge explaining why renewable energy should be pursued instead of expanding fossil fuel use.

We do not have the luxury of decades to wait to address the climate crisis and the pollution that comes with extraction, processing, transportation and combustion of fossil fuels. It is irresponsible for government, assessors and regulators to continue to externalize costs to the environment when natural capital is spent and wasted.

If the YUB agrees with YEC that the evidence submitted by Don Roberts is out of scope, we sincerely hope that the Board, the applicant, and everyone participating in this proceeding looking into whether our public utility should invest \$40 million to lock our electricity grid to natural gas, will take the time to view it.

Thank you,



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