

Council Majority Buys 'Fake News' of Oil Safety

I am so saddened by Thunder Bay city council's failure to move forward toward 21st-century energy sources and good sustainable jobs. The Energy East pipeline will so negatively impact our planetary environment and has the potential, and the odds, to devastate our local environment. We must think about the jobs provided by and the food taken from our local waters and forests.

Like President Trump, a majority of city council members have chosen to believe the 'fake news' that TransCanada PipeLines has and can diligently monitor pipelines and clean up tarsands dilbit quickly and efficiently.

As for the oil tankers rolling through the city by rail, this oil comes from the Bakken Formation, in North Dakota. Do city councillors think this oil transportation will stop, when oil begins to flow through the pipeline from Alberta?

President Trump was not swayed by the outcry of support for the Paris Accord by all world nations (except Syria and Nicaragua), major corporations (including Exxon, BP and Shell), states, cities, scientists, workers' unions, religious leaders (including Pope Francis), and citizens from all walks of life. Trump acted on behalf of the American oil and coal barons who are unable to stop seeking yet more wealth from this source that is pushing us off the cliff of global crisis for humans and other species.

I want to thank Mayor Hobbs and Councillors Pugh, Foulds and Ch'ng for their leadership votes. Councillors Angus, Hebert, Rydholm, Virdiramo, Johnson, Pullia, Giertuga and McKinnon voted support for the pipeline. Aldo Ruberto was absent.

Like the American states, cities, businesses and citizens pledging to continue to work to transition to clean energy, for our children and grandchildren, our local groups will continue to work hard too. Time is running out. I ask everyone to do some research and get involved. Everyone is needed.

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