

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Written delegation for Wednesday June 3 meeting: re. Enbridge proposal

From: Mary Love

Sent: Monday, June 1, 2020 7:04 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

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Dear City Councillors,

I am in disbelief that your staff would even contemplate accepting Enbridge's proposal for several more pipelines in rural and urban Hamilton, let alone recommending them! I just can't understand that. Whatever has influenced your staff to say this, I sincerely hope that you will remember that you as Hamilton City Council declared a Climate Emergency last year. Declaring that should by any logic automatically preclude you from allowing any more pipelines in your jurisdiction!

Just because we are now in the pandemic emergency does not mean that the existential emergency of climate change has magically disappeared. Why would your staff be recommending that people who need fuel use Enbridge gas, when geothermal is cheaper, cleaner, and more sustainable? It's innovative, whereas fossil fuel is literally dinosaur fuel.

Enbridge offers "Natural gas," but this is a totally misleading name for it. It is anything but; the only thing natural about Enbridge's product is that bringing more of it on-stream in our area will mean that we naturally spend less of our focus on conservation of energy, as in working towards retrofitting all homes in our area, and that we will be more dependent on dirty fuel that fuels climate change and dooms our grand children. For reasons I cannot grasp, Enbridge CEO's behave as if they either do not have children or grandchildren, nieces and nephews, or do not care about them as much as they do about keeping their dying business afloat so they can continue to profit off it. Please behave more responsibly! Please remember those young people you love! It is they who will suffer and die far too early from things we can predict and some that may come out of the blue, as did COVID-19.

Much of Enbridge's gas is fracked gas, called the "crack cocaine" of fossil fuels; I urge you to study what that ugly word fracking actually entails, which is basically blowing up rocks to look for the last vestiges of oil, and using and thereby polluting a huge amount of water to do it. Some companies in the U.S. (where, of course, Enbridge has many pipelines) have actually blown the tops off mountains looking for more fossil fuel sources. An Indigenous man from Houston, Texas who is in the wonderful documentary film *The Condor and The Eagle*, likened this desperate search for more fossil fuels, now that they are no longer abundant or can be cheaply produced, to an alcoholic draining every last drop out of his bottle.

Please send your staff back to the drawing board to develop an innovative, community-based plan to bring good, sustainable service to outlying communities. Those homeowners have children they care about to, and I know they would choose clean geothermal fuel if it is offered to them.

I leave you with the quotation below from the great prophetic poet William Blake.

You can't imagine how sincerely I mean this message!

Mary Love
Hamilton Mountain

A fool sees not the same tree that a wise man sees.

William Blake (1757-1827)