

Mayor Horwath and Hamilton City Councillors.

I am writing to you on behalf of the Association of Dundas Churches, to express our concerns regarding the Enbridge proposal to construct a 14 km. natural gas pipeline to feed ArcelorMittal's furnaces to produce "green" steel. This would double the amount of natural gas, fracked gas, that ArcelorMittal will be using. Fracked gas is particularly problematic given the environmental damage and climate damaging emissions, particularly methane, associated with fracking.

Our specific concerns and questions are as follows.

- Construction of this pipeline will be disruptive along its proposed route. Will the pipeline cause any environmental damage and/or disruption to wildlife habitats?
- To offset costs of paying for this proposed pipeline, it is to be expected that it will be operational for up to twenty years to recoup the costs accrued. Using natural gas could significantly extend the timeline for ArcelorMittal to switch over to electric arc and/or "green" hydrogen.
- "Green" steel is made from clean fossil fuel free electricity (hydro, wind, solar, nuclear) and/or greenhouse gas free "green" hydrogen, produced by electrolysis. As ArcelorMittal will be using natural gas, referencing its method of production as "green" is misleading.
- Would the \$900 million taxpayers' subsidy be better used to explore/source/build electrical power capacity, if feasible, to leapfrog natural gas, avoiding the need to build another pipeline, and shortening the time frame for ArcelorMittal to make truly "green" steel? Have discussions been held to explore the possibility of importing hydropower from Quebec or Newfoundland/Labrador? We feel that an intensive discovery process is needed.
- Should taxpayers be subsidizing one of the world's largest steelmakers at all?
- ArcelorMittal states that "The new 2.5 million tonne capacity DRI furnace will initially operate on natural gas but will be constructed 'hydrogen ready' so it can be transitioned to utilize green hydrogen as a clean energy input as and when a sufficient, cost-effective supply of green hydrogen becomes available." This open-ended statement includes no timeline for this transition to happen. Is there an "if" implied with their "as and when" statement? What is meant by "cost-effective"?

There are many unanswered questions with ArcelorMittal's proposal. We believe that until these questions are answered, and there is greater clarity around this proposal, including timelines, that the pipeline in question not be given approval by the City.

Respectfully,
Norma Coe, Chair



Association of Dundas Churches