

October 10, 2022

Alliance for Community Engagement SWWA

Vancouver City Council, Planning Commission and Staff
City of Vancouver

Dear Mayor McEnerny-Ogle, City Councilmembers, Planning Commission and Staff,

Our Alliance for Community Engagement (ACE) would like to express our sincere gratitude for the City of Vancouver passing a permanent ordinance banning new and expanded bulk fossil fuel facilities. This ordinance will help protect the health and safety of residents, especially in low-income and BIPOC neighborhoods already overexposed to health impacts and safety risks of bulk fossil fuel infrastructure.

This policy has taken years of hard work by City staff, City Councilmembers, the Planning Commission, and community health, safety, and climate justice advocates. We appreciate the City listening to our concerns about prioritizing public input on permitting decisions for bulk fossil fuel proposals, and our equity-based concerns about exposure to health and safety impacts. The conditional use process for approving most new proposals provides an important pathway for ongoing community input.

Establishing clarity that new and expanded bulk fossil fuel projects are not allowed here will benefit our communities. Vancouver won't contribute to more long trains carrying flammable fuel like LNG or LPG through our community. The City will not be adding more outsized fossil fuel facilities to land that is in the liquefaction zone. This ordinance will also support the City's efforts to curb air pollution, in tandem with the ambitious greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and carbon reduction goals of the Climate Action Framework.

We encourage the City to employ robust monitoring of new and expanded fuel projects. We applaud air monitoring in the Fruit Valley Neighborhood as a first step. Thank you for all your work on this ordinance.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Community Engagement
Columbia Riverkeeper
Washington Environmental Council
Sierra Club Loo Wit
League of United Latin American Citizens Council #47013
Community Roots Collaborative
Friends of the Gorge
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
Vancouver Audubon
Cascade Volcanoes, Great Old Broads for Wilderness
Sunrise Movement SWWA

CC: Chad Aiken, Bryan Snodgrass and Becky Coutinho



WASHINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL



COMMUNITY ROOTS COLLABORATIVE



LEAGUE of UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS



SUNRISE MOVEMENT



SIERRA CLUB



Great Old
Broads
For Wilderness



WASHINGTON PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

