

Write a letter about Fortis pipeline and expanding fossil fuel addiction.

Craft a short letter based on some of the following points. Copy it and paste it into each website or individual email. **Your letters will be more effective if sent individually to each email address.**

- Extending pipelines will increase gas hook ups and use and increase fossil fuel emissions.
- Local and regional climate plans commit to reducing GHG emissions and switching to electricity.
- Natural gas production and creates fugitive methane emissions.
- Methane is a far more potent gas than CO2
- New fossil fuel infrastructure is not needed when heat pumps offer high-efficiency home heating and cooling.
- Using natural gas can negatively affect indoor air quality.
- Pipeline construction crosses many streams and sensitive habitats.

Most Important submission! BCUC (BC Utilities Commission)

<https://www.bcuc.com/Forms/LetterOfComment>

Proceeding name *

Look for **FEI CPCN for the Okanagan Capacity Upgrade Project**

RDOS	info@rdos.bc.ca OR https://www.rdos.bc.ca/helpful-links/contact-us/
City of Penticton Mayor and Council	council@penticton.ca
MLA Dan Ashton	dan.ashton.mla@leg.bc.ca
George Heyman, Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy	ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Penticton Herald	https://www.pentictonherald.ca/site/forms/online_services/letter/letter_editor/
Penticton Western News	https://www.pentictonwesternnews.com/contact-us/
Kelowna Capital News	https://www.kelownacapnews.com/submitletters/
Kelowna Daily Courier	https://www.kelownadailycourier.ca/site/forms/online_services/letter/letter_editor/

Further reading on Renewable Natural Gas (RNG)

<https://www.nationalobserver.com/2022/01/26/opinion/fortisbc-doubles-down-nefarious-efforts-block-electrification>

Fortis Capacity Upgrade Sample Letters

Use these as examples of what you can write. Don't copy them as they have already been submitted.

- As a resident of Penticton, I believe this project goes against the City of Penticton's commitment to a climate action plan to reduce the use of fossil fuels in our region, and promote alternative energy.
- We must halt the incremental increase of natural gas use in our region by this long list of new projects. Renewable energy options are increasingly available and must be used if we're to avoid climate emergency sliding into complete climate collapse.
- I feel that this project is not only unnecessary, but harmful to the environment and to efforts to reduce the use of natural gas in BC. It reduces regional ability to meet GHG targets. Penticton has a Community Climate Action Plan that will be more difficult to achieve if this project proceeds. The project will disincentivize homeowners from switching to electric appliances. It will have the effect of confirming the belief that natural gas appliances are safe. They are not! Indoor air quality is negatively impacted just by having a gas stove in the house, without even using it. It will encourage the use of MORE fossil fuels at a time when we MUST be moving away from burning fossil fuels. It threatens sensitive environmental areas/stream crossings along its route. BC is facing a huge problem of biodiversity loss and we can't afford to compromise any natural areas. Thank you for taking these serious concerns into consideration when reviewing the proposal.
- FORTIS BC is proposing to construct a 30 km gas line expansion to connect Chute Lake and Ellis Creek. The expansion will improve service to existing customers and provide service to new customers along the south east side of Okanagan Lake. First Things First Okanagan opposes this project for 3 primary reasons: 1. Canada, BC, and Penticton have committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Home heating is one of the largest sources of carbon emissions that must be phased out to meet this goal. Adding additional capacity to deliver fossil fuels is a step backward from Net Zero; 2. Canada and BC have committed to stopping methane emissions because methane is such a potent greenhouse gas. Natural gas is primarily methane, so adding capacity to transport and deliver natural gas will compromise efforts to eliminate methane emissions; and 3. The project will reduce demand for electrical energy retrofits that will lower household emissions, running counter to the goals of the City of Penticton and RDOS Community Climate Action Plans. The world is going electric, and we believe FORTIS should redirect its business model to emphasize its delivery of renewable electricity rather than natural gas.