Date:

Premier David Eby,

Parliament Buildings,

Victoria, BC, V8V 1X4

Dear Mr. Eby,

I am writing to express my deep concern that the climate crisis continues to intensify. I was distressed to learn that your government recently approved Cedar LNG project, and that this, along with the BC government’s plan for massive expansion of LNG production is taking the province in the wrong direction.

I welcomed your government’s CleanBC Plan, which pledges to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 40% by 2030, and by 80% by 2050. But BC will not be able to implement those pledges if it continues with expansion of liquid natural gas (LNG) production***.***

LNG is mainly methane, and methane is 84 times more potent a climate change driver than carbon dioxide over a 20 year period. Methane leaks occur throughout the LNG supply chain.

The BC government is also undermining its CleanBC Plan by subsidizing the oil and gas industry with hundreds of millions of dollars a year. Although the recent Review of Oil and Gas Royalties eliminates the most egregious subsidies, the new royalty system continues to incentivize LNG development.

I strongly oppose the BC government’s criminalization of First Nations who express opposition to the use of their traditional territory for pipelines and fracking for LNG development.

While the BC government is promoting fossil fuel development, it is also allowing destruction of some of the most ancient, rare old growth forests in the province. This is counterproductive: old growth forests remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, slowing climate change.

The most recent 2023 summary report published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has made it clear: the world must immediately phase-out fossil fuel consumption and production and prohibit new fossil fuel infrastructure and other projects.

I call on the BC government to demonstrate the leadership necessary to confront the climate emergency, and immediately undertake the following actions:

* Institute a moratorium on fracking in BC;
* Reduce BC’s GHG emissions by 8.5% per year below 2007 levels, i.e., a 60% reduction by 2030 which is consistent with what science and justice demands;
* Invest 2% of BC’s GDP to advance the zero-emissions economy; & create tens of thousands of new jobs;
* Rapidly wind down fossil fuel production and use;
* End all subsidies and financial incentives to the oil and gas sector;
* Commit to protecting BC’s remaining 2.6 million hectares of old-growth forests, permitting logging only in secondary, previously logged forests.

Yours sincerely,