

Appendix G.8
Marine Resources
Information Request #23 and 24

December 12, 2014

Catherine Ponsford
Project Manager
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Pacific and Yukon Regional Office
410-701 Georgia Street West
Vancouver, BC V7Y 1C6

Dear Ms. Ponsford:

Reference: Marine Resources Information Requests #23 and #24

This letter responds to the request for Outstanding Information Request received from the Canadian Environmental Assessment (CEA) Agency on August 14, 2014.

Information Request #23

Government of Canada - Outstanding Information:

DFO: *The scale and duration of disposal has the potential to impact commercial, recreational and Aboriginal fishing activity and fish and marine mammal migration pattern, and to destroy fish and fish habitat to a level of significance. Therefore results from detailed assessment of potential impacts is required in the EA. No information on alternative disposal locations still being considered was provided.*

Provide this information in the EA if alternatives are still being considered. If the proponent is of the opinion that the Brown Passage site is the only preferred alternative location for the disposal, please confirm. If this is not the case, provide the same level of detail as requested for the Brown Passage site for all other alternative locations that could be used by the proponent.

EC: *An adequate understanding of the effects related to the disposal and/or management of 7,300,000 m³ (marine terminal) and 615,000 m³ (MOF) of dredged material is integral to the environmental assessment. As such, all alternative disposal site(s) or management option(s) still being considered must be assessed as part of the EIS. An adequate understanding of the physical, chemical, and biological conditions of a proposed disposal site is required in order to determine effects on the marine environment related to disposal activities. Please provide this information.*

Government of Canada – Elaboration on Outstanding Information #23:

Describe how Aboriginal considerations were incorporated into the analysis of alternative disposal site (s) or management option (s) for disposal at sea, using the information recently received from Aboriginal groups on socio-economic conditions, traditional knowledge, and traditional land use.

Information Request #24

Government of Canada - Outstanding Information:

DFO: *The request to “Provide updated assessment information on baseline conditions, effects, mitigation, and significance” has not been satisfied. Please also refer to Marine Resource IR #2 for requests for information in the LAA.*

EC: *Please refer to Marine Resource IR #23 for the information requested on alternative disposal at sea sites still under consideration.*



Government of Canada – Elaboration on Outstanding Information #24:

The updated information on baseline conditions should include the results of ROV surveys, confirming the absence or presence of species such as sponge and coral in or near the area likely to be affected.

Pacific NorthWest LNG Limited Partnership (PNW LNG) – Response:

No additional alternative sites are under consideration for the disposal of marine sediment at sea. The previously used Brown Passage disposal site is the only option under consideration for disposal at sea.

Because of the project design mitigation to relocate the marine terminal berth, and additional engineering estimates of sediment and rock volumes at the materials off-loading facility, only 200,000 m³ of marine sediment will be disposed of at sea. Additional remotely operated vehicle (ROV) surveys and installation of a current meter at Brown Passage have been completed. Please see the “Brown Passage Subtidal Survey” for additional result information from the ROV surveys.

Since the submission of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), PNW LNG has received four Aboriginal Traditional Use Study (TUS) reports from First Nations on traditional knowledge and traditional land use. These studies include:

- The Gitxaala Use Study, Prepared for Port Edward Area LNG Projects (Gitxaala Use Study)
- Kitselas First Nation Traditional Use Study Analysis: The North Coast Territories—Lelu Island (Kitselas Report)
- Metlakatla First Nation Traditional Land Use and Ecological Knowledge of the Proposed Pacific NorthWest LNG Project (Metlakatla report)
- Kitsumkalum Traditional Use Study Interim Report for Pacific Northwest and the Kitsumkalum Traditional Use Effects Matrix
- The Gitga’at First Nation Traditional Use and Occupancy Study. Prince Rupert Region. Preliminary Results Report (Gitga’at Preliminary Report).

These TUS reports support the assessment of potential effects on navigation and marine resources as discussed in Navigation and Marine IR #6. No further considerations were incorporated into the analysis of alternative disposal site (s) or management option(s) for disposal at sea using these TUS reports.

Closure

This letter provides the Outstanding Information requested by the Government of Canada. If you have any questions, please contact PNW LNG.