

Main Table – Coastal GasLink Agenda

May 29, 2024, 1:30PM – 3:30PM

Objectives:

Coastal GasLink provides an update on the work underway for LNG Canada’s possible Phase 2 expansion, including possible pathways to decarbonize the pipeline and its operation.

Agenda:

Item	Lead	Timing
Territorial acknowledgement and welcome	S. Baskerville	10 mins
Summary of LNG Canada Main Table purpose and history	S. Baskerville	10 mins
Coastal GasLink Phase 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• High-level status of plan• Electrification options, including compressor stations locations and emissions profile• Timelines for construction• Local and First Nations engagement (to date)• Local benefits/Five Conditions/First Nations equity• Cedar LNG-related considerations• Other considerations	TBC	60 mins
Discussion/Questions	All	30 mins
Summary of Next steps	S. Baskerville	10 mins

From: Jardine, Kevin ENV:EX(Kevin.Jardine@gov.bc.ca)
To: Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca, Salter, Shannon PREM:EX
Jennifer.Meadows@gov.bc.ca, Meadows, Jennifer L
To: ENV:EXShannon.Baskerville@gov.bc.ca, Baskerville, Shannon
EMLI:EXDoug.Caul@gov.bc.ca, Caul, Doug D PREM:EX
Subject: TC Energy Meetings
Sent: 06/17/2024 21:07:34
Attachments: ENV-TC Energy Meetings_17June2024.docx

Attached, Shannon, is the list of meetings with TC Energy since November 2022.

- The list includes all TC Energy meetings and not just those with Liam Iliffe.
- Reflects meetings with ED, ADM and/or DM only.
- The list of attendees was pulled from the calendar invites and cannot be confirmed if the persons listed attended.

I can state categorically that neither TC Energy, any subsidiaries, nor indeed any external entity has, to my knowledge, ever drafted, reviewed or otherwise directly contributed to any advice or decision materials for senior public service staff, Ministers or the Premier, at anytime.

Please let me know if you require anything further.

Best,
KJ.

Kevin Jardine

Deputy Minister

Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy

Government of British Columbia

MOBILE & TEXT: s. 17



Where ideas work

I gratefully acknowledge and respect the lək'wəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory I live and work and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ people whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

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May 29, 2024	Main Table - Coastal GasLink	Internal: Kevin Jardine Shannon Baskerville Nate Amann-Blake Doug Caul Meghan Sali Doug Foster Jeremy Hewitt Rachel Shaw Mark Urwin Darren Beaupre External: Keith Anderson, BC Hydro Tim Philpotts Liam Iliffe, Director of Projects, TC energy Leah Holoiday, Senior Advisor, External Relations TC Energy David Austin, Stirling LLP Monica Solar, TC Energy (optional)
April 12, 2024	FNCI: Phase 2 Activating Decarbonization Pathways for LNG	Internal: Kevin Jardine Shannon Baskerville Nate Amann-Blake Jeremy Hewitt Mark Urwin External: Multiple external attendees, including Liam Iliffe, Director of Projects, TC energy
January 8, 2024	Energy Action Framework – Discussion on Next Steps	Internal: Jeremy Hewitt

		External: Liam Iliffe, Director BC Projects Joel Forrest, VP External Relations Natasha Westover, External Relations Leah Holoiday, Senior Advisor, External Relations
November 27, 2023	FNCI: LNG, ITMOs, and Climate Clubs; Assessing Pathways	Internal: Kevin Jardine Shannon Baskerville Nate Amann-Blake Jeremy Hewitt Mark Urwin External: Multiple external attendees, including Liam Iliffe, Director of Projects, TC energy
October 3, 2023	TC Energy Meeting	Internal: Kevin Jardine Jeremy Hewitt Adria Fradley External: Matt Gordon Rena Heer Adwet Sharma
July 6, 2023	Ksi Lisims and Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project	Internal: Kevin Jardine Shannon Baskerville Nate Amann-Blake Jeremy Hewitt External: Riley Baldwin, director of PRGT, TC Energy Dan Morrison, business lead, PRGT, TC Energy Sunny Deol, Technical Manager, PRGT, TC energy

		Liam Iliffe, Director of Projects, TC energy Tom Syer, VP climate and Government relations, Ksi Lisms LNG Bartek Kienc, Consultant, Nisga'a Lisms Government
May 3, 2023	Multi-Minister meeting I TC Energy	Internal: Kevin Jardine Jeremy Hewitt Adria Fradley External: No longer showing in calendar information
April 19, 2023	DM Call - Intro to Liam in his new role.	Internal: Kevin Jardine External: Liam Iliffe, Director of Projects, TC energy
November 28, 2022	DM Meeting with TC Energy - Update on CGL Progress (coincided with Leadership Gathering)	Internal: Kevin Jardine External: Kiel Giddens

** attendees based on calendar invite - does not confirm if invitees participated in meeting.

Coastal GasLink

Phase 2



About Coastal GasLink

Spanning 670 kilometres, the Coastal GasLink Project will safely deliver natural gas from northeastern B.C. to LNG Canada's facility in Kitimat, B.C. Coastal GasLink is re-engaging on Phase 2 which includes six additional compressor stations.

About Phase 2

Together with LNG Canada, Coastal GasLink has an opportunity to leverage the existing infrastructure and significant investments made in the initial phase of the project to deliver more Canadian-made LNG to the world, and provide jobs and opportunity for Canadian workers.

Phase 2 refers to the development of six additional compressor stations to increase the capacity of Coastal GasLink to move more natural gas. This would double the capacity of Coastal GasLink without requiring additional pipeline. Phase 2 would create high quality jobs and contracting opportunities for Indigenous and local communities across British Columbia, while supporting the global transition to secure, low-emission energy that will support Canada's democratic allies.

Project details

Phase 2 would not require any additional pipeline. Instead, it would involve the construction and operation of:

- an additional compressor unit and additional meter runs at the existing Wilde Lake facility, located near Dawson Creek;
- additional separator at the existing Kitimat Meter Station and metering facilities at the planned LNG Link Meter Station (located within the LNG Canada facility);
- and compressor stations at six locations located at regular intervals along the 670km route.

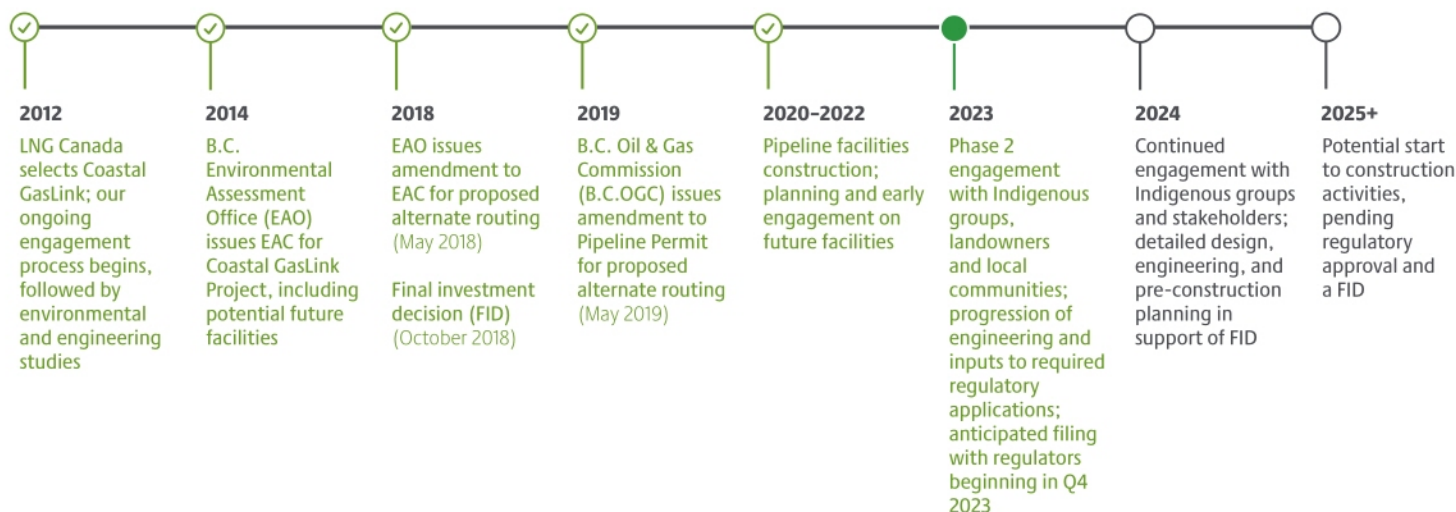
We initiated early engagement with Indigenous and local communities in 2020, and are re-engaging these communities now to advance planning.

Phase 2 was contemplated as part of both the Coastal GasLink and LNG Canada environmental assessment (EA) certificates, which were granted in 2014 and 2015 respectively. The potential environmental and socio-economic effects were thoroughly assessed and reviewed in consultation with Indigenous and local communities as part of the EA process for each project.

While Phase 2 was included in the original Environmental Assessment Certificate, it requires additional permits and approvals from the B.C. Energy Regulator, B.C. Environmental Assessment Office and local governments ahead of LNG Canada's final investment decision.

Timeline

Coastal GasLink continues to engage with Indigenous and local communities as construction progresses on Phase 1 and we assess the potential to increase project capacity through Phase 2.





What is a compressor and meter station?

Compressor and meter facilities are important pieces of infrastructure for a natural gas pipeline system that ensure natural gas moves through the pipeline safely and efficiently.



Compressor station

As natural gas flows along a pipeline, it slows due to friction with the pipe, resulting in a drop in pressure. To keep the gas flowing at a required rate, it is re-pressurized at locations along the pipeline. This is done by mechanically compressing the gas at sites connected to the pipeline, known as compressor stations.



A rendering of a compressor station with three compressor units.

The location and number of compressor stations needed on a pipeline system is dependent on a number of factors, including the operating pressure of the pipeline, the diameter of the pipe, elevation changes along the pipeline route and the volume of gas transported.

The six compressor stations for Phase 2 have been located to avoid and/or minimize environmental and social impacts. Compressor station sites would include two to three compressor units and supporting equipment, and would be approximately 400m x 400m. Phase 2 compressor stations are planned at locations along the existing Coastal GasLink route that in many cases have been used to support construction on Phase 1.



An inside look at the Wilde Lake Compressor Station, which would act as the starting point for the Coastal GasLink pipeline. Phase 2 facilities would closely resemble the Wilde Lake design.

Meter station

A meter station measures the amount of natural gas that enters and exits the pipeline. Meter stations also ensure that the natural gas in the line meets required specifications. These stations are used at all locations where natural gas enters or leaves the pipeline.

Coastal GasLink has completed the construction of meter facilities at both the Kitimat and Wilde Lake facility locations, and construction of the LNG Link Meter Station (located within the LNG Canada Facility) is planned pending a Final Investment Decision by Cedar LNG. Phase 2

would see additional metering and equipment installed within the existing infrastructure at the Wilde Lake facility, as well as the Kitimat Meter Station and LNG Link Meter Station.



The Kitimat Meter Station, where natural gas would be inspected, measured and then delivered to the LNG Canada facility.



Aerial view of the Kitimat Meter Station.



Jobs and opportunity

Coastal GasLink is committed to creating additional opportunities for Indigenous and local communities should a decision be made to move ahead with the construction and operation of the additional compressor facilities.

These benefits could include:

- The creation of **high-paying jobs** during construction of additional compressor facilities, experienced workers making more than **\$80,000** a year.
- **Continued education and training**, as the construction and operation of compressor sites require a range of skilled and semi-skilled team members. Each potential new facility would require a number of employees and these positions would provide excellent training opportunities for long-term, well-paying career opportunities for community members.

The Construction Monitoring and Community Liaison (CMCL)

program would continue into Phase 2 construction, providing opportunities for Indigenous community members to participate in construction within their traditional territory for the purposes of observing, recording and reporting on the implementation of construction activities. The CMCL program provides an opportunity to ensure that local Indigenous culture and traditions are integrated into the project and for local Indigenous people to gain valuable work experience.

With LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink operating at full capacity (including Phase 2), the projects would be a major contributor to provincial and federal revenue streams which would help our government support critical services like healthcare and education. Once operational, Coastal GasLink would provide more than \$26 million in property taxes every year to local communities.



Coastal GasLink is committed to providing opportunities for education and skills training on the project.



Phase 2 would create additional high-quality jobs during both construction and operations.



Safety is our number one value

When planning, constructing, and operating compressor and meter stations, safety is always our top priority.

A number of safety systems are built into the stations to ensure the safety of the facility, our employees, the surrounding community, and the environment. Coastal GasLink would be monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year with satellite technology, aerial inspections, internal monitoring and more. The pipeline, compressor

and meter stations are all constantly monitored for any abnormalities, and if a potentially hazardous condition is recognized, the system would be shut down.

Technicians would also be employed to monitor and maintain each compressor station location. Compressor and meter station equipment communicates with

TC Energy's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system.

Coastal GasLink has worked with local emergency responders to develop a comprehensive Emergency Response Plan that outlines procedures to protect the public and environment in the unlikely event of an emergency.



Environmental considerations

Construction and operation of Phase 2 would adhere to strict environmental and safety standards, while meeting the growing global demand for cleaner energy. Coastal GasLink, including Phase 2, was approved through a rigorous multi-year environmental assessment, which included extensive fieldwork and consultation and engagement with local and Indigenous communities.

The assessment considered the potential effects of the full build out of the project, on a number of environmental factors such as soil, wildlife, aquatic resources, air quality, land use, and traditional land and resource uses.

Additional environmental studies, including archaeological assessments,

noise studies and validation of previously completed environmental field studies, have been completed to support the Phase 2 planning and permit application processes. Feedback from Indigenous and local communities regarding interests and concerns would continue to be considered in Phase 2 planning.

Through ongoing design refinements and technology advancements since 2014, **Coastal GasLink has reduced the expected emissions from the initial startup of the project (Phase 1) by approximately 20%.** Many of the improvements implemented on the first phase of the project would be implemented on Phase 2. As development of Phase 2 progresses,

Coastal GasLink is using the latest leading technology to reduce GHG emissions, and is remaining focused on considering additional options for the application of best available technology in Phase 2 design.

We are actively evaluating opportunities to electrify Phase 2, which could reduce expected emissions from combustion at future compressor stations. We are working directly with BC Hydro to understand their capacity and timelines to support electrification of energy infrastructure across the province, including Phase 2.



Joining Coastal GasLink has positively changed my life. I'm able to provide a better life for my kids, while staying in my home community. The entire project is one of a kind and I feel honored to be a part it."

- Sharelle, Wet'suwet'en, Field Administrator, Coastal GasLink

Coastal GasLink



We'd like to hear from you

If you have any questions or comments about the project, please reach out.

1.855.633.2011 (toll free)
CoastalGasLink.com

facebook.com/coastalgaslink
twitter.com/coastalgaslink

From: Salter, Shannon PREM:EX(Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca)
Matt.Smith@gov.bc.ca, Smith, Matt PREM:EXAileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca, Machell, Aileen PREM:EXDon.Bain@gov.bc.ca, Bain, Don PREM:EXSarah.Marriott@gov.bc.ca, Marriott, Sarah
To: GCPE:EXJimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca, Smith, Jimmy PREM:EXTim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca, Howlett, Tim GCPE:EXMeghan.Sali@gov.bc.ca, Sali, Meghan PREM:EXMaya.Engelbrecht@gov.bc.ca, Engelbrecht, Maya PREM:EXJessica.C.Smith@gov.bc.ca, Smith, Jessica C PREM:EX
Subject: FW: TC Energy Meetings
Sent: 06/17/2024 21:14:22
Attachments: ENV-TC Energy Meetings_17June2024.docx

FYI

From: Jardine, Kevin ENV:EX <Kevin.Jardine@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, June 17, 2024 2:08 PM
To: Salter, Shannon PREM:EX <Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Meadows, Jennifer L ENV:EX <Jennifer.Meadows@gov.bc.ca>; Baskerville, Shannon EMLI:EX <Shannon.Baskerville@gov.bc.ca>; Caul, Doug D PREM:EX <Doug.Caul@gov.bc.ca>
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- The list includes all TC Energy meetings and not just those with Liam Iliffe.
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Please let me know if you require anything further.

Best,
KJ.

KEVIN JARDINE

Deputy Minister

Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy

Government of British Columbia

MOBILE & TEXT ^{s. 17}



Where ideas work

I gratefully acknowledge and respect the ləkʷəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory I live and work and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ people whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

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From: Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX(Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca)
To: Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca, Bain, Don PREM:EX
Subject: FW: Media request for comment from The Guardian and The Narwhal regarding TC Energy recording that references influencing Premier Eby and government policies
Sent: 06/25/2024 22:36:34

From: Matt Simmons <matt@thenarwhal.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 2:53 PM
To: Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: leyland.cecco@theguardian.com; Mike De Souza <mike@thenarwhal.ca>
Subject: Re: Media request for comment from The Guardian and The Narwhal regarding TC Energy recording that references influencing Premier Eby and government policies

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

It was the July 6, 2023 meeting

Thanks,
Matt

On Jun 25, 2024, at 2:46 PM, Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hey Matt, which of these meetings included the Premier?
-Jimmy

From: Matt Simmons <matt@thenarwhal.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 2:09 PM
To: Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: leyland.cecco@theguardian.com; Mike De Souza <mike@thenarwhal.ca>
Subject: Re: Media request for comment from The Guardian and The Narwhal regarding TC Energy recording that references influencing Premier Eby and government policies

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Jimmy,

Thanks for your latest response to our questions.

We have some follow up questions related to our review of Mr. Iliffe's reported lobbying activity.

Our new deadline for these questions is at 3 p.m. PT on June 26.

Here are our follow up questions:

1) Since April 2023, when TC Energy added Liam Iliffe to their registration with the Registrar of Lobbying, Mr. Iliffe reported 12 separate lobbying activities. Five of those activities involved the premier or premier's office. In three of those cases, Mr. Iliffe was the only lobbyist who participated in the activity. Can the premier's office comment on the

nature of each of these exchanges with Mr. Iliffe on April 10, May 27, June 27 and July 6, 2023 as well as on May 29, 2024?

2) If each of these activities consisted of a meeting or meetings, can the premier's office comment on why it agreed to so many individual meetings with Mr. Iliffe?

3) The premier's deputy chief of staff, Don Bain, was listed in each of the five activities listed on the lobbying registry. This includes three activities in which Mr. Bain was listed as the only government official present. According to his LinkedIn account, Mr. Bain worked in former premier Horgan's office at the same time as Mr Iliffe as a deputy chief of staff. Can Mr. Bain provide us with a comment on whether these previous workplace interactions with Mr. Iliffe may have played a role in him granting access to Mr. Iliffe for lobbying activity?

4) One of the lobbying activities registered occurred on May 27, 2023, which was a Saturday, during a period when the premier was on a trade mission to Asia. Can the premier's office explain where this lobbying activity occurred and what required Mr. Bain to accept being lobbied on a Saturday?

Thanks again,

Matt Simmons
Reporter, The Narwhal
matt@thenarwhal.ca

Leyland Cecco
Reporter, The Guardian
leyland.cecco@theguardian.com

On Jun 25, 2024, at 1:32 PM, Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX
<Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hello Matt,
Here is the response to your additional questions. Most of it is background information but you can attribute it to me if necessary. Let me know if there's anything else you need.
Best,
Jimmy Smith

1. Statements from Mr. Iliffe wherein he claims he has direct influence over government policy in any way are complete fabrications. For each ministry that Mr. Iliffe referred to in his comments or could have been in contact with him, senior political and public service staff were spoken to about these claims. No one could provide any evidence in support of his claims. Many provided examples of engagement with stakeholders at odds with Mr. Iliffe's claims. Regardless, we have asked the Registrar of Lobbying to review the alleged conduct.
2. I can provide with you the manner in which government policies and cabinet briefings notes are prepared. Subject-matter experts in relevant ministries refer to extensive consultative work that originate from a myriad of stakeholders including industry, environmental groups, First Nations, members of the public, communities impacted and many more. These varying and often disparate viewpoints are summarized by analysts and used to develop policy options in accordance with the [oath of employment](#) all members of the public service have sworn to. This is done to provide the widest range and most accurate advice on the subject under consideration. Before draft policies or briefing notes are

submitted to cabinet for their consideration, those materials are reviewed through multiple drafts by senior government officials within each ministry.

3. .To date, no other communication has occurred with the Office of the Registrar of Lobbying on this matter besides the letter I provided you.
4. .The premise of your question is inaccurate. Every time I have heard Premier Eby speak about Cedar LNG, he has celebrated its commitment to be net-zero by 2030 and one of the lowest-emissions facility of its kind in the world. For a more accurate and balanced perspective, I would encourage you to look at Premier Eby's numerous recent statements on this issue as well as the significant environmental policy advancements made by his government.

Since the Premier was sworn into office in 2022, BC has made significant policy changes in relation to the energy sector. In March 2023, Premier Eby introduced the [New Energy Action Framework](#) to ensure oil and gas sector projects fit within BC's climate commitments and create new opportunities for people in clean energy and technology. This framework ensures some development can occur, while also ensuring we meet our climate goals. It includes requiring all proposed LNG facilities in or entering the environmental assessment process to pass an emissions test with a credible plan to be net zero by 2030, and a regulatory emissions cap for the oil and gas industry to ensure BC meets its 2030 emissions-reduction target for the sector. It also includes actions to fast-track clean energy projects – putting that priority on a transition to a cleaner, low carbon future.

A full viewing of his comments and actions shows Premier Eby's clear and persistent commitment to BC's climate plan, CleanBC, and predicated all future development of the energy sector within our net-zero commitments as well as an emissions cap for the oil and gas industry. Premier Eby highlights that these climate commitments are not a hinderance to our economy but rather represent a significant opportunity for growth and prosperity because of how BC is positioned.

For example, at the Globe Forum in February 2024, Eby made the below comments which sparked this article: ["No backing down on climate action, Eby tells Globe Forum"](#) (BiV).

"To give you an idea of scale, we have 19 proposals for hydrogen facilities in British Columbia right now that are working their way through various aspects of our proposals, or our permitting processes. And I think there's like 15 critical minerals mines that are proposed for the province right now. The net value of all of those projects, in the billions. And all of them require that cooperation of all the levels of government, Indigenous. And so it is not an either or, but it is a focus."

"We're recognizing that LNG is not forever and it is not our salvation. It is all of these other pieces that we need to be looking to the future, the zero carbon future."

"The business certainty that I can assure you of, as leader of British Columbia, is that we will not back down on climate action. And if you are our partners in that, our partners in working with First Nations on the land as true equity partners, this government will be your partner in that work."

"The good news is, in my opinion - and I'm staking my political career on it - in my opinion, British Columbians, because we're on the front lines of these impacts, because we're seeing the smoky summers, because we're seeing the floods and the heat domes more than other

parts of Canada - and it's coming for you, you saw it recently. We're also well positioned to understand why we need to do the work, why we need to show climate leadership, why we need to stand strong even in the face of all of the craven politicians."

A link to the Premier's speech is available here: [Regeneration in Action: An Armchair Dialogue with Premier David Eby at the GLOBE Forum 2024 \(youtube.com\)](#)

Another example but made to a different audience is a luncheon with the BC Chamber of Commerce in December 2023. Comments from Premier Eby:

"I think it's important to recognize that our 2030, 2040 and 2050 goals align very closely with many corporate goals of companies that are operating in British Columbia already. They have ambitious carbon reduction goals and so do we as government. In fact, we have proposals. We have one under construction, one LNG site, Woodfibre LNG under construction. Their intention is to be net zero by 2030. Cedar LNG is going forward. They are on the verge of FID. They will be next zero 2030 as well..."

"Our biggest customers for hydrogen are international steel making firms that want to buy hydrogen to decarbonize their operations. It's not just BC. It's easy to think it's just BC. If you listen to the discussion nationally in Canada, it's not just BC with these targets. It's global companies that want to partner with us, that have to hit their own targets. We bring an offering where they're actually able to potentially hit those targets. That is a huge economic opportunity for us that we're going to continue to pursue."

From: Matt Simmons <matt@thenarwhal.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2024 4:56 PM

To: Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: leyland.cecco@theguardian.com; Mike De Souza <mike@thenarwhal.ca>

Subject: Re: Media request for comment from The Guardian and The Narwhal regarding TC Energy recording that references influencing Premier Eby and government policies

You don't often get email from matt@thenarwhal.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Jimmy,

Thanks for your response.

We have some follow up questions and wanted to see whether the premier might be available for an interview.

Our new deadline for these questions is Tuesday, June 25, before 3 p.m. PT.

Here are our follow up questions:

- 1) Can you provide us more details about which statements were considered to be "complete fabrications" and share with us any evidence you reviewed that led you to conclude or confirm that they were "complete fabrications"?
- 2) Can you share any of the records you cited that you believe "contradict his claims directly"?

3) Can you tell us whether the premier's office or anyone else in government has had other conversations with the office of the lobbying commissioner to share more details about what you learned from your "internal review"? Or is the letter you shared with us represent all that you have shared, thus far, with the office of the commissioner?

4) One of the main issues we are looking at in our reporting relates to what prompted an apparent shift in the premier's views about fossil fuel infrastructure. For example, when Premier Eby first won the BC NDP leadership in October 2022, he said: "We cannot continue to expand fossil-fuel infrastructure and hit our climate goals." By 2023, Premier Eby described the oil and gas sector as a real sector that would continue to exist in the foreseeable future and he also described one new fossil fuel project, Cedar LNG, as a project that would provide "unprecedented economic opportunity" and "good new jobs."

Can the premier provide us with any comments about how his statement about one new fossil fuel infrastructure project was consistent with the earlier statement saying that we shouldn't have any new infrastructure projects of this nature? And does he believe any lobbying or influence of any former NDP staffers on various members of cabinet may have played a role in shifting any of the premier's positions on policy?

On Jun 19, 2024, at 11:45 AM, Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX
<Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hello Matt and Leyland,

Below is the response to your media request. The statement is attributable to me, Jimmy Smith, press secretary, in the Office of the Premier.

Additionally, I'm attaching the letter from BC's Attorney General to the Registrar of Lobbying, as is referenced in the statement.

It has come to our attention that an employee of TC Energy has made several statements that are complete fabrications. An internal review has found no evidence that support his claims.

In fact, lengthy internal energy and climate policy development processes, cabinet decisions records, and briefing note drafting protocols, contradict his claims directly.

To ensure public confidence and full transparency, we have proactively shared this information with the Registrar of Lobbying who will determine if these false and defamatory statements warrant further independent review. We will offer our full cooperation and support to the registrar in this matter.

Best,

Jimmy Smith (he/him)
Premier's Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
250-882-2892

From: Matt Simmons <matt@thenarwhal.ca>
Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2024 12:31 PM
To: Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: leyland.cecco@theguardian.com; Mike De Souza
<mike@thenarwhal.ca>
Subject: Media request for comment from The Guardian and The Narwhal regarding TC Energy recording that references influencing Premier Eby and government policies

You don't often get email from matt@thenarwhal.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon,

We are journalists with The Narwhal and The Guardian working in collaboration on a news report about TC Energy and its alleged attempts to influence B.C. and Canadian government policies.

We have reviewed a recording of what appears to be a lunch and learn session involving members of TC Energy's external relations staffers in North America and are reaching out to seek an interview with Premier Eby about the content of the recording.

Our deadline is before 3 p.m. PT on June 19, however if you need more time to respond, please let us know. Leyland Cecco, with The Guardian, is currently in Victoria and would be happy to meet with the Premier in person to conduct the interview.

On the call, we heard numerous statements made that referenced Premier Eby and B.C. government business and policies. The presentation appeared to be made by former BC NDP government staffer, Liam Illife, and comments also appear to have been made by former federal government staffer, Dave Forestell.

We heard several significant claims made in the recording about how TC Energy influenced Premier Eby's climate policies and his position on LNG development. The recording also provides specific examples of how TC Energy staffers allegedly influenced public servants, drafted government briefing notes, and secured major policy changes to benefit TC Energy's operations and business.

Here is a sample of some of the statements concerning the B.C. government and Premier Eby that appear to have been made by TC Energy staffers on the call that occurred on or around March 27, 2024.

...

"We had a new premier with a new mandate and that mandate was described on his very first day in office as we cannot continue to expand the fossil fuel infrastructure and hit our climate goals. This set off alarm bells, of course, across industry, even with myself. I had worked with David Eby, when he was a cabinet minister and didn't know that this was a stance that he particularly had. We [find] ourselves now in a position where we have a premier who says that LNG is part of our future. This is a remarkable achievement."

"On a particular trade mission I use as an example, Premier Eby went to Asia and the Ottawa team was able to leverage their connections to ensure that our ambassadors who we know, by having experience on either trade missions or knowledge of them. We know that premiers, when they go to countries, have dinners with ambassadors. That's a one on one period of time that an ambassador can deliver our message and leveraging our relationships allowed us to have Canadian ambassadors abroad deliver a pro-LNG message to a premier who was skeptical at the time. And it was a marked shift in language when he came home."

"A really interesting thing about government is that you've got a lot of people, public servants, who are overworked and underpaid and sometimes they just want the job done for them. We've had instances where we've been given opportunities to write entire briefing notes for ministers and premiers and prime ministers and it gets stuck on government letterhead and put into an envelope and into a briefing package that goes to that elected figure. There's nothing more powerful than that."

"We focus our efforts ... on driving positive decision making within a core group of government officials. That's primarily the premier and cabinet. They're the ones who make the decisions in British Columbia as it relates to B.C. regulated projects."

"You'd be surprised how much work I actually get done in the cooler at Costco because I bump into a significant minister or bureaucrat that I really want to spend some time with and I can do that next to the strawberries or the romaine lettuce."

"This year being an election year in British Columbia, in October we'll have an election and we'll spend a lot of time with caucuses from all parties, presenting polling to make certain that our message of LNG development and, by virtue, natural gas development is heard."

"One of the things we did in B.C. to differentiate ourselves was to demonstrate the financial benefits that projects bring to allow government to deliver on its mandate. We have a very people-focused government ... and it's really been beneficial to us to walk in and demonstrate to government the financial impacts of the projects that we do to allow government to deliver services — to build hospitals, build roads, build schools."

"What we found in B.C. is the messaging was about people, so really about the economy. It wasn't about industry and oftentimes it wasn't even about emissions, it was all about people. ... We made a point of saying we need to protect jobs so the province can continue to deliver on the services that people rely on. We pivoted the impacts of their policy away from emissions and industry growth to damaging the things that matter to the

government. What are the results so far? We have a shift in government position, a clear shift. We have public comments and policy development that are positive for TC Energy's initiatives being made daily by the British Columbia government. We didn't find ourselves there a year ago."

"We were able to exclude midstream from certain components of 2030 climate goals that were pushed into it, which was all infrastructure needed to have a credible path to be net zero by 2030. We were able to cut ourselves out of that. We were included in the emissions cap.

"We did manage to dramatically change the price on carbon that was presented in February last year in output-based pricing. We resulted in over halving the impact on operating costs as it relates to our projects which ultimately makes a more investable environment in B.C. and saves TC and our partners, and our customers billions of dollars over the operational lifetime of their projects."

"Another positive policy impact was the province presented Land Act legislation changes which would allow for — the policy was to grant First Nations ... 50 per cent governing rights over Crown land. Most of our projects are built on Crown land. This generated a bit of a scare amongst TC, but also across the industry as a whole. We organized a coordinated approach to use different language to engage and use different relationships within the house leader's office to make certain that this policy change that was presented [and] was going to be discussed in the legislature was removed."

1. .
2. .
3. .Do any of these quotes
4. .reflect the premier's views about how government policies have been developed since he began his mandate, or if not, what would be the premier's version of the events described in those quotes?
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6. .
7. .
8. .Are you aware of any

9. .specific examples of briefing notes prepared for senior government officials that were sent by public servants but actually drafted by TC Energy and if this occurred, does the premier believe it would have been appropriate?
10. .
11. .
12. .
13. .How do you think the
14. .actions described in the recording around influencing and shaping government align with democratic principles under which provincial and federal governments operate?
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16. .
17. .
18. .Is the premier aware
19. .of any instances in which cabinet ministers or senior public servants were lobbied in a non-office setting such as Costco during any unexpected encounters?
20. .
21. .
22. .
23. .Can the premier confirm
24. .and comment on whether any ambassadors discussed or promoted the importance of the LNG industry during any conversations he had during his trade mission to Asia?
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26. .
27. .
28. .How do you respond
29. .to the claims that TC Energy was able to directly influence specific B.C. government policies, such as carbon pricing?
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32. .
33. .In regards to the
34. .recording's description of alleged influence over the proposed Land Act changes, is there anything you would like to share with our readers to increase understanding?
35. .
36. .
37. .
38. .Can the premier comment
39. .on whether it is common for political staffers from the BC NDP to take on senior positions in the oil and gas industry?
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41. .
42. .
43. .What should the public
44. .take away from the comments made in the recording and what they tell us about the relationship between the BC NDP and the oil and gas industry?
45. .

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