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Kate Walker


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David Morton
CEO BC Utilities Commission
Suite 410 – 900 Howe Street
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RE Site C Dam and the BC Utilities Commission Review

Dear Mr. Morton,

It was very clear in your interview on CBC's *The Early Edition* this week, and in the terms of reference for your inquiry into the Site C Dam project, that your frame of reference is limited to economic impacts on hydro customers. I hope your inquiry will also look at other economic impacts of the Site C Dam project as they might have an equal or even greater impact on people in British Columbia.

Those in favour of this project proceeding like to use the numbers of jobs created in the construction of this project to support their argument that this project is a good one. These are temporary jobs and work could be created in other fields for these workers so they can support their families.

A greater and more concerning impact of this project going ahead is the risk to jobs in agriculture, ranching, recreation and tourism industries. Agriculture is the most substantial. Food security in this time of climate change will be an enormous challenge for us. Protecting all agricultural land must be a priority. Recreational use and tourism also have long-term economic potential. The jobs created in these areas are permanent and offer more security than any short-term construction jobs.

The Peace Athabasca Delta is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, one of the largest freshwater deltas in the world. First Nations in this region opposed this development. Their economic health surely will be put at risk if this project goes ahead.

I look forward to your interim report September 20th and your final report November 1st. Let's hope that economic impact is given the scope it deserves in your inquiry.

With respect,



Kate Walker