

Gary Holman, M.L.A.

Saanich North and the Islands
Room 201 – Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4
P: 250-387-3655
F: 250-387-4680

Community Office

2393 Beacon Ave
Sidney, B.C. V8L 1W9
P: 250-655-5711 or 1-855-955-5711
F: 250-655-7398



**Province of
British Columbia**
Legislative Assembly



Gary Holman, MLA
Saanich North and the Islands

September 2, 2015

Re: Steelhead LNG Proposal

As MLA for Saanich North and the Islands I'm writing to express my concerns and invite any comments you may have regarding the proposal for a floating LNG facility to be anchored at the Bamberton industrial site in the Saanich Inlet. As you know, the Bamberton site was recently acquired by the Malahat First Nation, who are partners in the LNG project.

While I support the economic development aspirations of the Malahat Nation, the nature and scale of this project has implications for the region as a whole, including other First Nations. It is my understanding that there has been no prior consultation with nearby communities about the project, including first Nations on the peninsula who have occupied and been stewards of this area for millennia.

A number of constituents have contacted my office about the project and several community leaders have made public statements. This project is one of approximately 20 LNG proposals in BC. It is not clear that world demand and supply conditions will support even one LNG proposal, and an environmental review process for the Steelhead project has not begun.

However, there a number of very serious safety and environmental concerns raised by the location of this particular proposal, which is near settlement areas and would impact one of the most unique and sensitive marine environments in Canada. As you know, local efforts have been ongoing for years to restore and better protect the Saanich Inlet, which has also been included in a proposed National Marine Conservation Area, an initiative I support. The southern gulf islands is one of the busiest waterways in BC for recreational and commercial traffic, including BC ferries.

I will be actively engaged with any environmental review. I will provide any assistance I can to assure that the concerns of our communities are taken into account and that the Constitutional rights of affected First Nations are respected and accommodated.

Please feel free to contact me with any comments or questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gary Holman'.

Gary Holman, MLA, Saanich North and the Islands