

September 11, 2021

Mayor and Council of the City of Prince George
1100 Patricia Boulevard
Prince George, BC, V2L 3V9

Dear Mayor and Council:

We are writing to express our opposition to the proposals by West Coast Olefins Ltd. to build a petrochemical/plastic plant in the BCR site and a natural gas extraction plant in Pineview. We echo concerns about the negative impacts these will have on Prince George's already damaged air- and watersheds, and their short- and long-term health consequences¹.

Private individuals, local industry, and previous municipal governments have all worked hard to improve our city's air quality and alter its reputation as a "grubby industrial town"² and "the most dangerous city in Canada"³. There have been improvements in our air quality in the last decade⁴ and it seems ludicrous that these positive steps are now being threatened. The proposals from West Coast Olefins Ltd. may bring some economic benefit but will have long-lasting negative effects on the health and wellness of our land, water, air, not to mention our family, *and yours*, for decades to come.

Finally, the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation has made it very clear that West Coast Olefins Ltd. is not welcome on their territory.⁵ In support of ongoing Truth and Reconciliation efforts, the City of Prince George should respect this unequivocal statement and decline these proposals.

Thank you,
Mike and Heather Empey

¹ Strauch, Eriel. "Social and Medical Concerns for Prince George Heightened by West Coast Olefins Proposed Plants." Canada Info. <https://canada-info.ca/en/social-and-medical-concerns-for-prince-george-heightened-by-west-coast-olefins-proposed-plants/>

² "What It Really like - Prince George." TripAdvisor. https://www.tripadvisor.ca/ShowTopic-g154938-i1989-k396737-What_it_really_like-Prince_George_British_Columbia.html

³ "Moonshine, Pulp Mills and Communists: The History of Prince George's Bad Reputation | CBC News." CBCnews. CBC/Radio Canada, January 8, 2018. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/prince-george-crime-history-1.4475535>

⁴ British Columbia Ministry of Environment, Environmental Protection Division, Monitoring, Assessment and Stewardship, Air quality in Prince George: Summary report: Prepared for Prince George Air Improvement Roundtable. (2016).

⁵ "West Coast Olefins Ltd Not Welcome in LTFN Territory - Lheidli T'enneh: First Nation: Prince George, BC." Lheidli T'enneh First Nation, Prince George, BC, August 4, 2021. <https://www.lheidli.ca/west-coast-olefins-ltd-not-welcome-in-ltfn-territory/>