

## Candidate: Larry Colero

**Party: BC Green Party**

**Riding: Delta South**

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### **1) What is your position on Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline project?**

Absolutely NO!

*a) If you oppose the project, what specific steps would you take if elected to ensure the project does not proceed?*

This isn't just an election promise - it's a firm and heartfelt commitment. I spoke out against the Enbridge Northern Gateway Project (to a polite but deaf panel) and I am speaking out now against Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain project. I, and my party, will continue to do so when elected. There is no doubt in my mind.

*b) If you support the project, what specific steps would you take if elected to ensure BC's communities, environment and economy are protected?*

### **2) In 2016 the *Environmental Management Act* was amended to develop [a new framework for land-based spill preparedness and response in BC](#), which will be implemented through future regulations. What is your view of the proposed framework? What, if any, changes would you make to the framework if you were to form government, and what would be your first priorities?**

Although it contains a lot of good intentions and encouraging statements, I have no confidence at all in what our current corporate-controlled, science-hating government is purporting to be an assurance that they will protect and preserve our natural environment. (Have they ever deceived us before?) Similarly, I have no confidence in any promise of "future regulations".

And so, I will keep repeating it. Crude oil spills are almost impossible to fully contain or clean up, but dilbit/bitumen is much worse. Even in ideal marine conditions, no one yet has any idea how to contain or clean up a bitumen spill. For that reason alone, allowing Kinder Morgan to proceed is reckless insanity.

Years ago, I attended one of the first Kinder Morgan open houses where I was told by some engineers on the management team that I was misinformed about bitumen, and that it actually floats. So I asked them why they don't just take a video of bitumen floating and broadcast it to prove their point. They mumbled something about being almost ready to announce this. Sure.

As for the specifics of the Environmental Management Act, I will draw from the BC Green Party's policy platform, which includes the following actions [my comments in brackets]:

\* Rebuild the scientific and technical capability of the B.C. Public Service.[Government needs to stop relying on professional consultants paid by project proponents.]

\* Reform the governance of the oil and gas sector [including LNG shipments] to remove conflicting interests within the Oil and Gas Commission.

\* Re-establish the integrity of the Environmental Assessment process and establish clear criteria for decisions that fully factor in sustainability and cumulative impacts.

\* Establish a natural resource sector-wide compliance and enforcement unit that will be responsible for the continuum of compliance and enforcement activities, from inspections to prosecutions. An additional \$20 million will be allocated to enhance monitoring, compliance and enforcement.

*b) How would you propose to work with the federal government to strengthen marine spill planning and response, and to ensure that the provincial and federal regimes are aligned?*

*c) What specific actions can the provincial government take to ensure that local communities are meaningfully involved in oil spill planning and response?*

*d) For example, would you support provincial recognition of and funding for a Regional Community Advisory Council ([a world-leading tool pioneered in Alaska, see p. 71](#)) as a formal mechanism for local governments, First Nations and coastal community stakeholders to participate in oil spill prevention, preparedness, planning and recovery?*

### **3) Do you have any additional comments or activities you would like to share with our supporters?**

South Deltans are blessed with two beautiful beaches and a river estuary that offer recreation as well as being home to one of the worlds most important sanctuaries for bird and marine life. All of this is seriously threatened by a bitumen spill, which, according to statistics, is a likely event should we allow Kinder Morgan to proceed.

Yet here in South Delta, almost no one is talking about the Kinder Morgan project as an important election issue. Perhaps because industrialization of farmland or the mega-bridge over the Fraser are top of mind. Perhaps because they're thinking of it as just a pipeline somewhere else.

So, I have been trying to raise local awareness of the dangers of a bitumen spill in the waters just off our coast, and have highlighted the irreparable potential impacts in my online materials (e.g., [www.bcgreens.ca/dls](http://www.bcgreens.ca/dls)) as well as during any opportunity I have to speak.

Apart from the environmental devastation, one single tanker spill could cripple our coastal tourism industry, as well as thousands of jobs in fisheries.