

The Saguenay fjord National Park, Tadoussac, and other nearby villages have been places I have often visited over the past 10 years. As a geographer, planner, and tourist, I find it quite outrageous to find that this Energie Saguenay project and pipeline is even being contemplated in such an area and at such a time. We all face increasing threats from climate change. A gas liquefaction plant, a pipeline, 300 ships a year, and fossil fuel extraction processes, would be just one more thing in the wrong direction of needing to reduce our uses of fossil fuels. Such a plant and pipeline would tie Quebec and Canada into such gas production for decades. Liquified natural gas is not a renewable form of energy, nor is it a fuel that can realistically be a transition fuel to a more renewable energy future. Real renewable energy is here already. Such gas is not needed, it should be left in the ground.

We need to support rural communities to develop livelihoods beyond extraction, indeed many in the region are seeking to develop new ways of working that are often supported by tourism. Indeed tourism is of big importance in the region. But the developers and consultants pay very little attention to this or show little understanding of the ways tourism is worked to support diverse activities in the region.

The GNL project in my view is a backward looking proposal driven by distant investors with no concern for this region, it's people, landscapes, wildlife, or it's future. Nor do they show any responsibility towards a wider world that they are part of.