

Dépôt de mémoire

Chicoutimi, 2020-10-21

Dossier du BAPE : Projet de construction d'un complexe de liquéfaction de gaz naturel à Saguenay

Par : GNL Québec Inc.

There are three main reasons I oppose to the construction of a natural gas liquefaction complex at Port Saguenay. First, climate change caused by global warming is the most serious threat to the planet and humanity and we need to do everything in our power to lower the earth's temperatures and reduce the harmful effects of climate change now! Second, the endangered Saint-Lawrence beluga whale population needs to be protected and increased marine traffic is detrimental to this threatened species. Third, the overall protection of the Saguenay-Saint-Lawrence marine park is extremely important to the tourism industry. As a resident of Chicoutimi, a tourism industry worker and an active sea kayaker, I believe that this project will have a devastating effect on the Saguenay Fjord and all life that thrives on its shores and in its waters.

The truth is that this project is a fossil fuel project! Carbon pollution from burning fossil fuels like natural gas is **warming our planet and causing climate change**. The simple fact is that the more carbon pollution in the air, the more the sun's energy is trapped as heat. Which means the planet keeps getting hotter. The Paris Agreement aims to keep global average temperature rise to well below 2 degrees Celsius, while working to hold it under 1.5 degrees Celsius. The LNG facility will contribute to global warming and temperature rise and therefore should not be allowed!

St. Lawrence belugas are considered endangered under Canada's Species at Risk Act. In order to provide a guideline for beluga protection measures, the population's critical habitat – i.e. places essential for the species' survival – has been identified. This habitat includes part of the St. Lawrence Estuary and sections of the Saguenay River. Disturbance by watercraft and habitat degradation due to noise generated by shipping traffic are two of the main threats faced by St. Lawrence belugas. An increase of industrial marine traffic from shipping LNG through the Fjord has the potential for major negative impacts on St. Lawrence belugas and should not be allowed! (Reference: <https://baleinesdirect.org/en/industrial-port-developments-saguenay-a-belugas-perspective/>)

The Saguenay-St-Lawrence marine park states on its website that *The Marine Park protects every living organism found in it, from the seabed to the surface of the water. Species at risk like the St. Lawrence population of beluga whales and the blue whale roam its waters.* The parks mission and the increase of industrial marine traffic from the LNG plant are not compatible. Tourists from all over the world come to see the park and the development of the Énergie Saguenay Project will have a negative impact on the tourism industry and should not be allowed!

I have been a sea kayaking guide in the Saguenay-St-Lawrence marine park for 19 years. I have guided around 100 trips with people from all over the world. They come here to admire the

protected wilderness that is the Saguenay-St-Lawrence marine park. The LNG project directly threatens the beauty of the park and further endangers the beluga whales and all the other species of the Saguenay and St-Lawrence waterways. The natural gas project will increase global warming greenhouse gases and further threatens our planet. This project will have a negative effect on humans, wildlife, biodiversity, tourism and our future and **SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED!**

By, Wade Gapes