

Re the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline (connecting Tar Sands with the Pacific)

(part-financed by **RBS**)

QUOTES FROM WEBSITES:

The “proposed Northern Gateway Pipeline would be laid through British Columbia, across more than 50 First Nations’ territories and pristine ecosystems.”

“First Nations groups, including the Haida, Metlakatla, Heiltsuk, Gitga’at, Kitasoo and Wuikinuxv Nations, have voiced their opposition.”

“The Enbridge plan would bring new and unnecessary risks to our coasts, our rivers and our \$140 million wild salmon economy. It will also spur a massive increase in the destruction caused by Alberta tar sands production,” MP Nathan Cullen said.

"The pipelines would cross and at times run parallel to important salmon habitats in the Upper Fraser, Skeena and Kitimat watersheds. Pipeline construction, ruptures and leaks all pose serious risks to salmon and the communities that depend on them. Experience indicates that a spill of some sort will inevitably occur." - Pembina Institute website factsheet and reports www.pembina.org e.g. "Oil and Salmon Don't Mix" 16Oct09 pdf report on impact on salmon.

“The Haisla First Nation have written to the National Energy Board (NEB) and Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) expressing concern that Enbridge wants government to overlook its constitutional obligation to consult First Nations.”

“Odds are the recent Enbridge pipeline spill into Michigan’s Kalamazoo River is a harbinger of what BC can expect in terms of the inevitable accident if Northern Gateway is approved. Even Enbridge has acknowledged that spills are an inherent risk of oil pipelines.”

“Riannon Ball, a member of the Crow clan from the Indigenous Tahltan Nation, said “We are determined to prevent the Enbridge pipeline from passing through our territory. A spill from Enbridge’s Michigan pipeline has just released over 800,000 gallons of oil into the river system. We cannot allow this kind of risk to our sacred rivers and the salmon that our people depend on for our culture and subsistence. **It is shocking that the Royal Bank of Scotland is using British taxpayers’ money to finance such a destructive project.**”

[From: <http://tarsandsinfocus.wordpress.com/climate-camp-edinburgh-2010/>]

According to Michigan's Battle Creek Enquirer, “Congressman Mark Schauer said that “Enbridge violated federal regulations by dragging its feet on reporting the pipeline rupture” that dumped what the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates to be one million gallons of oil [Tar Sands crude] into the Kalamazoo River.”

“Schauer, like Granholm, accused Enbridge of not responding quickly enough to the massive release of tar sands crude in into the Kalamazoo River and its Talmadge Creek tributary. The Enquirer also reports that Representative Candice Miller has called for the US Congress to investigate the Enbridge oil spill.”

In an article appearing in the Detroit News, the Associated Press revealed that “the company has a history of pipeline problems, including leaks and regulatory violations.”

The AP also reported that “Enbridge and its affiliates have been cited for 30 enforcement actions since 2002 by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, which is the US Department of Transportation’s regulatory arm.” In late January of 2010, the regulator sent a letter to Enbridge informing the company it may have “violated safety codes by improperly monitoring corrosion in the pipeline responsible for the spill.”

PROPOSED ROUTE:

Tar Sands (Alberta) westwards to proposed terminal at Kitimat (British Columbia): 2 pipes, the 2nd pipe is to return the condensate (used to make the oil run through the pipeline).

Re oil tanker route from the proposed terminal at Kitimat to the Pacific:

“You look at the size of the tankers, and you see the narrowness of the turns, and you think, how in hell is this ever going to happen without an accident at some point?” Austin said. “I think it’s amazing that they even want to consider it.”

Cullen said too much risk for too little local benefit, a dismal track record of spills and broken promises, strong First Nations’ opposition and a flawed and biased review process are reasons to stop the project.

He said Enbridge is out of touch with the sustainable economic development demanded by local residents.