

December 4, 2020

To: Mr. Amir Hadzic, Vice President, Project Delivery, Coastal Gas Link,

As you are aware, the COVID-19 situation across Canada continues to grow more urgent. In British Columbia, measures to control COVID-19 effectively flattened the curve early in pandemic response. Pursuant to Section 70 of the *Public Health Act*, as the Chief Medical Health Officer for the Northern Health Authority, it is my duty to protect the health and wellness of residents and visitors within my region. As a key industry partner, I require the support of Coastal Gas Link and TC Energy in this effort.

It is realistic to expect that members of your workforce will become COVID-19 positive. It is your responsibility to ensure that transmission does not occur on your project line. To date, the mechanical infection prevention and control practices that are in place in your operations across the Northern Health region appear to be effective. However, with cluster activities happening including workers of your project, an urgent public health situation can arise very quickly. I want to ensure that, to the best of my ability and yours, preventive measures are prioritized to prevent urgent situations from arising.

Northern Health is identifying opportunities for improvement, particularly in the areas of corporate accountability, plan coherence, and communications. I would like to clearly state my expectations:

1. Coastal Gas Link must be more readily transparent and forthcoming with Northern Health with comprehensive information related to COVID-19 across your entire project. This includes clearly identifying the primary COVID plans per each site, and how they relate to those of the subcontractors, and to provide accurate, detailed and current data when requested.
2. With any and all symptomatic or COVID+ workers, I expect CGL to organize effective communication and to coordinate case and contact management, and to address isolation of worker cases and close contacts. Decisions are to be in collaboration and accordance with local health officials and the British Columbia *Public Health Act*.
3. I strongly encourage that CGL publicly report positive COVID cases publicly, as this is demonstrably becoming leading practice in this region (see [BC Hydro](#), [LNG Canada](#), and [Canfor](#), for example).
4. I expect that CGL will meaningfully engage their local communities to ask them what they need/want to hear from CGL with respect to COVID and to meet the local expectations, as possible and in accordance with protecting personal medical information and anonymity of affected individuals. My team remains available to advise.
5. When your project workers re-mobilize in January 2021, I expect that you are taking every precaution to bring workers back slowly and as safely as possible so as to prevent an urgent public health situation from arising.

6

6. We have concerns about the adequacy of the COVID-related decision-making and the coherency of COVID plan implementation for Main 9A. I expect that the practices developed in relation to our work on accountability, plan coherence, and communication are deployed across your pipeline project and that your actions taken are reported back to Northern Health.

Based on our knowledge and experience of current activity in our region, these expectations are warranted and, if attended to, will be critical in ensuring the health, wellbeing, and safety of your workforce in the current COVID-19 situation. My team and I remain available to you and your team as a support.

Please let me know if you have any questions; I would be available to discuss further.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jong Kim, MD, MSc, FRCPC  
Interim Chief Medical Health Officer  
**Northern Health**

JK: vd

2020-04-15 10:10 AM