



October 16, 2015

**On October 14, 2015 Squamish Nation Council voted to approve an Environmental Assessment Agreement for the proposed Woodfibre LNG facility project.**

**To be clear, this decision is only for the LNG facility project and not the pipeline project proposed by Fortis BC. Therefore, the decision to approve this Environmental Agreement is not an approval of the whole LNG project, only a conditional approval of part of it.**

Based on this decision the Squamish Nation has now issued an Environmental Certificate to Woodfibre LNG Ltd (“WLNG”).

Subject to WLNG meeting the conditions set out in the Environmental Certificate and the Environmental Agreement, this gives the company approval to proceed to the next step of the process. The next steps include WLNG satisfying its environmental conditions and entering into an economic benefits agreement with the Squamish Nation. If WLNG does not, the Certificate and Agreement are terminated, which means the Squamish Nation cancels its approval of the project.

The Council decision comes as a result of the Nation’s independent assessment of the LNG facility proposal, ongoing since July 2014.

On June 27, 2015 the Nation set out its “25 Conditions” for the LNG facility and pipeline proposals and on July 24 WLNG publicly announced it agrees to meet all 13 conditions that apply to its part of the proposal.

Despite WLNG agreeing to meet its 13 conditions, in order for the Squamish Nation to provide full approval of the LNG facility and pipeline projects ALL 25 Conditions will need to be met by WLNG, FortisBC and the Province of BC.

The Nation has significant decision-making powers under the Agreement, specifically for the choice of cooling technology and approval of management plans. If WLNG does not comply with a decision the Squamish Nation makes under the Environmental Agreement, the Squamish Nation may enforce compliance through the dispute resolution process under the agreement, which includes going to court.

The Environmental Agreement is legally binding including legal remedies to ensure WLNG complies with its commitments under the Agreement. If WLNG does not meet its commitments under the Agreement, the Nation may revoke the Environmental Certificate and terminate the Agreement or go to court.

The Squamish Nation is currently negotiating an Environmental Agreement with Fortis BC for the pipeline project and a government to government agreement with the Province regarding its conditions and Council will consider these agreements at a future date once these are completed.



## What does this agreement mean for Squamish Nation?

1. This is conditional approval of the LNG (liquefied natural gas) plant based on WLNG (Woodfibre LNG) meeting all 13 conditions by the Squamish Nation
2. If WLNG fails to meet even one condition the SN can revoke our agreement
3. It provides legal strength for the Nation to hold WLNG to the Agreement. It legally binds WLNG to meet all conditions
4. Forces WLNG to conduct further independent studies on current and alternate cooling techniques
  - a. The Squamish Nation (SN) will have the final say on which technology gets picked. (Squamish Nation consent).
  - b. If WLNG doesn't comply with SN decision the Nation can take Legal Action
5. WLNG is bound to create a Green Zone in and around Mill Creek and develop a long term plan to re-mediate and restore Mill Creek.
  - a. They also have to recognize that the project is located on former village of Swiyat.
6. WLNG must develop a water Management Plan for Mill Creek to ensure adequate water levels for aquatic life and salmon
  - a. SN will need to provide approvals for Water Management Plan.
7. WLNG will provide funding to SN to develop a SN Marine Use Plan to analyze the cumulative impacts of Industrial projects in the Howe Sound
8. WLNG will provide controlled and safe access to SN members to the surrounding area to practice Aboriginal Rights.
  - a. WLNG will develop trails, small vessel moorages, camp, and huts, to allow SN to exercise rights.
9. WLNG must develop an Environmental Management Program with SN, which gives the Nation authority and approval mechanisms on Environmental management Plans.
10. WLNG will provide insurance coverage or Bond to protect ALL SN members to address personal loss or injury due to project.
11. WLNG cannot expand the project
12. WLNG cannot allow transfer of any bunker fuel to LNG tankers anywhere in our waters.
13. WLNG will conduct a noise monitoring studies on marine mammals that includes mitigation measures and monitoring programs to address impacts on mammals.
14. WLNG agrees to use only for LNG purposes, there will be no oil or diluted bitumen transported through project
15. WLNG and SN will develop co-management and monitoring plans to ensure all plans and mitigation measures are adhered to.
16. The agreement is conditional on WLNG and SN coming to an Impact Benefit Agreement.
17. Both Squamish Nation and WLNG will develop an Environmental Working Group to ensure the Agreement and all work/plans are implemented.
18. The Agreement also creates a Dispute Resolution process along with legal remedies if conditions are not met.



For environmental purposes the Environmental Assessment Agreement (41 pgs), and Environmental Certificate have NOT been included. Copies are available at the Nation Offices in both North Vancouver (320 Seymour Blvd) and Squamish Valley (Totem Hall), and we will, on request, mail a copy to you. We have also made the Environmental Assessment Agreement and Environmental Certificate available on [www.squamish.net](http://www.squamish.net) and on the Squamish Nation Facebook page. Please contact our Council Department at 604-980-4553 or email [communications@squamish.net](mailto:communications@squamish.net) to get copies of the documents emailed to you.

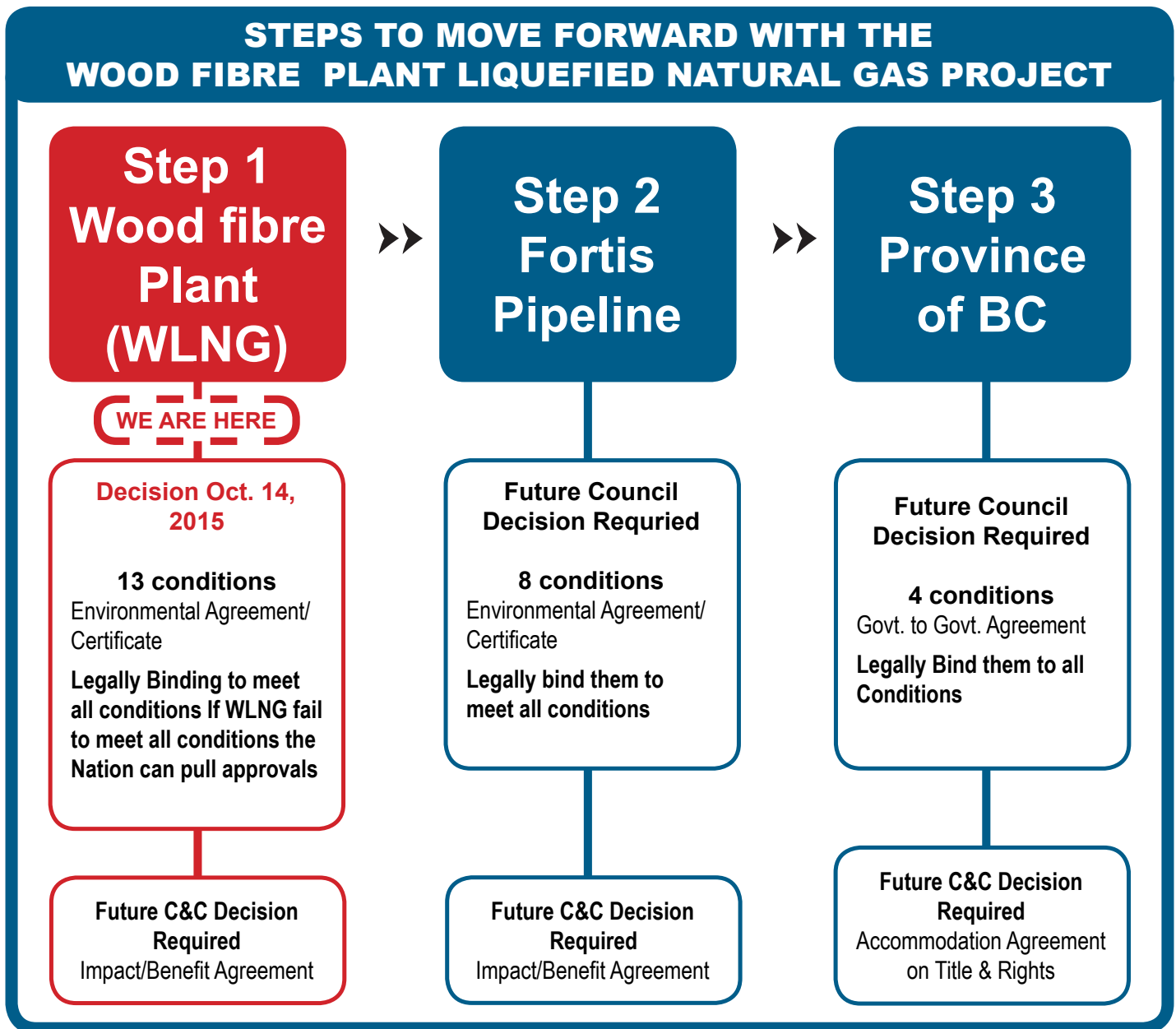
Yours truly,

SQUAMISH NATION COUNCIL

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# STEPS TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE WOOD FIBRE PLANT LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS PROJECT



## Steps

- 1) **Negotiate on Environmental Agreement WLNG Environmental Conditions**
  - 1-A Negotiate on Impact Benefits Agreement (IBA) with WLNG
- 2) Negotiate on Environmental Agreement with Fortis re: Pipeline Environmental Conditions
  - 2-A Negotiate an IBA with Fortis as a result of the Environmental Conditions negotiations
- 3) Negotiate On Government to Government Agreement on Environmental Conditions with Province of BC
  - 3-A Negotiate on Accommodation Agreement with Province of BC

Please Note that **ALL** steps need to be completed for Squamish Nation Approval of Project and if one fails the Nation can Revoke it all

