MAY 2024

WOODFIBRE LNG & FORTIS BC EAGLE MOUNTAIN GAS PIPELINE PROJECTS

Update from Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw Rights & Title and Environmental Working Group

We recognize we are in canoe season so if you are on the water and have any concerns, please contact 778-966-1117 immediately

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

With both projects in the construction phase you may observe more activity around town and at Swivát.

Swiýát (WOODFIBRE LNG)

Construction activities at WoodfibreLNG continue as the company figures out next steps for housing workers, given District of Squamish decision not to approve the temporary use permit for the floatel on April 23, 2024 (see more on next page). Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw regulates this project and has Indigenous Monitors on site to ensure mitigation measures are implemented. Indigenous Monitors have been keeping an eye on numerous frog, salamander, snake and lizard recoveries during excavations, working alongside biologists to ensure proper procedures are followed to protect wildlife on site during construction.

With the warm weather, site conditions have started to dry out, and dust control is in full swing. The site underwent a sea-level-rise risk assessment and ground water management planning process prior to construction starting. Both of these processes informed the site construction plan to improve the long-term safety of the facility.

FORTIS BC EAGLE MOUNTAIN GAS PIPELINE (EGP)

The Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) at the BC Rail Yard in Squamish has started tunneling, completing 15 metres to date, while the TBM at the West Portal is still being assembled. Part of the Fortis Eagle Mountain Pipeline involves relocating a short section of the existing natural gas pipeline providing gas to the Sunshine Coast and Vancouver Island. The Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw Indigenous Monitors have been on site as workers clear the land in preparation for trenching and pipe laying. The relocation of the existing pipeline will be the first pipe sections laid in the North End of the Eagle Mountain Pipeline project. To minimize environmental concerns, 51% of the EGP project will be within an existing right of way (that includes roads, industrial rights-of-way, electrical transmission rights-of-way, and existing FortisBC pipeline).

Elsewhere on the project, road upgrades are on going on the Ray Basin, Mamquam and Stawamus Forest Service Roads. Security gates have been installed on the Stawamus Forest Service Road (3km and 9km). The gates will be periodically closed due to planned work activities which are a risk to public safety (eg. bridge installations). Community members should contact swiyat@squamish.net or 778-966-1117 if they need to access the territory past the security gates as Rights and Title have ensured there is a process in place to enable Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw member continued access throughout the course of construction.

FLOATEL UPDATE

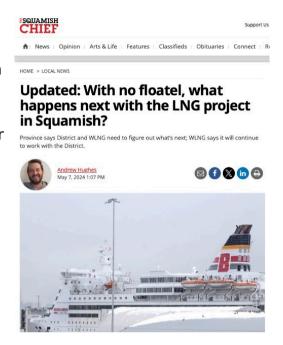
Wilson Williams speaks to Squamish Nation's approval of the floatel in The Squamish Chief newspaper on May 7, 2024

The Squamish Nation Environmental Assessment Agreement gives our Nation a unique and independent regulatory role over the Woodfibre LNG (WLNG) project. This agreement is the first indigenous-led assessment and regulatory process in Canadian history and has provided unprecedented influence and legally-binding accountability measures on how the WLNG project mitigates environmental and community risks to our People and our lands and waters.

The Squamish Nation approved the floatel amendment mainly because it addressed our concerns about the safety of Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirit individuals in our community. The approval also enabled us to put in additional risk mitigation controls around community safety and environment. The decision to reject the floatel impacts our ability to enforce accountability on these matters, and we are now assessing what our next steps will be.

-Sxwixwtn, Wilson Williams, Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw Spokesperson and Council Member

You can read the full Squamish Chief article here



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TRADITIONAL PLANT HARVESTING?





Back in Spring 2023, FortisBC started vegetation clearing along the pipeline route in preparation for pipeline construction. The Nation has continuously expressed the importance of our traditional medicines and plants along this corridor. We're looking for a team of Members interested in paid traditional plant harvesting along the route in advance of clearing activities.

If you are interested in paid plant harvesting work please contact swiyat@squamish.net or 778-966-1117.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Have you been impacted as a result of the current construction activities that are taking place? Please report to:

Whitney Joseph, Squamish Nation:

swiyat@squamish.net or 778-966-1117

FortisBC EGP:

egp@fortisbc.com or 1-855-380-5784

Woodfibre LNG:

info@wlng.ca or 1-888-801-7929