

Dear President Petter,

My question concerns the pending expansion of the Tank Farm just below the intersection of Gagliardi and Burnaby Mountain Parkway.<sup>1</sup> Your office recently released a document by PGL Environmental Consultants evaluating the risks of the transmountain pipeline expansion to SFU<sup>2</sup> as well as a statement to the University Community on the Safety and Risk Services webpage.<sup>3</sup>

Your statement indicates that SFU has already done something about this, including the commissioning of the risk report, and sending a copy of the report with a letter to Honourable James Carr, Minister of Natural Resources.

After reading the risk report, the increase in risk from the tank farm expansion was rather staggering: from a 1 in 1,000,000 chance of a catastrophic event, to a 1 in 2000 chance. I was not able to locate the time frame over which this probability was calculated to hold, but that is 3 orders of magnitude increase in risk. It increases our risk by 500fold, or, put another way, by 50,000%.

It is dismaying that this is set to go forward at the precise location of the only intersection leading on or off the mountain. In the event of an incident, the tanks would be right next to the road, up against that intersection: no students, staff, or faculty could be evacuated off the mountain, nor could emergency services such as ambulances or fire engines go up the mountain. It would be unfortunate to have this level of risk next to any area, but to locate it at the neck of Canada's top comprehensive research university seems especially irresponsible and short-sighted. It is challenging enough to evacuate the mountain when it snows; I don't want to imagine a tank fire billowing gas and smoke. According to the Director of Emergency Management at Kinder Morgan,<sup>4</sup> the tank farm has enough water and foam to suppress fires for two tanks. There are already 13 tanks there, and they plan to triple that number.

Your statement concludes, " Any increase in risks to the health and safety of the SFU community is unacceptable to the university. The risks identified in this [report](#) are significant and deeply concerning, and SFU will continue to raise our concerns with both Kinder Morgan and the federal government."

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<sup>1</sup> See map at end of document with location of the tank farm. The expansion will fill in the area above the current tanks, taking them up to the property line at the intersection where the SFU sign is located.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.sfu.ca/content/dam/sfu/srs/TMP/TMEP%20Risk%20Summary-24%20Nov%202016%20-%20Final.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.sfu.ca/srs/tmp.html>

<sup>4</sup> Jamie Kereliuk, at the Transmountain Information Session at the Executive Plaza, Coquitlam, on January 4, 2017.

My question is essentially asking for some concrete details on what the plan is and how it is being implemented. Continuing to raise concerns is a good step, but many concerns have been raised already, noted, and left aside in NEB approving this expansion. More details on what specifically is involved in 'raising concerns' and how we expect those raised concerns to translate into action or change would be helpful. What kind of human resources are being devoted to this? What kind of short or intermediate term goals is SFU working towards in terms of effecting change to prevent this risk level? What is SFU bringing to the table in terms of leverage to negotiate real changes to this plan? As an agenda-setter in community engagement, SFU has a chance to demonstrate some great leadership in terms of protecting people from this astonishing increase in risk and a role to play in standing with the Coast Salish peoples in protecting this unceded territory on which the campus sits.

Thanks for answering this.

sincerely,  
Holly Andersen

