

TransCanada: Coastal Gas Link
#630 - 609 Granville Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V7Y 1G5

Wednesday, December 16, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

Be advised that we are here to stand in solidarity with the Unsit'ot'en of the Wet'suwet'en Nation and other First Nations land defenders as they stand against pipeline development on their unceded territory. Your presence on the territory is in direct violation of the Free, Prior and Informed Consent protocol that has been in place for thousands of years, and is recognized as a Right by the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Your presence on sovereign Unist'ot'en Territory is not welcome. It is imperative that you respect the wishes of the rightful caretakers of this land. Band officials have no jurisdiction off reserve. Hereditary chiefs have spoken and they have said no. The consultation is over. No amount of money or so called jobs will change their minds.

First Nations are claiming their right to develop their land as they see fit. There is a family living on the Unist'ot'en territory. They have built a cabin, a traditional pit house and a permaculture garden. They are in the process of building a healing center for their community and are not interested in welcoming any pipeline projects through their territory.

We stand in solidarity with these courageous people who see the devastating impacts that fossil fuel expansion is having on the land of Indigenous people all over Northern so-called British Columbia. Tar Sands development and oil extraction are devastating communities and wildlife in the north. Fracking is destroying the water, causing increased health concerns and contributing to climate change.

You can be a part of the needed shift in our energy use. Direct the profits you have made from this destructive industry to renewable energy initiatives. Shift your thinking to consider all of our future generations.

Rising Tide, Vancouver Coast Salish Territories.