



Kinder Morgan CEO slams critics, asserts that Trans Mountain will be built



Danny Kresnyak | Apr 24th, 2015



Screen shot of Richard Kinder, CEO of Kinder Morgan, in May 2015 video by Urban Land Institute

Kinder Morgan CEO Richard Kinder said he is "astounded" by opposition to the proposed Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project. He said if Ottawa approves it, the company will start putting shovels in the ground next year.

Kinder, the billionaire head of the Texas-based energy firm, reportedly said at the [IHS CERAWeek conference](#) in Houston this week that pipeline opponents use a "[spurious argument](#)" to slow down fossil fuel expansion.

"I don't know what the hell they are going to replace [fossil fuels] with," he said.

"I believe that Canada, like the U.S., has the rule of law, and I think if you have a valid federal decision to go forward, the project will go forward," he said, noting that at some point the "public good" should outweigh individual protesters.

"We intend to get it built. And we hope to see it in service in the third quarter of 2018."

But the project has sparked significant opposition in British Columbia over the last two years. Last fall, over 100 citizens were arrested on Burnaby Mountain while protesting the \$5.4 billion project, which would triple the existing Trans Mountain pipeline's capacity to 890,000 barrels of bitumen per day.

Although the pipeline is expected to generate jobs and over \$300 million in tax revenue for B.C., the project draws opposition in part for the five-fold increase in oil tankers it would bring to Vancouver's Burrard Inlet.

Kinder said the oil industry had to do a better job of "selling" its achievements, and that it had "done more as an industry to advance the cause of raising living standards across the world than any other industry." He said oil companies needed to do a better job communicating their work to the public.

"Sometimes I think we hide behind it like we're selling cigarettes," he said.

While the CEO assured that the Trans Mountain expansion would happen once Ottawa approves it, some mayors have questioned the ability of federal National Energy Board to make unbiased decisions on the pipeline.

"We're dealing with a federal government that does not plan," Burnaby Mayor Derek Corrigan said. "They simply react to the whims of the oil lobbyists."

Corrigan, along with Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson, has been a fierce critic of the pipeline expansion project. He said the Kinder Morgan CEO's apparent confidence that the expansion is a "done deal" increased his level of concern, and added the National Energy Board is not capable of properly addressing the issues raised by the movement against Trans Mountain pipeline.

Meanwhile, the recent bunker fuel spill at English Bay has raised alarms about the capacity for oil spill response in Vancouver and in B.C. generally.

Corrigan said the response to the English Bay oil spill has confirmed the fears he shares with residents about the impacts of spills, and that the increase in tanker traffic is another point the NEB is unable to consider in their recommendation to the government.

Read More:

News, BC environment, Burnaby Mountain, Kinder-Morgan, Richard Kinder, TransMountain Pipeline, TransMountain pipeline controversy



Danny Kresnyak's bio



MORE FROM DANNY KRESNYAK

[See more](#)

Marijuana ads in Downtown Eastside spark online outrage

MORE IN [NEWS](#)



Views from a refugee camp: Who gets into heaven?

I have just returned to Vancouver Island from Greek refugee camps where I met a Yazidi man named Jason who told me about his escape from ISIS in Iraq. His story begins on a desert road where a...

Peter Nix | Sep 21st, 2018



Vancouver's bicycle sharing grows as 15 new stations installed

Mobi bicycle by Shaw Go in Vancouver. Photo by Christopher Porter from Flickr Creative Commons

Dylan Waisman | Apr 20th, 2018



International Women's Day Concert celebrates female musicians who turned tragedy into triumph

Every March 8, on International Women's Day, we hear about the achievements of brilliant, talented women around the world. But how often do we learn about the physical and mental disabilities or...

Vancouver Observer | Mar 3rd, 2018

Speak up about this article on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#). Do this by liking [Vancouver Observer](#) on Facebook or following us [@Vanobserver](#) on Twitter. We'd love to hear from you.

RELATED STORIES

Mayor Gregor Robertson petitions against Kinder Morgan's TransMountain Pipeline request

City Hall

Anja Konjicanin

Oil spill from Kinder Morgan TransMountain Pipeline reported near Merritt, B.C.

News

Linda Solomon Wood

TransMountain pipeline expansion fatally flawed

Opinion

Mike Priaro

FOLLOW US



TODAY ON NATIONAL OBSERVER

A fake Justin Trudeau sex scandal went viral. Canada's election-integrity law can't stop it

Oct 10th, 2019

This election, Indigenous Peoples are being promised the bare minimum

Oct 10th, 2019

Two-day bail hearing in RCMP secrets case set for next week

Two-day bail hearing in RCMP secrets case set for next week

Oct 9th, 2019

Legault condemns Quebec solidaire's position on 'illegal' climate protest action

Oct 9th, 2019

Like 'a chicken voting for Colonel Sanders': Meet the public servants running for the People's Party

Oct 9th, 2019

This week in climate inaccuracy: practicality vs. ambition at the leaders' debate

Oct 9th, 2019

Class action seeks damages for sexual abuse of minors in N.L. institutions

Oct 9th, 2019

Alberta bill proposes agency to help Indigenous groups invest in energy projects

Oct 9th, 2019

Diab, who fought terrorism allegations, finally gets new citizenship certificate

Oct 9th, 2019

Wind power association pursues partnership with solar, other technologies

Oct 9th, 2019

'World-record rack': Crew crowns Mac the Moose statue with new antlers

Oct 9th, 2019

Southern Alberta man files counterclaim against intruder he shot in 2018

Oct 9th, 2019

Former TV sports anchor sentenced to more prison time for bank robberies

Oct 9th, 2019

Police Act report finds retired B.C. sgt-at-arms commits neglect of duty

Oct 9th, 2019

Scheer takes Conservative campaign close to notorious Quebec border crossing

Oct 9th, 2019

Singh's stance on Bill 21 called out by anti-hate group

Oct 9th, 2019

Québec en tête des technologies propres — à date

Oct 9th, 2019

Why Quebec leads in clean tech — so far

Oct 9th, 2019

The Trudeau Formula should be required campaign-trail reading

Oct 9th, 2019

EXCLUSIVE: Twitter sold political ads to white-nationalist party candidate

Oct 8th, 2019

You can build local reporting

[DONATE TO VO](#)



© Observer Media Group 2019

[About](#)

[Advertise](#)

[Shop](#)

[Privacy](#)

[Contact](#)

[RSS](#)

[Sign in](#)

EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM
AWARD RECIPIENT
2012 2014



The Canadian
Journalism Foundation
La Fondation pour le
journalisme canadien