February 10, 2023

Dear Governor Inslee, Governor Kotek, and Governor Newsom,

We write to follow up on our October 24th letter requesting opposition to the proposed GTN XPress fracked gas expansion project. TC Energy is requesting federal authorization to increase the amount of fracked gas flowing through our region in the Gas Transmission Northwest (GTN) pipeline. If completed, this project will deepen reliance on fracked gas and increase greenhouse gas pollution significantly.

In November, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) released its final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for GTN XPress. In response, the Attorneys General of Washington, Oregon, and California filed comments explaining that FERC drastically underestimated the project’s downstream greenhouse gas emissions. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also criticized FERC’s refusal to calculate the project’s upstream emissions.
Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden recently sent a letter urging FERC to deny GTN XPress because it is “incompatible with climate objectives and is not in the public interest.” Now, it is crucial for our governors to denounce the project and stand by our region’s commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

TC Energy’s Keystone oil pipeline just experienced its worst spill in nearly a decade—leaking 600,000 gallons of oil in Kansas after the company increased pipeline capacity. TC Energy cannot be trusted to build and maintain pipelines, and should not be allowed to increase the gas capacity of the GTN pipeline. Tribes and our communities have spoken: they do not want to bear the burdens of an expansion designed to benefit gas producers. Will you stand with them?

Time is of the essence—FERC could make its decision as early as next month. Submitting your opposition to this project to FERC’s docket will have a significant impact on this campaign and show your constituents that you stand firm against expanding the fossil fuel industry.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned Organizations:

Columbia Riverkeeper
Audrey Leonard, Staff Attorney

Rogue Climate
Maig Tinnin, Rogue Valley Coordinator

350 Deschutes
Diane Hodiak, Executive Director

Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
David De La Torre, Healthy Climate Program Director

Northwest Environmental Defense Center
Jonah Sandford, Executive Director

Verde
Oriana Magnera, Energy, Climate, and Transportation Program Manager

Southern Oregon Climate Action Now
Alan Journet, Co-Facilitator

Onward Oregon
Lenny Dee, President

350 Eugene
Debra McGee, Director

Breach Collective
Nick Caleb, Climate and Energy Attorney

Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power & Light
Rev. AC Churchill, Executive Director

198 methods
Drew Hudson, Founder

Sierra Club, Washington State Chapter
Sept Gernez, Acting Director
Sierra Club, Oregon Chapter
Debra Higbee-Sudyka,
Conservation Committee Chair

Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility
Max Savishinsky, Executive Director

350 PDX
Dineen O’Rourke, Campaign Manager

Food & Water Watch
Thomas Meyer, Strategic Organizing Projects Director

350 Yakima
Cyrus Philbrick, Leadership Circle

Sierra Club California
Brandon Dawson, Director

FracTracker Alliance
Shannon Smith, Executive Director

Pacific Environment
Teresa Bui, State Climate Policy Director

Climate First: Replacing Oil & Gas (CFROG)
Haley Ehlers, Director

RE Sources
Shannon Wright, Executive Director

350 Seattle
Selden Prentice, Federal Policy Lead

Linton Neighborhood Association
Nancy Hiser, Environment Committee

SoCal 350 Climate Action
Jack Eidt, Co-Founder

350 Humboldt
Daniel Chandler, Steering Committee Member

Californians for Energy Choice
Eric Brooks, Campaign Coordinator

Oil Change International
Allie Rosenbluth,
U.S. Program Co-Mananger

Social Eco Education
Martha Camacho Rodriguez, Director

CleanEarth4Kids.org
Suzanne Hume, Educational Director and Founder

Wild Idaho Rising Tide
Helen Yost, Community Organizer

California Democratic Party
Environmental Caucus
Igor Tregub, Chair

Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN)
Ira Cuello-Martinez, Policy and Advocacy Director

Romero Institute
Sara Nelson, Executive Director

California Interfaith Power & Light
Susan Stephenson, Executive Director

350 Spokane
Trenton Miller, Chair & Board Member

Waterkeeper Alliance
Bart Mihailovich, Organizing Director
Rogue Riverkeeper
Emily Bowes, Conservation Director

Beyond Toxics
Lisa Arkin, Executive Director

Oregon Just Transition Alliance
Joel Iboa, Executive Director

Friends of the Earth US
Nicole Ghio, Senior Fossil Fuels Program Manager

Vashon Climate Action Group
Kevin Jones, Board Member

California Nurses for Environmental Health and Justice
Scarlett Russell, Programs Coordinator

Action for the Climate Emergency
Ash Lauth, National Director of Campaigns

San Diego 350
Joyce Lane, Board President

Idaho Conservation League
Brad Heusinkveld, Energy Associate

Climate Health Now
Amanda Millstein, MD & Ashley McClure, MD, Co-Founders

Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
Katie Huffling, Executive Director

Zero Hour
Aaditi Lele, Policy Director

Cascadia Climate Action Now
Sally Keely, Founder