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**SENT VIA EMAIL**

Robert Dick  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Transport Canada  
820 - 800 Burrard Street  
Vancouver B.C. V6Z 2J8  
[robert.dick@tc.gc.ca](mailto:robert.dick@tc.gc.ca)

Dear Robert Dick:

I am writing to inform you that the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) has decided to not include an assessment of rail traffic associated with the proposed Vopak Pacific Canada Project (VPC) in the scope of the provincial environmental assessment (EA). Thank you for meeting with the EAO and providing us with additional information to inform our deliberations.

The VPC is currently in the pre-Application phase of the EA process, and it is anticipated that the Application will be delivered in the spring of 2020 by Vopak Development Canada Inc. (Vopak). During pre-Application, concerns were raised by members of Indigenous nations and the public regarding the potential effects of increased rail traffic resulting from the operation of VPC, including requests for the EAO to consider including rail traffic associated with the operation of VPC within the scope of the EA. As a result of concerns from Indigenous nations, Vopak committed to provide additional information regarding the potential effects from increases in rail traffic to Indigenous nations at the same time they submit their Application to the EAO.

The EAO recognizes that Transport Canada is the lead regulator of interprovincial rail transportation in British Columbia (B.C.) and Canada. Transport Canada has outlined to the EAO the legislation and regulations that they have in place to govern the safe

...2

operation of rail traffic in B.C. The EAO has concluded that increases in rail traffic associated with VPC should not be scoped into the EA because that aspect of the project is more appropriately and effectively considered and, if necessary, mitigated by Transport Canada. The EAO will be communicating this decision to Indigenous nations and the working group for the VPC EA in due course, and indicating that if parties have any questions, concerns or issues regarding the effects of increased rail traffic they should more appropriately bring those to the attention of Transport Canada.

The EAO looks forward to continuing to work effectively with Transport Canada, Indigenous nations, and other federal, provincial, and local authorities during the EA of VPC.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Lindsay Luke, Project Assessment Director, at 778 698-9308 or [Lindsay.Luke@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lindsay.Luke@gov.bc.ca).

Sincerely,



Scott Bailey  
Assistant Deputy Minister

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