

Resolution Opposing LNG Tankers on the Columbia

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3 **WHEREAS** the Northstar liquefied natural gas terminal at Bradwood Landing would harm the  
4 local economy;

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6 **WHEREAS** the LNG tankers carry the explosive power 55 times greater than the Hiroshima nuclear  
7 bomb;

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9 **WHEREAS** the US Coast Guard has determined that high-risk LNG tankers and the intense security  
10 measures that surround them would restrict all traffic in large areas of the Columbia;

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12 **WHEREAS** "Due to a narrow shipping channel, numerous navigational hazards and the proximity  
13 to populated areas," the Coast Guard would require a 1,500 foot wide security zone around any  
14 LNG tanker in the estuary;

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16 **WHEREAS** the Columbia shipping channel is only 600 feet wide at best, this exclusion zone would  
17 effectively shut the Columbia down to one-way river traffic when LNG tankers were in the river and  
18 effectively force other boaters, fisherman and shippers to margins of the river all together;

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20 **WHEREAS** the Coast Guard also said it would prohibit all ships from passing slow-moving LNG  
21 tankers from behind creating a daily bottle-neck in Columbia River traffic that would seriously  
22 impact all river users;

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24 **WHEREAS** with several inbound and outbound tanker trips a week LNG tankers would be a  
25 dominant new feature on the river the Coast Guard report makes clear that free passage on the  
26 Columbia would come to an end with the arrival of LNG tankers;

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28 **WHEREAS** commercial and recreational fisherman, recreational boaters, and commercial river  
29 traffic would be hard hit; and

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31 **WHEREAS** the Coast Guard concludes that there were not adequate existing security, fire, or  
32 emergency response capabilities, in local communities, state agencies or even the Coast Guard to  
33 protect the public from LNG;

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35 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the WSDCC issue letters to our state and federal authorities  
36 and elected representatives opposing allowing LNG tankers past the Columbia Bar.

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39 Submitted by the Spokane County Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for  
40 consideration at its June 14 convention in Spokane. (Date Submitted 4/23/2008)

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42 The Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND RECOMMENDED A PASS" at  
43 its May 31, 2008 meeting in Ellensburg.

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45 The Washington State Democratic Convention "PASSED" this resolution at its June 14, 2008 meeting  
46 in Spokane.