

Resolution Opposing LNG Tankers on the Columbia

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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30 **WHEREAS** commercial and recreational fisherman, recreational boaters, and
31 commercial river traffic would be hard hit; and

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

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

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

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45 The Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND RECOMMENDED
46 A PASS" at its May 31, 2008 meeting in Ellensburg.
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48 The Washington State Democratic Convention "PASSED" this resolution at its June 14,
49 2008 meeting in Spokane.