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KSA Policy on Coal Ports and Increases in Thermal Coal Exports

1.0 Preamble

Whereas coal dust and diesel pollution are known health hazards that together pose risks of increased heart disease, cancer, and asthma to residents of communities along the path of coal transport and transfer, including students in elementary and secondary schools in Surrey, Richmond, and White Rock; and

Whereas the International Energy Agency's projection that more than 80 percent of known thermal coal reserves must remain unburned to limit global warming to 2°C demonstrates that investments in new fossil fuel infrastructure are not compatible with the future economic interests of today youth; and
<http://www.iea.org/>

Whereas as residents of a country with among the highest per capita greenhouse gas emissions and per capita incomes in the world, Canadians have a special moral obligation to act on the issue of global warming; and

Whereas the profound intergenerational injustice of climate change demands that our parents' generation stand up for our future, as we will someday do for our own children.

2.0 Resolution

Therefore be it Resolved that the KSA is opposed to the construction of the proposed Fraser Surrey Docks coal port and any further increases in thermal coal exports from Metro Vancouver.

3.0 Definitions

Climate change is the change in climate (i.e. regional temperature, precipitation, extreme weather, etc.) caused by increase in the greenhouse effect.

Greenhouse effect is the process wherein greenhouse gases (such as water vapour, CO₂, methane, etc) in the atmosphere absorb and re-emit heat being radiated from the earth, trapping warmth.

Greenhouse Gases (GHG's) refers to gases that contribute to the greenhouse effect by absorbing infrared radiation (heat).