

**CLEAN** Air, We **CARE** 

Fight for the things you **care** about,  
but do it in a way that will **lead**  
others to **join** you.

-Ruth Bader Ginsburg



**“Environmental Injustice”** refers to a set of actions that harm the environment while simultaneously alienating specific groups and communities.



# WHO WE ARE

**A grass roots organization of local residents. We have come together to bring awareness that a biofuel plant being proposed in our neighbourhood will:**

- **Pollute the air we breath**
- **Jeopardize our health**
- **Ruin our quality of life with noxious odours;**
- **Risk damaging the environment and harming wildlife**

# PROPOSED LOCATION

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**Taurus Canada RNG Corp. (formerly Andion North America Limited), in partnership with Semiahmoo RNG GP Corp. and the Semiahmoo First Nations band, want to build a biofuel facility near our homes.**

Neighbourhood Aerial Map Showing Biofuel location



# PROPOSED LOCATION **DISREGARDS** CANADIAN BIOGAS GUIDELINES

## **Planning and Site Considerations:**

Landfills, brownfield redevelopment sites, or other lands that are challenging to otherwise be productive.

## **Other Environmental Considerations:**

Should not be in areas known to experience flooding due to the potential for contamination

## **Minimum Separation Distances and Buffer Zones:**

Impacts that must be considered:

- air quality, especially odour
- surface and ground water
- noise, vibration, light, appearance
- traffic, vermin and vectors, dust, and litter.....

In the middle of an ecologically sensitive, heavily populated area and a tourism hub is the

**WRONG LOCATION**





THE FOUR FATAL FLAWS OF RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS  
Gas utilities are telling tall tales about RNG.

1. **AVAILABILITY** – there is simply not enough **RNG to replace our current consumption of natural gas**
2. **COST** – **RNG is very expensive relative to other energy sources**
3. **CARBON INTENSITY** – **RNG has a big carbon footprint. A clean fuel it is not.**
4. **INDUSTRY OBFUSCATION** – **The gas industry is using RNG to greenwash its image obscuring its real objective: growth at climate's expense.**



Renewable Natural Gas<sup>1</sup> (RNG) is playing a key role in how we're transforming BC's energy future by helping our customers reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. For more than a decade we've worked with local farms, landfills, green energy companies and municipalities to make and deliver RNG.

# A RNG FACILITY IS NOT NECESSARY IN OUR AREA WITH CONSTRUCTION OF THIS NEW PLANT



*The City of Vancouver landfill in Delta, B.C. (Black Press Media file photo)*

September 20, 2023

## FortisBC Announces Largest RNG Project to Date

**FortisBC Energy Inc. and the city of Vancouver, British Columbia, are working together on the construction of a renewable natural gas (RNG) facility at the city's landfill in Delta, British Columbia.**

**The project is an example of how FortisBC, Surrey, British Columbia, says it works with municipalities to develop more local renewable and low-carbon bases to help reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and to provide safe, affordable and reliable energy solutions for British Columbia families and businesses.**

# BIOGAS PLANT HERE IS WRONG FOR SO MANY REASONS!

- RISK OF EXPLOSION
- RISK OF FLOODING
- RISK OF IRREVERSIBLE DAMAGE TO ENVIRONMENT
- RISKS OUR HEALTH
- TSUNAMI HAZARD ZONE
- LAND & WATER RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS
- RNG'S HAVE A LIFE SPAN OF 20 YEARS AND HAVE MASSIVE BIOREMEDIATION COSTS
- MIGRATORY BIRD CORRIDOR
- TOO CLOSE TO EAGLE HABITATS
- TOO CLOSE TO SALMON BEARING RIVER
- TOO CLOSE TO ECOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE WETLANDS
- TOO CLOSE TO RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBOURHOODS
- CONTRAVENES SEMIAHMOO FIRST NATIONS BYLAW 16. **NOXIOUS USES** AND BYLAW 32. **INDUSTRIAL (1) ZONE PERMITTED USES**



Anaerobic Digestion  
Anaerobic Digester Plant Explosions ...

**THE PERMIT TO POLLUTE LIST THESE CHEMICAL GASES WILL BE RELEASED INTO THE AIR WE BREATHE**

- **HYDROGEN SULFIDE (H2S)**
- **NITROGEN OXIDE\***
- **SULFUR DIOXIDE\***
- **VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS**
- **AMMONIA**
- **METHANE**
  
- \***COMBINED FORMS ACID RAIN**

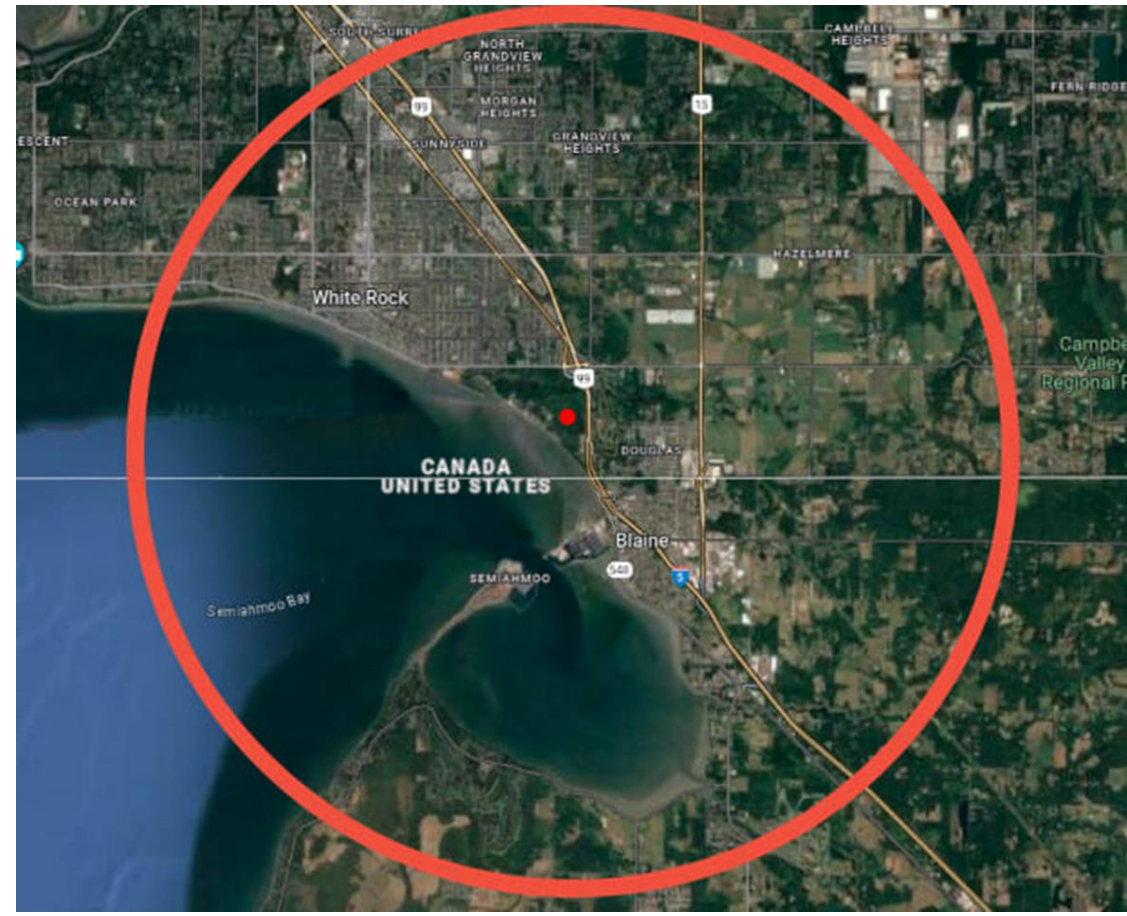
**Almost 70 “Sensitive Receptors” are listed within a 10 km radius of the proposed RNG facility that include:**

- Schools**
- Hospitals**
- Daycares**
- Parks**
- Community recreation centres**
- Churches**
- Retirement homes**



# AREA AT HIGHER RISK OF HARM

**10 KM RADIUS OF PROPOSED PLANT**







## **The Emissions will risk the health of many vulnerable people**

**Seniors are an integral part of our community. South Surrey population is 25,655 and has the largest concentration of citizens over the age of sixty.**

**37% of White Rock residents are over the age of 65.**

**In one year, the number of people in South Surrey/ White Rock newly diagnosed with Asthma was 404 and COPD 319 . Add those numbers to the 1,000's already suffering from such health conditions and that is a large number of people who could potentially fill up our ED departments during cold and flu season when emissions are predicted to be worse.**

**Douglas Elementary School is only 1 km from the site.**

# Studies prove these plants are detrimental to health

**A 2021 study** <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34232029/> **Residential Proximity to Biorefinery Sources of Air Pollution concluded that:** “people living within 10 km of a biorefinery facility had an increased risk of visiting emergency rooms for lower respiratory diseases compared to those living in areas where no biorefineries were located”

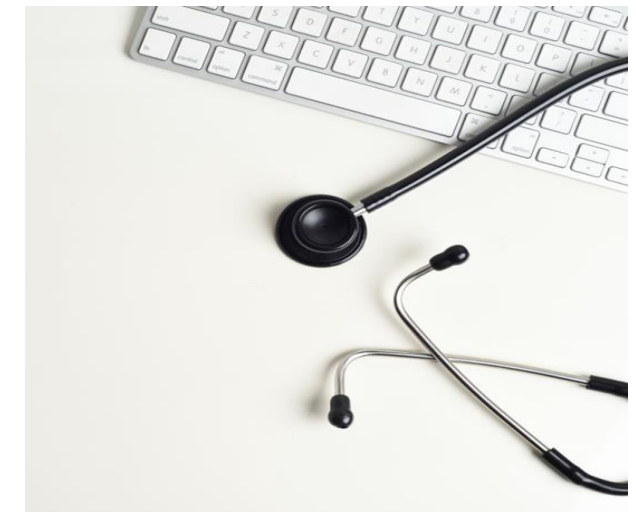
**A 2022 study** <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9589174/> **on biogas impurities: environmental and health implications concluded:** “Biogas impurities can cause different public health concerns (like pulmonary paralysis, asthma, respiratory diseases and deaths) and environmental impacts (such as global warming and climate change)”

**A 2023 study** <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10094619/> **Analysing the Impact on Health and Environment from Biogas Production concluded that:** Residents who lived within 10 km to the plants reported higher incidences of various respiratory diseases and symptoms not seen in those residing further away.



## **Biofuels**

**Biofuels more harmful to humans than petrol and diesel, warn scientists**





**What we need to protect!**

# Recently in the News



## Federal funding for proposed Surrey biofuel project withdrawn

“As of Feb. 16, 2024, Natural Resource Canada has turned down the application for \$14.4 Million dollars in Federal funding for this project and is no longer a Federal Authority for the Semiahmoo RNG Project as it will not be enabling the project,”



## South Surrey biofuel application ‘paused’ by Metro Vancouver

“The review, which was previously in the public notification phase, was paused following a request to the applicant for additional technical information, which has not yet been received,”



## Illegal waste discharge on Fraser Valley farm stokes environmental worries among residents

**How green waste from Surrey's biofuel facility ended up on farmland near Cultus Lake**

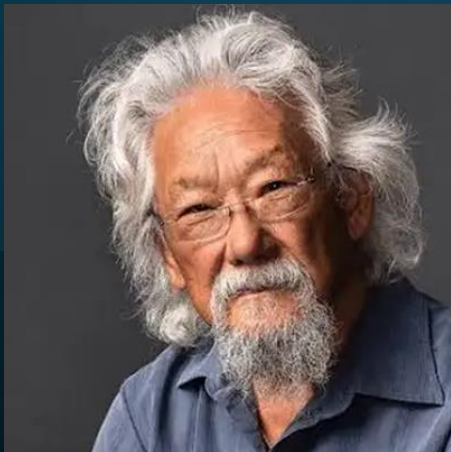
*"The company was calling it Class-A compost, which requires very little oversight, and the community was saying just look at it, it's not compost."*

**BIO-WASTE IS  
BEING TOUTED  
AS THE GREEN  
ALTERNATIVE  
TO FERTILIZER**

**David Hancock, Ecologist  
and founder of the  
Hancock  
Wildlife  
Foundation**



**David Suzuki,  
Environmental activist and  
founder of the David Suzuki  
Foundation**



**“As an ecologist I am here for one thing and that is to make you aware of the interdependence of all living things. We can’t survive but momentarily, I mean for very short period of time without the earth and the water below us staying clean and healthy and the air above it because it all starts in the air, and it goes into the ground and then into the water.**

**I want you to think in the long term not just today but also for tomorrow, next week and next month and that means a plan that we don’t allow things like this pollutant. It is not necessary it doesn’t need to happen. This is just some big international company’s way of making a quick buck at your expense.”**

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**“I know biogas is being trumpeted as part of the solution to the climate crisis. It is NOT. Your battle is being fought all over Canada. Governments fail to put climate above the economy which is madness.**

**I and the David Suzuki Foundation are trying to get a commitment to treat climate change as an emergency. We are all working in different ways to being about change and I’m afraid we’re maxed out on our individual issues. I know the biofuel facility is being fought and I wish you success.**

**David Suzuki”**

# Richard Landale, Retired Oil/Gas Industry, Green Activist

In a letter to Metro Vancouver Richard said:

“I respectfully submit under MVRD Bylaw 1028 Section 7 (12) the Emission Permit submitted by the applicant exceeds the Bylaw limits “Daily emission permissible” of 5 kilograms per day.

I respectfully submit that the Emission Application Permit be denied”

					Element Conversion		
SEMAHM00 RNG GP Coop Suite 2500, Park Place, 666 Burrard St. Vancouver BC V6C 2XB to : Greater Vancouver Regional District Air Quality Management Bylaw 1082, 2008 for a Permit					Convert Tonnes Per Year to Kilograms Per Day		
<a href="https://www.andionglobla.com/public-notification-of-permit-application-semiahmoo-rng">https://www.andionglobla.com/public-notification-of-permit-application-semiahmoo-rng</a>					<a href="https://www.kylesconverter.com/flow/kilograms-per-year-to-tonnes-per-year">https://www.kylesconverter.com/flow/kilograms-per-year-to-tonnes-per-year</a>		
Published in the Peace Arch New Thursday September 26, 2023					Metro Vancouver Regional District AAQO Bylaw 1082		
-	-	-	-	-			
-	-	-	-	-			
	Element		Emission (Tonnes/ Yr)	Over 20 Years	Permit Application Per/Yr/Day	Bylaw 1082 sect 7(12)	
1	Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)	Nox	2.79	55.8	7.64383562	5	kg / Day
2	Sulphur dioxide (SO2)	SO2	0.523	10.46	1.43287671	5	kg / Day
3	Volatile Organic compounds (VOC)	VOC	0.78	15.6	2.1369863	?	kg / Day
4	Ammonia (NH3)	NH3	0.41	8.2	1.12328767	?	kg / Day
5	Methane (CH4)	CH4	35.8	716	98.0821918	?	kg / Day
6	Hydrongen sulphide H2S)	H2S	0.108	2.16	0.29589041	?	kg / Day
<b>Total</b>			<b>40.411</b>	<b>808.22</b>	<b>110.715068</b>		

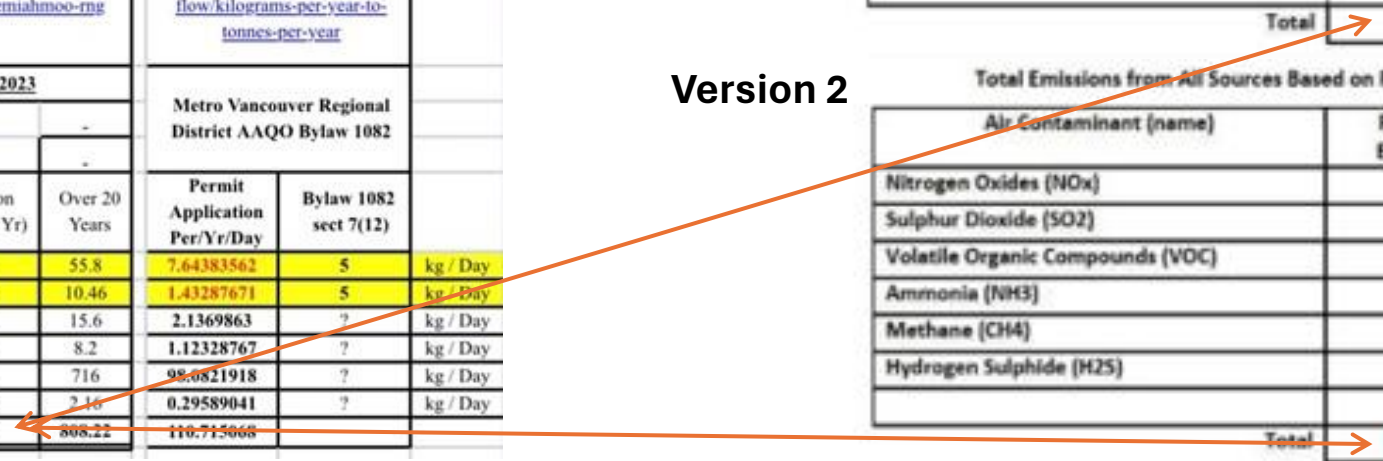
From information obtained through the Freedom of information, we have learned that there were at least 2 other versions of this table created and submitted to Metro Vancouver by the applicant using 125,000 metric tonnes of feedstock annually. You can see however, that the requested authorized emissions were drastically different in each version. How could the calculations be so different than the one accepted and published?

Version 1

Air Contaminant (name)	Requested Authorized Emissions (tonnes/year)
Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)	0.43
Sulphur Dioxide (SO2)	0.087
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	12.3
Ammonia (NH3)	3.4
Methane (CH4)	141.4
Hydrogen Sulphide (H2S)	1.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>158.9</b>

Version 2

Air Contaminant (name)	Requested Authorized Emissions (tonnes/year)
Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)	4.333
Sulphur Dioxide (SO2)	0.523
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	0.781
Ammonia (NH3)	0.406
Methane (CH4)	89.04
Hydrogen Sulphide (H2S)	0.098
<b>Total</b>	<b>95.179</b>



**Erin Hallenburg,  
Professional Environmental Engineer,  
Qualified Environmental Professional**

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- **“A poorly evaluated organic waste processing facility can result in irreversible effects**
- **Tetra Tech’s own report identifies discrepancies in the resolution of the terrain data, such as 1) is the receptor located on a wetlands vs tide water, 2) are sensitive receptors located at tree top elevation vs breathing level elevation, and 3) elevation discontinuities that leave gaps and requires interpolation.**
- **Nuisance/noxious Odors have an Accumulative Effect**
- **The Tetra Tech Air Dispersion evaluation does not include 2 of the largest obnoxious emitters: H<sub>2</sub>S and Ammonia. Ammonia is a noxious odor but combine that with the plethora of sulfur emissions and nobody is going to be pleased with the ambient air in this area.**
- **The implications of placing a facility with refinery-like processes that could impact human health and environment are substantial.**
- **This proposed facility will have exceedances of the ambient air above national standards and will be a continuous public-complaint headache”**



**WHO  
SHOULD WE  
BELIEVE?**





# We believe we should listen to



**The environmental scientists who have dedicated their lives to protecting the environment and wildlife**



**The environmental engineers, who without compensation, have stepped forward to provide their expert opinions**



**The scientists who are warning the public this type of “Green Washing” technology is in fact not the green solution advertised**



**The studies that show the emissions from this type of facility are harmful to our health**

# WE DON'T BELIEVE

**Foreign corporate entities with a history of failed projects who have covered it up by restructuring and changing their name can be trusted!**

- **Who hid the information from the public for years**
- **Who are in it only for the money**
- **Who “convinced” the Semiahmoo First Nations people this project would not be harmful to the environment or to their people**
- **Who refuse to answer the many questions our organization has sent them**
- **Who refuse to attend a townhall meeting so that the public can have their questions answered**
- **Whose actions show us they do not care about the health and safety of our community or the Environment**



**No amount of money or biofuel is worth more than the bees, trees, clean air, water or quality of life of all living creatures on this planet.**



**Canada has set ambitious renewable energy targets. Future legislation needs to address not only environmental impact but potential health issues as well. By looking at the Canadian Biogas Association recommendations, it is a good starting point.**

**As the RNG industry grows in Canada there is a need for clearer regulations and standards to be put in place by the Canadian government. There should be mandatory monitoring of emissions and stiff penalties when exceedances are detected. Plant location is also an important factor and will play a major role in how successful these plants are.**

**Environmental and health concerns are paramount areas to regulate to ensure that future generations don't pay the price for mismanagement of this type of technology.**



**Ecologists and environmental engineers have told us this is the wrong place for a biogas facility.**

**We need your support to stop this project before it's too late.**

**All living creatures in our area are counting on you and so are we!**

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
TIME**