Seattle can be a leader on the climate. Together we can build a united grassroots campaign to end Arctic drilling and demand investment in clean energy jobs. Join us!

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From the beginning, when news of the secret deal struck between the Port of Seattle and Shell subsidiary Foss Maritime to bring Shell Oil’s Arctic drilling rig to Seattle’s Port Terminal 5, the public has been told that this is an inevitability. The contract has been signed.

This is exactly what everyone said about the Keystone XL pipeline, and yet, 4 years later, it’s still not approved. All 6 projects to develop West Coast coal export terminals have been effectively killed from local grassroots organizing massive opposition. We know that if we build a strong enough opposition, we can send this climate destroyer packing and unable to make the necessary repairs to return to the Arctic.

For 3 months activists have been building opposition, planning actions to stop the repair work, and if repaired, to stop it’s return to the Arctic. With the support of Councilmembers Kshama Sawant and Mike O’Brien, the Seattle City Council unanimously passed a resolution urging the Port of Seattle to reconsider the lease.

Mayor Murray, on the other hand, has played both sides. While he commissioned a study that found the permit isn’t legal, compelling the Port of Seattle to request Foss Maritime delay its arrival, he also kept secret that the drilling rigs were headed to Seattle. If activists had known back in November, when Mayor Murray first found out, we would have had crucial additional time to begin building opposition.

The role of the Obama Administration has been similar. While Obama speaks about serious climate action, he recently gave Shell the green light to drill in the Arctic. Not only does this fly in the face of the science Obama says drives his decisions, Shell also has a criminal drilling track record. One of its subsidiaries pleaded guilty to 8 felony counts for environmental and other violations related to Arctic drilling.

It’s clear, we cannot rely on Democratic Party politicians who tout their acceptance of the science, but whose actions don’t match their words.

Unite the Environmental and Labor Movements

Port Commissioner Bryant attempts to divide working people by claiming “it will cost us over 200 jobs and many hundred more jobs in related businesses.” This is a false dichotomy of jobs versus the environment. Many more jobs are, and could be, created by investing in clean energy infrastructure projects.

On the day of the worlds’ largest ever demonstration to stop climate change, Seattle saw an impressive coalition of labor and environmental groups on the streets. “I’m confident,” says Kshama Sawant, “we can bring this coalition together again to oppose this use of a public port to promote Shell Oil’s profits at the cost of the destruction of the climate and, together, demand union living wage jobs that don’t risk our collective future.”

End the power of Big Oil!

Shell and big oil corporations put their profits over people and our environment. Clearly they will continue drilling and burning every drop of oil they can find, putting everyone at risk. It is up to us to stop them. But, we cannot control what we do not own. These climate-destroying corporations need to be taken out of the hands of the corporate CEOs and into public ownership under the democratic control of working people. We can use the resources to plan a rapid transition to clean energy, which would create millions of living-wage union jobs.

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KSHAMA SAWANT CALLS FOR:

No Shell Oil rigs and ships in Seattle — don’t let the Port of Seattle participate in the environmental disaster of oil drilling in the Arctic.

Living wage union jobs at Terminal 5 that don’t risk our environment. Protect our working waterfront!

A moratorium on oil and coal trains passing through Seattle.

Creating jobs by massively expanding mass transit and a “just transition” for all workers in fossil fuel industries.

RALLY to Re-Elect KSHAMA SAWANT

SATURDAY JUNE 6 6:30 PM

TOWN HALL SEATTLE 8TH AVE & SENECA

Paid for by Vote Sawant, P.O. Box 85862 Seattle, WA 98145

For more details - KshamaSawant.org