

# Minister calls B.C. Green Party leader 'hypocritical' for criticism of Notley

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Alberta's environment minister upped the ante in the cross-border war of words on Thursday, saying the B.C. Green Party leader is "hypocritical in the extreme" for his recent comments about Premier Rachel Notley.

B.C. Green Leader Andrew Weaver criticized Notley's advocacy for Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline Wednesday, saying she should "get with the program and embrace the 21st century."

"I think Andrew Weaver doesn't get it," Shannon Phillips told reporters at the Alberta legislature Thursday.

"Andrew Weaver and the Green Party would like to, apparently, be critical of one of the most comprehensive climate plans in the country."

The \$7.4-billion pipeline expansion was approved by the federal government at the end of November and will transport 890,000 barrels per day of Alberta oil to West Coast tankers.

A recent deal between the B.C. NDP and Green Party to govern the province with a razor-thin majority has thrown some doubt on the project because both parties oppose the pipeline and have vowed to stop it.

The Alberta government has

insisted the province doesn't have the power to stop the project, but B.C. NDP Leader John Horgan has hinted that opposition will come in the form of legal challenges.

Phillips said Weaver should read up on Alberta's climate leadership plan before commenting next time.

"I don't think it is helpful to be levelling these kinds of uninformed criticisms and, quite frankly, we're all in this together," said Phillips.

"Alberta's climate policy is really one of the best and most balanced in the country."

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