

ITEM 55

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 43

COUNCIL MEETING June 10/74

Re: New 69kv Electrical Supply Line
Government Road/Burnaby Lake Area
(Bingham - Willamette Limited)
(Item 15, Report No. 17, March 4, 1974)
(Item 21, Report No. 39, May 21, 1974)

Council, at its meeting of March 4, 1974, received Item 15, Report No. 17, provided in connection with the request from Bingham-Willamette Limited for Council's decision with respect to installation of underground electrical servicing. At that same meeting, Council adopted three recommendations which were advanced but did not adopt the following recommendation:

"THAT provision be made in the 1974 General Purpose budget of \$43,500 for the Corporation's share of this project should it materialize."

At its meeting of May 21, 1974, Council requested that a full report on the matter be provided by no later than June 10, 1974.

Attached is the report of the Planning Director with respect to the matter which recommends that Council confirm its decision of March 4, 1974 that approval not be granted to erect an overhead 69kv line from Sperling Avenue to Lozelles. Council will note that, in the event that Council is not prepared to accept the recommendation, an alternative overhead-underground combination could be considered, although the alternative mentioned by the Director of Planning is not the alternative noted in the attached letter from B.C. Hydro dated June 6, 1974. We don't know the cost of this particular alternative, but the alignment is one of those advanced originally by B.C. Hydro in 1972.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council confirm its decision to not approve the proposal to erect an overhead 69kv line from the Loughheed Substation to Lozelles;

or, alternatively, if Council is not in favour of a full underground installation,

THAT Council approve of the alternative proposal made by the Director of Planning for a partial overhead and underground installation, with the underground being from Charles Rummel Park under Government and Winston and thence to Bingham-Willamette; on the understanding that the Company re-imburse the Municipality for 50% of the Municipality's share of the cost of the underground portion of the proposal made by the Director of Planning. (This sum would be in addition to Bingham's payment to Hydro for the basic cost of the overhead portion of this line and its payment for the underground connection into the Company's 69kv receiving station, together with any attendant costs on its property for underground service.)

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COUNCIL MEETING June 10/74

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
JUNE 7, 1974

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER
FROM: PLANNING DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: NEW 69kv SUPPLY LINE IN THE
GOVERNMENT ROAD/BURNABY LAKE AREA

STATUS

At the Council meeting of March 4, 1974, a report on the above subject prepared by the Planning Department, and containing the following recommendations was considered by Council:

1. That the Municipality not approve the proposal to erect an overhead 69 kv line from the Lougheed substation to Lozells.
2. That the Municipality approve the installation of an underground facility.
3. That the Municipality approach B.C. Hydro and the Provincial Government to share in the cost of providing such an underground service.
4. That provision be made in the 1974 General Purposes Budget of \$43,500 for the Corporation's share of this project should it materialize.

As a result of the Council consideration the first three Recommendations were adopted, but the fourth dealing with a municipal contribution was not.

Following this decision the Director of Planning communicated with the following Provincial agencies and departments in order to transmit Council's instructions, and to request financial assistance in placing this facility underground:

- a) Mr. G. W. Upton,
Supervisor of Acquisition,
B.C. Hydro and Power Authority.

- b) The Honourable Gary Lauk,
Minister of Industrial Development,
Trade and Commerce.
- c) Mr. K. McRae,
Office of the Deputy Minister of Finance.

The status of these requests is as follows:-

- a) B.C. Hydro in a letter dated June 6, 1974 (copy attached) have concluded as the result of a review by Hydro's Board of Directors, that in this case the benefits of an underground circuit do not warrant the additional expenditures required, although they would consider participation through the Power and Telephone Beautification Fund Act, in the undergrounding in the portion of the line at the south foot of Lozells.
- b) Senior Staff of the Department of Industrial Development (Dr. Herbert Kee, Executive Director of Economic Plans) have placed a report before the Deputy Minister, who has forwarded it to the Minister, the Honourable Gary Lauk. Dr. Kee advised the Director of Planning on June 6, 1974 that no decision had been made, and that fairly major policy decisions concerning precedent were involved. He promised to transmit the decision by telephone once it is available.
- c) Mr. McRae on behalf of Mr. G.S. Bryson, Deputy Minister of Finance has, in a letter dated May 6, 1974 (copy attached), simply advised us of the procedure to be followed in an application made under the Beautification Fund Act, and given his Departments' opinion that the Act applies only to the undergrounding of existing overhead lines and not to new installations.

While the above negotiations were proceeding, Mr. A. W. Smallwood, of Bingham-Willamette Limited, appeared before Council on May 21, 1974 and through his lawyer appealed the March 4 decision of Council and requested that Council approval be given to an overhead line, for reasons contained in a letter dated May 15, 1974.

Council did not grant the request, but instructed the staff to report on the matter no later than June 10, 1974.

DISCUSSION

The Planning Department has carefully reviewed all the material available on this subject, including the replies of the various Provincial departments, and the considerable debate that took place at the Council meeting of May 21, 1974 and has concluded that the recommendations contained in its report of February 28, 1974, and adopted by Council on March 4, 1974 are valid, correct, and notwithstanding arguments to the contrary, should be confirmed by Council.

The reasons for this decision are as follows:

1. The policy established not only by this Municipality, but by the Regional District, that there should be no further overhead transmission lines within urban areas, is far too important to be broken at the first point of challenge on behalf of one private industry. This is the first time the Council has taken a strong stand on this matter, and not only this municipality but the Region as a whole will suffer if we change our position. Utility companies should not be permitted to continue despoiling the environment with new overhead lines.

2. There is no point in making use of the Beautification Act, to bury existing overhead lines, if at the same time, new overhead lines are being created elsewhere. The approach of this municipality has been to move firstly to have all new power lines placed underground, and when this has been achieved to move into a programme of burying existing lines.

The current overhead proposal would place a major unsightly line where one does currently not exist, thus worsening the existing situation. This is a completely separate line, and there is no proposal to locate it where it can replace an existing facility, and hang existing wires on the new poles.

3. Contrary to the view expressed that this area will not be adversely affected, the proposed alignment forms the northerly boundary of Burnaby Lake Park, and not only would the overhead line be an intrusion into this park area, but it would also be an intrusion into the outlook of all those who, from the North, view Burnaby Lake, the Central Valley, the Deer Lake Area, the Municipal Complex, and the Kingsway ridge.
4. There is absolutely no reason why the Municipality as a whole and in particular the Burnaby residents, should have to live with an overhead situation, merely to facilitate B.C. Hydro's preference for such a system, and to make it possible for one Industry to tender on a project that it is not at present equipped to handle. It seems more appropriate that the Industry with Provincial assistance, should equip itself properly through an underground service to handle larger and more profitable undertakings or it should look for an alternative location within Burnaby where adequate power service is available.

RECOMMENDATION

FOR THESE REASONS, THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT HAS NO HESITATION IN RECOMMENDING CONFIRMATION OF THE MARCH 4 COUNCIL DECISION; NAMELY THAT APPROVAL NOT BE GRANTED TO ERECT AN OVERHEAD 69kv LINE FROM SPERLING AVENUE TO LOZELLS.

ALTERNATIVE

Recognizing, because of comments made as a result of Mr. Smallwood's appeal, that Council despite the strong recommendation of the Planning Department, may not be prepared to uphold their strong policy stance, the Department has examined alternatives to the current overhead proposal including a further review of the four alternative routes first presented by B.C. Hydro in June 1972. If Council is disposed to approve an overhead system or a partial overhead - partial underground system, the following alternative would be less obtrusive, shorter in distance, and although probably more costly, have the advantage of using existing pole alignments and burying some existing unsightly lines through a residential area.

This was referred to as Route No. 1 in the B.C. Hydro submission, and would involve in our proposal as shown on the attached sketch using existing overhead alignments that are well hidden in trees, on Phillips, Loughheed and for a short distance on the northerly part of Lozells (no additional poles would be required; existing and new wiring would be hung on replacement poles).

The line would then go underground on the remainder of Lozells past a portion of Charles Rummell Park cross under Government and Winston and thence to Bingham-Willamette, including at the same time the undergrounding of the existing unsightly poles and wires on Lozells.

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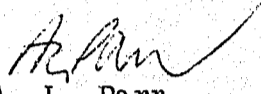
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SUMMARY

In summary and to clarify the position of the Planning Department, we are recommending strongly in favour of complete undergrounding for the 69 kv line and against the proposed new overhead line on Winston and adjacent to Burnaby Lake Park.

If Council does not accept our recommendation, we are pointing out an alternative overhead-underground combination which could be considered.


A. L. Parr,
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING.

ALP:cm

Attach.

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COUNCIL MEETING June 10/74



BRITISH COLUMBIA HYDRO AND POWER AUTHORITY

VANCOUVER 1, B.C.

TELEX 04-54395

File:

6 June 1974

Corporation of the District of Burnaby
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby 2, British Columbia.

Attention: Mr. A. Parr, Director of Planning

Dear Mr. Parr:

Increased Electricity Supply for Bingham-Willamette

The proposal contained in your letter of 19 April for increasing the electricity supply to Bingham-Willamette Co. Ltd. was reviewed by Hydro's Board of Directors on 3 June 1974. It is the opinion of the Board that much of the area through which the proposed line will pass would not be adversely affected by an overhead line and that in this case the benefits of an underground circuit do not warrant the additional expenditures required.

Nevertheless, having regard for the short section of line on and at the south foot of Lozells, the Municipality may wish to offer this line section for approval and participation of those party to the Beautification Act; that is, the municipality, the Provincial Government and B.C. Hydro. B.C. Hydro will consider participation in such a scheme and we have calculated that Burnaby, the Provincial Government and B.C. Hydro would each have to contribute approximately \$26,000 depending upon costs at the time of construction. These sums would be in addition to Bingham's payment of the basic cost of an overhead line for the full distance and its payment for its extension across Lozells into the company's 69 kV receiving station.

As Bingham are urgently in need of 69 kV supply we have assured the Company that B.C. Hydro stands ready at the cost of Bingham, and as agreed to by Bingham, to extend an overhead line to the Company's location on Lozells, and to provide this service by mid 1975.

There is some doubt about availability of underground cable for such an early delivery and we solicit your early advice if you wish to consider special arrangements for the short section of line at the south foot of Lozells Avenue.

Yours sincerely,

G. W. Upton
G. W. Upton,
Land Acquisition Supervisor

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ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MINISTER
VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

OUR FILE NO.

YOUR FILE NO.

May 6, 1974

A. L. Parr, Esq.
Director of Planning
The Corporation of the
District of Burnaby
Municipal Hall
4949 Canada Way
BURNABY, British Columbia
V5G 1M2

Dear Sir:

Re: "Power and Telephone Beautification Fund Act"

Acknowledgement is made of your letter of April 24, 1974 relating to the above Act.

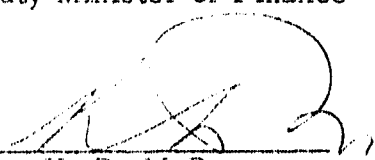
For your information, let it be said that an application for assistance under the subject Act should be made to this office. The application may be by way of letter accompanied by:-

1. A copy of the agreement with the public utility company with a general description of the project, the cost of the project and the company's agreement to it and their share of the cost.
2. A copy of the minute of the municipal council agreeing to the project and their share of the cost.

I should add further, for your information, that in the view of this Department, the Act applies only to the undergrounding of existing overhead lines and not to new installations.

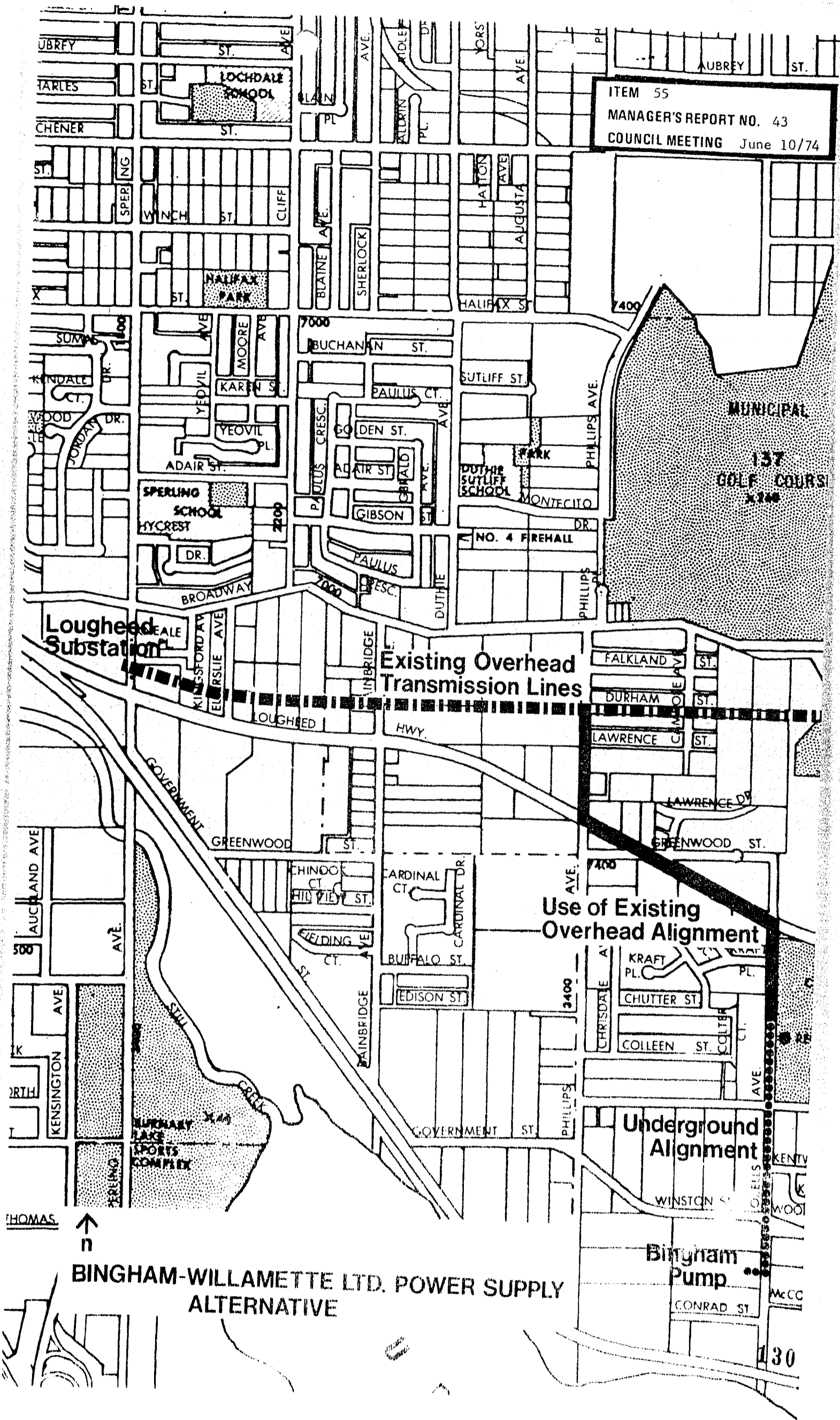
Yours truly,

G. S. Bryson
Deputy Minister of Finance

By: 
K. D. McRae

KDM/emc

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Loughhead Substation

Existing Overhead Transmission Lines

Use of Existing Overhead Alignment

Underground Alignment

Bingham Pump

BINGHAM-WILLAMETTE LTD. POWER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVE



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