

Re: Shell Canada Limited Refinery  
Incident Involving Excessive Flame and Smoke

ITEM 15

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 21

COUNCIL MEETING Mar. 18/74

At the March 11, 1974 meeting of Council, a request was made for information on a highly visible flame and excessive smoke that emanated from the Shell Refinery on the afternoon of March 8th. An explanation of this incident is contained in the following letter from Mr. J.C. Fisher, Refinery Manager, to the Medical Health Officer:

Shell Canada Limited

March 13, 1974.

Dr. W.F. Sunderland,  
Medical Health Officer,  
The Corporation of the District of Burnaby,  
4949 Canada Way,  
Burnaby, B.C.

Dear Sir,

Further to the March 12, 1974 conversation between Mr. G.H. Armon and myself, following is an explanation of the sequence of events which resulted in a visible flare at Shellburn on the evening of March 8, 1974.

Around 5.20 p.m. a control valve malfunctioned causing a flow of propane to the flare. During the few minutes it took to correct the situation the flow of propane to the flare resulted in a visible flame and smoke.

The Burnaby Fire Department responded to a call from someone other than ourselves and arrived at the refinery gate at 5.30 p.m. After receiving an explanation they left. We were not able to ascertain who placed the call to the Burnaby Fire Department.

Yours very truly,

Original signed by  
J. C. FISHER

J.C. Fisher  
Refinery Manager

cc: Mr. G.H. Armon  
Chief Public Health Inspector

COPY TO

This is for the information of Council.