

ITEM 3

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 19

COUNCIL MEETING Mar. 17/75

Re: New 60 Kv. Electrical Supply Line  
Government Road/Burnaby Lake Area  
Bingham-Willamette Ltd.  
(Item 15, Report No. 17, March 4, 1974)  
(Item 21, Report No. 39, May 21, 1974)  
(Item 55, Report No. 43, June 10, 1974)

Attached is the report of the Director of Planning, dated March 10, 1975, regarding the above.

As the Director of Planning has adequately dealt with the overall problem and because of a recent telephone discussion with Mr. Brassington, in this introduction the Municipal Manager will deal specifically with point (E) as noted on page 3 of Mr. J.R. Brassington's letter of December 16, 1974, addressed to Mr. Parr in this connection. This point refers to the motion giving direction to the Municipal Manager to recommend a procedure for dealing with situations involving the provision of underground wiring that go beyond the requirements of the current by-law governing such matters. Mr. Brassington has made reference in this point to his interpretation that this motion involves "...services to distribution voltage customers". The by-law does not specify distribution or transmission voltage. It merely specifies that all electrical services are to be placed underground.

The Municipal Manager's notes taken at the Council meeting of June 10, 1974, show that the intent of the motion was that the Municipal Manager was to bring forward a plan of action, including priorities, etc., for putting underground any electrical lines which are not covered by our present electrical services connection by-law.

Mr. Brassington attempted to contact the Municipal Manager on March 10, 1975, to discuss this particular motion. The reason for the timing of the telephone call is not known. The Municipal Manager spoke to Mr. Brassington on March 11, 1975, and attempted to clarify the situation. Mr. Brassington appeared to want to deal basically with the service connection from Lozells Avenue to the Bingham-Willamette plant and to point out why it should not be required to go underground. He basically repeated the arguments noted on page 3 of his letter of December 16, 1974. The Municipal Manager suggested to Mr. Brassington that this Municipality would be more than pleased to work with the B.C. Hydro in developing a master plan for undergrounding electrical lines on an area by area basis, and asked that he consider this point. Mr. Brassington advised that this was really beyond the limits of his department and he would have to talk to other staff members of B.C. Hydro. The telephone conversation was concluded by the Municipal Manager confirming the arrangements with respect to the underground connection from Lozells Avenue to the plant, and Mr. Brassington suggesting that he would contact the Manager about developing a master plan for undergrounding electrical lines once he had an opportunity to meet with other B.C. Hydro staff members.

Unless the Council directs otherwise, the supply line on Lozells from the railway right-of-way to the underground connection to the plant will be overhead; and presumably, the B.C. Hydro will have to sort out its problem with the Burlington Northern. There is no doubt that, if they do sort out their problem, there will be two pole lines in the railway right-of-way.

ITEM 3 MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 19 COUNCIL MEETING Mar. 17/75
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PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
MARCH 10, 1975

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

FROM: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

SUBJECT: NEW 69 Kv SUPPLY LINE IN THE  
GOVERNMENT ROAD/BURNABY LAKE AREA

BACKGROUND

In February 1974 following almost 18 months of intermittent discussion between B.C. Hydro, Bingham-Willamette Ltd., and the Planning Department Council received a report from the Planning Department dated February 28, 1974 dealing with the matter of providing a separate 69 Kv supply circuit to Bingham Pump Co. Ltd.

The Council on March 4, 1974 approved the installation of an underground facility, and directed that an approach be made to B.C. Hydro and the Provincial Government to have them share in the cost of providing the underground service.

Approaches were made to B.C. Hydro; the Department of Industrial Development; and the Department of Finance; and while these negotiations were proceeding Mr. A. W. Smallwood of Bingham-Willamette Limited appeared before Council and through his lawyer Mr. Orr, appealed the March 4 decision of Council and requested Council approval of an overhead 69 Kv line.

These proceedings were all summarized in a Planning Report to Council dated June 7, 1974, which recommended confirmation of the underground facility, or an alternative less noticeable route for the overhead service.

However, at the Council meeting of June 10th following further submissions from Mr. Orr, Council passed the following four motions:

1. "That the request of Bingham-Willamette Limited, as presented to Council this evening by Mr. Orr, be granted as to permit the Company to erect an overhead 69 Kv electrical service from the Loughheed Sub-Station to the Plant of the Company on Lozells Avenue along the Route Two that was referred to in the report Council received in connection with the matter on March 4, 1974."
2. "That the Planning Department submit a report indicating the availability of funds and the number of wires involved in placing all the existing overhead electrical services to the Bingham-Willamette Limited Plant underground between the Burlington-Northern Railway tracks and the site of the Company."
3. "That the Planning Department discuss with officials of the B.C. Hydro and Power Authority and the Burlington-Northern Railway the possibility of placing all electrical lines serving the Bingham-Willamette Limited development on one utility pole, including a letter confirming that this would be done, and that the same treatment be considered for Lozells Avenue in the area."

4. "That the Municipal Manager recommend a procedure for dealing with situations involving the provision of underground wiring that go beyond the requirements of the current By-law governing such matters."

It has taken the Planning Department a considerable period of time to meet with the various authorities in order to obtain the answers requested by Council. However, resulting from numerous letters and telephone calls are the attached three letters which deal with the substance of the Council motions. The first is a letter from the Communications Division of Burlington Northern dated February 5, 1975; the second is a letter dated December 16, 1974 from the Contracts Department of B.C. Hydro; and the third is a letter from B.C. Hydro dated February 25, 1975 attaching a plan showing the proposed route of the overhead 69 Kv supply (this plan will be available at the Council meeting).

#### ANALYSIS OF REPLIES

1. Both Burlington Northern and B.C. Hydro are opposed to placing the existing communication lines and the proposed 69 Kv power line on the same pole line.
2. Burlington Northern Communications Division is opposed to the construction of the 69 Kv power line on the south side of the track within the rail right-of-way, although this is the location proposed by B.C. Hydro in their submittal to Burlington Northern.
3. Burlington Northern raise the alternative of placing the communication lines underground, but point out problems and expense.
4. B.C. Hydro is prepared to quote on methods and costs for placing the electrical service to Bingham-Willamette underground between Burlington Northern and the Bingham-Willamette plant.

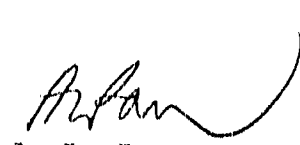
#### SUMMARY

The obvious discrepancy in the above correspondence is that B.C. Hydro have indicated to Council an approval to use the Burlington Northern right-of-way for overhead power lines, which they have not yet obtained and which the Communications Division of Burlington Northern is opposed to.

There is also no likelihood of an agreement on the use of one pole line, and B.C. Hydro although being prepared to quote on methods of providing an underground service on Lozells mounts a considerable argument against it.

#### CONCLUSION

One can only conclude that B.C. Hydro is determined to push to a conclusion a proposal to provide a completely overhead 69 Kv service to Bingham-Willamette, even though the staffs of the Municipality and Burlington Northern are opposed to such a move. It is recognized of course that Council has not adopted the recommendation of its staff to place this service underground, and their decision is respected. However, Council may wish to review their decision in the light of the attached correspondence and the negative responses to their attempts to improve the situation.

  
A. L. Parr,  
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING.



BURLINGTON NORTHERN

109

ITEM 3

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 19

COUNCIL MEETING Mar. 17/75

Central Building  
810 Third Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
Telephone (206) 624-1900

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Mr. A. L. Parr  
Director of Planning  
The Corporation of the  
District of Burnaby  
Municipal Hall  
4949 Canada Way  
Burnaby B.C. BSG 1M2

February 5, 1975

Dear Mr. Parr:

This will confirm our discussion held yesterday, February 4, in your office among you, Mr. J. R. Giblin, Mr. C. J. Price, and myself regarding the use of Burlington Northern right-of-way between Sperling Avenue and Lozells Avenue at Burnaby to provide a 69 kv electrical service to Bingham-Willamette Ltd.

As far as the Communications Division of Burlington Northern is concerned, we recommend against making any change in the present communication lines for the purpose of installing a 69 kv electrical service on the right of way. In the case of communications cross-arms on the same poles as the power lines, we discussed with you the intolerable interference to the communications lines that would result, as well as the hazard from direct contact between the power line and communication line. We would be opposed to this approach under any circumstances.

Also, we would be opposed to leaving the communication line the way it is and constructing the 69 kv line on the other side of the track. It is our opinion that the separation is not sufficient to reduce the interference to an acceptable level.

Placing the communication line in underground cable through this area would eliminate the interference but it would introduce the transmission problem in the voice and data signals which we transmit over this line because of the increased loss in cable compared with open wire transmission lines. However, this method is the least objectionable of the alternatives. It would require additional electronic equipment to boost transmission to compensate for the additional loss in the cable. Such a project would be quite expensive.

Canadian National Telecommunications is a major tenant on this pole line although the line itself is of Burlington Northern ownership.

We advised you that the Signal Department of the Burlington Northern was also on this pole line and that they also might feel that the electrical line would cause interference to them. You would have to speak directly to them about it.

You stated that someone at B.C. Hydro had indicated to the Municipality of Burnaby that Burlington Northern had given agreement in principle to their occupancy of the right-of-way with this electrical transmission line and you were going to give us the name of an individual at B.C. Hydro who could confirm this, and with whom we could talk about it.

We enjoyed our visit with you, and if there is anything further that we can do in this matter, please let us know.

  
C. H. Wesman

Asst. Director Communications

CHW:smd

File: 14-Burnaby B.C.

cc: Mr. C. F. Klekofer

ITEM 3

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 19

COUNCIL MEETING Mar. 17/75



## BRITISH COLUMBIA HYDRO AND POWER AUTHORITY

VANCOUVER 1, B.C.

TELEX 04-54395

File:

16 December 1974

Corporation of the District of Burnaby  
4949 Canada Way  
Burnaby, B.C.  
V5G 1M2

Attention: Mr. A. L. Parr  
Director of Planning

Dear Sir:

Re: Extension to Bingham Willamette  
Your letter of 13 November 1974

The last paragraph in your letter could create some incorrect and unnecessary feelings if the matters referred to are not analyzed. We therefore present for consideration:

- (A) 1) B.C. Hydro wrote to you on 6 June 1974.
- 2) No written answer has been received prior to your 13 November letter.
- 3) In the interim we have been operating under guidance provided by Council copied to BCH from a letter to Bingham Willamette from the Municipality.
- (B) 1) There have been some discussions with you in the interim.
- 2) BCH pointed out that the Municipality's approval to Bingham was an unqualified basis for construction of overhead supply to a dip service.
- 3) The discussions with you resulted in suggestion that there appeared to be some difference within the Municipal staff as to interpretation of Council's motion and you agreed to re-search same and advise. In any case, B.C. Hydro advised that it was unable to reconcile these verbal suggestions with the explicit wording of the exchange of letters between the Municipality, Bingham and Bingham's legal counsel.

...2

ITEM 3

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 19

COUNCIL MEETING Mar. 17/75

Mr. A. L. Parr

- 2 -

16 December 1974

(C) Now, having the wording, in your letter of 13 November, of the Mercier/Stusiak motion of 10 June 1974, our preliminary comments are as follows:

- 1) Council has required of the Planning Department the coordination of a study on removal of "existing overhead services to Bingham...between the Burlington Northern Railway tracks and the site of the Company".
    - i) Except for the existing service pole on Lozells, none of the electrical line between Burlington Northern and Bingham Willamette are active in supplying Bingham Willamette.
    - ii) Council's motion refers only to the existing lines and it is presumed that Council so ordered having regard for its immediately prior approval of 69 kv overhead lines.
  - 2) B.C. Hydro will certainly quote on methods and costs for modifications to its share of the existing plant on Lozells. When the involvement of the others having facilities on Lozells is arranged and the scope of the project is detailed B.C. Hydro's share in the obligations to Council, created by the first minute shown in your letter of 13 November, can be expeditiously handled. Please call upon B.C. Hydro by advising me at your convenience.
- (D) The second Council minute shown in your letter of 13 November 1974, being now available for review, brings these preliminary observations:
- 1) The discussions with you confirmed the increased cost, complexity, and less attractive visual impact which would result from your verbal request to consider placement of electrical lines and railroad telegraph lines on one pole line.
  - 2) The disapproval of Burlington Northern was indicated and the whole subject was shown to be contrary to the Council's unqualified concurrence in an overhead line to supply Bingham Willamette. Nonetheless, if BCH could overbuild Burlington Northern's circuit it would be with reluctance because of the much increased and less welcome visual impact.

...3

Mr. A. L. Parr

- 3 -

16 December 1974

- 3) Presumably, the greatly magnified costs related to overbuilding of Burlington Northern would be paid by the party directing the overbuilding.
  - 4) Having now recorded the substance of our verbal replies to your verbal enquiries, we remain ready to enter into further discussions if such are arranged. However, as we are even now practically and materially unlikely to be able to cope with Bingham's time schedule, we would therefore have to introduce into the discussion that overbuilding (as compared to a relatively simple 69 kv line on the south side of the track) will require complex investigation, agreements on technical and financial responsibility and, if practical, a redesign of the line for overbuilding. This would terminate the possibility of supply useful to Bingham in fulfillment of its contractual commitments to its customers for delivery of tested products.
- (E) Not included in your letter but shown in the attachment is the motion that the Municipal Manager recommend a procedure for dealing with situations involving the provision of underground wiring that goes beyond the requirements of the current bylaw governing, in the main, services to distribution voltage customers.
- 1) This motion of council appears to recognize a point discussed with you at our meeting in September 1973 that a bylaw, drafted to control a multiplicity of recurring service drops for the general class of distribution voltage customers, should not be applied to force a 69 kv dip service. This was also covered in our letter of 19 November 1973 to you.
  - 2) BC Hydro's point in this matter is that there is: (a) technical repugnance at the decrease in customer service reliability for such a short piece of underground cable as is involved in a dip service across Lozells; (b) self evident increase in unfavorable visual impact of 69 kv underground pothead structures. As discussed, their physical dimensions have a much more unfavorable visual impact than would be created by either a simple overhead 69 kv service or the more common trifurcation and termination of a distribution voltage dip service; and (c) a multiplication of unfavorable visual impact because the load-end 69 kv pothead terminal structure

...4

ITEM 3  
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 19  
COUNCIL MEETING Mar. 17/75

Mr. A. L. Parr

- 4 -

16 December 1974

will be within a few feet of the feed-end (one on BCH's pole and the other on the customer's immediately adjacent structure).

- 3) Although it may result in BCH having to absorb the cost of some very short and otherwise useless pieces of cable from this job, BCH will also wish to assist the Municipal Manager in the development of policies that are consistent with useful, reasonable, and economic development of Burnaby's industrial employment potential; that is, we will propose to the Manager that a more beneficial technical installation and a much more favourable visual impact can be obtained by converting Bingham's 69 kv underground service into a simple overhead service drop.

Yours sincerely,

*J. R. Brassington*

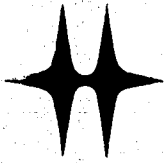
J. R. Brassington, P. Eng.  
Manager  
Special Power Contracts Department

cc: Bingham Willamette Ltd.  
Attention: A. W. Smallwood  
Bull, Housser & Tupper  
Attention: R. J. Orr  
Corporation of the District of Burnaby  
Attention: E. Ward

ITEM 3

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 19

COUNCIL MEETING Mar. 17/75



**BRITISH COLUMBIA HYDRO AND POWER AUTHORITY**

VANCOUVER 1, B.C.

TELEX 04-54395

File:

25 February 1975

Mr. A. Parr  
Planner  
Municipality of Burnaby  
4949 Canada Way  
Burnaby, B.C.

Dear Mr. Parr:

Re: 69 kv Supply for Bingham Willamette Co. Ltd.

Attached is a plan showing the route for the extension of 69 kv supply required by Bingham Willamette Co. Ltd. A similar drawing has been sent to Burlington Northern.

Surveying is underway and construction is expected to commence in April 1975.

The attached plan does not include details of the service lines across Lozells. These will be forwarded to you upon completion.

Yours sincerely,

J. R. Brassington  
Manager  
Special Power Contracts Department.