

ITEM	23
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	47
COUNCIL MEETING	June 27 /77

Re: GASOLINE SPILL - GULF OIL CANADA LTD.  
BURNABY DISTRIBUTION PLANT  
9950 BARNET HIGHWAY

Following is an interim report from the Chief Public Health Inspector dated June 23, 1977 concerning the subject incident. Further reports will be forthcoming as a full investigation is completed and recommendations formulated concerning improved containment facilities.

This is for the information of Council.

\* \* \* \* \*

June 23, 1977.

Mr. M.J. Shelley  
Municipal Manager  
Corporation of Burnaby

Dear Sir:

Re: GASOLINE SPILL - GULF OIL CANADA LTD.  
BURNABY DISTRIBUTION PLANT  
9950 BARNET HIGHWAY

On Friday afternoon, June 17th, 1977, at approximately 2:30 p.m. a spill of gasoline occurred at the above-noted Plant. The quantity of gas involved was 325 barrels or approximately 11,000 gallons.

We are and will continue our investigation into this unfortunate occurrence and will be reporting the results when the investigation is finalized. As is customary in all spill investigations, we request a full statement from the concerned Company as to all particulars pertaining to the incident. A copy of the statement as issued by Gulf Oil Canada Ltd. is attached for your information and also a copy of the R.C.M.P. report.

The action taken prevented further complications and in our opinion there was no damage to ecology.

We would state that our investigation is directed to the installment of adequate containment facilities as we realize that there is always the possibility of future spills through malfunctioning equipment or human error. We are synchronizing recommendations in conjunction with independent engineering consultants as retained by Gulf Oil Canada Ltd.

In conclusion, we would advise that the investigation will be comprehensive and the recommendations for product containment will result in reducing the possibility of future spills from this operation.

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Mr. M.J. Shelley

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June 23, 1977

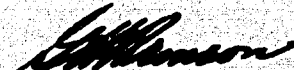
This is for information of Council. Progress reports will be submitted.

Respectfully submitted,



S.B. Wilson  
CHIEF FIRE WARDEN

GHA/SBW/pm  
Atts.



G.H. Armson, C.P.H.I. (C)  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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## GULF OIL CANADA LIMITED

REPORT ON GASOLINE SPILL  
GULF OIL CANADA LIMITED  
BURNABY DISTRIBUTION PLANT  
9950 BARNETT HIGHWAY  
JUNE 17, 1977

A PRESSURE RELIEF LINE AT THE PIPELINE MANIFOLD WAS LEFT CLOSED CAUSING A GASKET LEAK ON THE 8" REGULAR GRADE GASOLINE VALVE. AN OUTSIDE CONTRACTOR WAS CALLED IN TO REPLACE THE LEAKING GASKET AND TO CLEAN A PUMP STRAINER. GULF'S MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST PROCEEDED TO DRAIN THE MANIFOLD SYSTEM AND LINE, HOWEVER WAS CONTACTED REGARDING A SEPARATE PROJECT INVOLVING TANK CLEANING IN ANOTHER AREA OF THE PLANT. THE MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST ADVISED THE CONTRACTOR TO PROCEED WITH REMOVAL OF THE VALVE WHILE HE LEFT TO DEAL WITH THE TANK CLEANERS. HE OVERLOOKED THE FACT THAT HE HAD NOT COMPLETELY DRAINED THE LINE OR CLOSED OFF THE REGULAR GASOLINE TANK VALVE.

THE CONTRACTOR AT THE MANIFOLD CONTACTED THE MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST THAT GASOLINE WAS STILL LEAKING AT THE GASKET AFTER THEY HAD REMOVED ALL BUT TWO BOLTS HOLDING THE VALVE. THE MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST IMMEDIATELY RECOGNIZED HIS ERROR AND ENDEAVOURED TO REPLACE THE BOLTS. AT THIS POINT, THE TWO REMAINING BOLTS SHEARED AND THE VALVE CAME OUT OF POSITION. HE WAS DRENCHED WITH GASOLINE HOWEVER RAN UP TO THE TANK TO CLOSE THE VALVE, AT THE SAME TIME TELLING THE REPAIRMEN TO STOP TRAFFIC ON THE BARNETT, APPROXIMATELY 100 FEET FROM THE MANIFOLD. THE VALVE WAS CLOSED BY THE MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST AFTER 325 BARRELS OF REGULAR GASOLINE ESCAPED INTO THE DITCH BESIDE THE HIGHWAY.

AN RCMP CRUISER CAME BY AT THE TIME AND RADIOED BURNABY FIRE DEPT. AND TOOK CHARGE IN THE STOPPAGE OF TRAFFIC. GULF EMPLOYEES FROM THE TERMINAL ASSISTED ON THE HIGHWAY, MANNED FIRE MONITORS AND CLOSED DOWN THE LOADING RACK, ALL WITHIN 2 - 3 MINUTES OF THE GASOLINE ESCAPING. THE LOWER PLANT WAS ADVISED OF THE SPILL AND CONTAINMENT BOOMS WERE DEPLOYED IN PREARRANGED LOCATIONS IMMEDIATELY. THE NECESSARY GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES WERE ADVISED INCLUDING COAST GUARD AND ENVIRONMENT CANADA. (JOHN WATKINS OF ENVIRONMENT CANADA WAS ON THE SCENE WITHIN THE HOUR).

TRAFFIC ON THE BARNETT WAS STOPPED FROM 2:40 P.M. UNTIL 5:00 P.M. WHILE BURNABY FIRE DEPARTMENT AND GULF PERSONNEL SPRAYED THE AREA WITH WATER TO CUT DOWN THE CONCENTRATION OF GASOLINE, COOL THE AREA AND REDUCE THE CHANCES OF EXPLOSION OR FIRE. THE GASOLINE WAS FLUSHED DOWN THE HIGHWAY DITCH TO A CULVERT LEADING TO THE BURNABY INLET, WHICH BY NOW WAS PROTECTED BY CONTAINMENT BOOM. VERY LITTLE GASOLINE SHOWED UP IN THE INLET, HOWEVER WE ARE CONTINUING TO MONITOR.



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DUE TO THE WARM WEATHER AND THE AGITATING ACTION OF THE WATER, A LARGE AMOUNT OF THE GASOLINE VAPORIZED HARMLESSLY INTO THE ATMOSPHERE.

AFTER WASHING THE AREA FOR 2 1/2 HOURS, EXPLOSI-METER TESTS SHOWED THE AREA NEXT TO THE HIGHWAY WAS CLEAR OF EXPLOSIVE CONCENTRATIONS AND THE HIGHWAY WAS OPENED AT 5:00 P.M. WITH TRAFFIC MOVING UNDER THE CONTROL OF RCMP. BURNABY FIRE DEPT. LEFT THE SCENE BUT GULF WATER MONITORS WERE LEFT ON UNTIL 9:00 P.M.

THE BURNABY HEALTH DEPT. AND FIRE DEPT., RCMP AND THE PROVINCIAL EMERGENCY PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR HAVE REQUESTED COPIES OF THIS REPORT.

THE GULF MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST WAS TAKEN TO A DOCTOR FOR EXAMINATION AND RELEASED IMMEDIATELY.



G.G. BRUCE  
AREA MANAGER, DISTRIBUTION

## BURNABY DETACHMENT OFFENCE REPORT

FILE NO. 17704/77

FENCE & SECTION Barnet Gulf Refinery GAS SPILL		DATE & TIME REPORTED 17 JUN 77 2:45 PM		OCCURENCE TIMES DATE 17 JUN 77	
FIRM NAME Gulf Oil Refinery		DOB		SEX	
DRESS Barnet Hwy. Burnaby, B.C.		PHONE		TIME 2:43 PM	
S. ADDRESS Same		BUS. PHONE 937-7775		DAY Friday	
PORTED BY- ME Gary BRUCE		PHONE 980-6846		DAYLIGHT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
DRESS 1155 Glenayre Drive		BUS. PHONE Same		DARKNESS <input type="checkbox"/>	
RELATIONSHIP NEIGHBORHOOD ENQUIRIES (ADDRESS ONLY)				UNKNOWN <input type="checkbox"/>	
VEHICLE DESCRIPTION TYPE		LICENCE		PROV.	
STIM <input type="checkbox"/>		SUSPECT <input type="checkbox"/>		LIC. YEAR	
AR		MAKE		MODEL	
		STYLE		COLOR	
DESCRIPTION OF SUSPECTS				LOCATION Barnet Hwy.	
				Port Moody/BBY	
				TYPE OF PREMISE Boarder	
				DWELLING <input type="checkbox"/> BUSINESS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
				VEHICLE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/>	
				HOW ATTACKED Via gas spill	
				MEANS OF ATTACK	
				IDENT MEMBER NIL	
				PRINTS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
				DOGMATER None	
DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY STOLEN OR DAMAGED OR REMARKS					
INSURED	SERIAL NO.	MODEL NO.	MAKE	ITEM	VALUE

While conducting routine patrols on the Barnet Hwy a passing vehicle flashed its lights warning us of trouble ahead, seconds later upon arriving in front of the Gulf Oil Refinery on the Barnet Hwy., it was revealed a gas spill had occurred creating an extremely dangerous situation. The gasoline from the refinery was cascading onto the highway, causing the fumes to fill the area. Traffic flow was immediately blocked at both ends of the refinery. Traffic units were dispatched to block traffic flow off at Hastings and Inlet while Port Moody D.D. block traffic at St. Johns and Barnet. The remaining traffic was re-routed back out of limits to prevent injury in case of explosion.

B.F.D. were dispatched to the scene to assist in dampening the area in an attempt to dissipate the gasoline. Gulf Oil Refinery as well as we were watering down the area in addition to laying foam on the gas. The gas flow eventually was contained approx. twenty minutes from the time it started. Apparently at 2:43 PM while repair was being effected to one of the main manifolds of the refinery the leak was first noted. Doug COLLIER of Gulf Oil and Bill MORRISON and Bob ZIEGER of Coast Pump Services were working on the manifold at the time. All four valves were shut down prior to operating on number #2 valve which required a new gasket. When the eight bolts holding the valve in place were removed, the valve began to leak. It was realized at this time the main flow had not been shut down hence before the bolts could again be placed in the valve to secure it the valve blew off striking COLLIER in the face. COLLIER was rushed to hospital but later released with minor bruises. The refined gas spilled over onto the highway causing

DISTRIBUTION

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OTHER X-REF: \_\_\_\_\_

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June 27/77



RE: Barnet Gulf Refinery - Gas Spill  
Burnaby, B.C. 17 JUN 77  
BURNABY DETACHMENT CASE (ORG)

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the above noted problem. Eventually after the gas was stopped and most of the residual had been washed into the inlet, traffic was allowed to enter the area. Traffic cones were set up and a blockade maintained at each end by Cst's. FERGUSON and PAINTER to check drivers for smoking. Gary BRUCE Manager of the refinery stated he would forward a full report of the event to this office for our information. Local radio stations and bus schedules had been notified of the traffic obstruction, as no further police action was required this file shall be as noted.

SUI  
DD: 2 JUL 77

STATION NCO

17 JUL 77

(N.E. KILLIAN)Cs  
ZONE 2

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