

ITEM	12
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	34
COUNCIL MEETING	1983 05 09

RE: 1982 DISCHARGE OF CONTAMINATED WASTEWATER TO EAGLE CREEK FROM
THE STORMWATER LEVEE, TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPE LINE CO. LTD.
BURNABY TANK FARM

ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Chief Public Health Inspector be adopted.

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1983 May 03

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER
FROM: CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
RE: 1982 DISCHARGE OF CONTAMINATED WASTEWATER TO EAGLE CREEK
FROM THE STORMWATER LEVEE, TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPE LINE CO. LTD.,
BURNABY TANK FARM

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for the information of Council.

SUMMARY:

Normal process wastewater from Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd. will be proportioned and transferred by pipeline to receiving refineries for treatment. Staff are continuing to discuss with Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd. contingency planning for dealing with a large volume or a quality of wastewater which would be unacceptable for treatment by the refineries. The Ministry of Environment, Waste Management Branch, have legally restricted the discharge to Eagle Creek from the stormwater levee to consist of only natural storm drainage water.

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A. TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPE LINE CO. LTD. METHOD OF HANDLING WASTEWATER

Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd. have finalized their method of treatment of process wastewater from tank bottom drainage. The means by which Trans Mountain Pipe Line will be eliminating storage of process wastewater from their Burnaby Mountain tank farm site will be by re-injecting bottom tank drainage into their crude stream for treatment by the receiving refineries. Both Shell Canada Ltd. and Chevron Canada Ltd. have agreed to receive the tank bottom water, subject to proportioning conditions.

We have discussed the intention of Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd. to proportion tank bottom drainage with Mr. S.A. Vernon, Superintendent of Quality Control, Greater Vancouver Sewerage & Drainage District, and technical staff from Shell Canada Ltd. and Chevron Canada Ltd. Based upon these discussions, we do not expect subsequent discharges to the sanitary sewer from refinery wastewater treatment plants to exceed the Municipality of Burnaby's Sewer Connection By-law or the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Regulations Governing the Admission of Wastes to Sewers. Staff from the Environmental Health Division and the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District will continue sampling of the refineries' effluent discharge to sanitary sewer to ensure compliance with the aforementioned regulations.

The Environmental Health Division, and the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District, Quality Control Division, continue to have concerns over how Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd. would handle a recurrence such as the 1982 December volume and quality of wastewater, which would have been unacceptable for treatment by receiving refineries.

To address this concern, the following letter was forwarded to Mr. E.J. Lockwood, Vice President, Operations, Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd.:

"Dear Sir:

Further to receipt of correspondence from Mr. D.T. Durrant, Manager, Public and Governmental Affairs, dated 1983 March 30 regarding methods of treatment for tank bottom drainage, we would advise as follows.

The Municipality of Burnaby, Environmental Health Division, and staff of the Greater Vancouver Sewerage & Drainage District, Waste Quality Control Section, have perused your method of handling tank bottom drainage. While we do not anticipate problems insofar as subsequent refinery wastewater discharges to the sanitary sewer, we are concerned about your stated contingency plans for dealing with wastewaters which would not be acceptable to pass on to the refineries by reason of volume or quality.

Should Trans Mountain experience a recurrence of the type of wastewater which discharged to the stormwater levee in 1982 December, treatment facilities of operators such as Sprayaway Ltd. would not be sufficient to allow the effluent to eventually be discharged to sanitary sewer.

We must state at this time that should Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd. be subjected to a volume of wastewater which would be unacceptable to re-inject into the crude stream and transferred to receiving refineries, this Division, along with the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District will not support a discharge to the sanitary sewer which would exceed the Burnaby Sewer By-law or the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District's Regulations Governing the Admission of Wastes into Sewers.

We would ask that your company re-evaluate the proposed contingency plan to handle wastewater unacceptable for treatment by the refineries, and formulate plans to provide an acceptable treatment process so that the effluent can be discharged to the sanitary sewer within the aforementioned regulations.

Should there be any questions regarding the admission of wastes into sewers within the Municipality of Burnaby, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 294-7390."

Staff from the Environmental Health Division will continue discussions with Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd. regarding contingency planning for handling process wastewaters which would be unacceptable for treatment by receiving refineries.

B. STORMWATER LEVEE DISCHARGE

The Ministry of Environment, Waste Management Branch, have processed a letter of approval to Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd. for the stormwater levee discharge to Eagle Creek, under authority of the Provincial Waste Management Act, Bill 52. The condition of approval is "that no chemicals or contaminated wastewater streams, other than natural stormwater runoff, shall be discharged to the waters of Eagle Creek."

The offenses and penalties contained within the Waste Management Act, Bill 52, which may be applied to violation of conditions stated in a letter of approval are:

"Section 34: Offences and Penalties

- (5) A person who, holding a permit or approval issued to him under this Act to introduce waste into the environment, introduces waste into the environment without having complied with the requirements of the permit or approval, commits an offence and is liable to a penalty not exceeding \$50,000.
- (8) A person who contravenes an order or requirement (other than an order under section 4 (3) given, made or imposed under this Act by a sewage control manager, a manager, a district director, the director, the minister or the appeal board commits an offence and is liable to a penalty not exceeding \$50,000, but an order or requirement is not contravened unless it
 - (a) was given in writing, and
 - (b) specified a reasonable period of time for compliance and that period has expired.
- (10) Where a corporation commits an offence under this Act, an employee, officer, director or agent of the corporation who authorized, permitted or acquiesced in the offence commits the offence notwithstanding that the corporation is convicted.
- (13) Where an offence under this section continues for more than one day, separate fines, each not exceeding the maximum fine for that offence, may be imposed for each day the offence continues."

The Ministry of Environment, Waste Management Branch, will be conducting periodic inspections to ensure compliance with the letter of approval. In addition, Environmental Health Division staff will continue to make site inspections to ensure that the stormwater levee is discharging only natural storm drainage waters. A close liaison with the Ministry of Environment, Waste Management Branch, on sampling data will be continued.

On 1983 March 24, the Ministry of Environment, Waste Management Branch, Engineering, Environmental Health Departments and representatives from Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd. addressed the issue of diverting stormwater drainage away from the stormwater levee. The results of discussions concluded that implementing a diversion of waters from the stormwater levee is not necessary at this time, due to:

1. The resulting increase of velocity by means of diversion away from the stormwater levee, which serves as a retention pond, may produce uncontrollable changes downstream within Eagle Creek.
2. The potential civil liability resulting from the diversion or alteration of a natural watercourse could place Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd. in a position of being an insurer of all downstream results of a diversion (position stated by Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd.).
3. The diversion is not now required, due to the Ministry of Environment, Waste Management Branch, restricting the discharge to stormwater only, thereby averting any source of pollution to Eagle Creek.

C. ENQUIRY AS TO THE NATURE AND QUALITY OF DISCHARGE FROM TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPE LINE CO. LTD., WESTRIDGE TERMINAL BALLAST TREATMENT PLANT

The Environmental Health Division requested the Ministry of Environment, Waste Management Branch, for technical information on the nature and quality of discharge to Burrard Inlet from the subject treatment plant. In response to our request, the Ministry of Environment, Waste Management Branch, provided information that verified that the discharge is in compliance with requirements of the permit, i.e. pH 6.5 to 9.0, oil and grease 5.0 mg/l.

For the information of Council, the ballast treatment plant at Burrard Inlet is only suitable for treatment of ballast-type water and not for treatment of different wastewater, i.e. pipeline process water.

We have discussed the operation of the ballast treatment plant with representatives of Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co. Ltd., who are well aware of the fact that it is not suitable nor permitted by the Ministry of Environment for treating different types of wastewater, other than ballast water.

G. V. Harvie

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

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cc: Director Administrative & Community Services
Director Engineering