

ITEM 17
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 46
COUNCIL MEETING 86/08/05

RE: LETTER FROM MR. R. BENNETT WHICH APPEARED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF
1986 JULY 21 (Item 4 s)

PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENTAL APPEAL BOARD DECISION B.C. HYDRO, BURRARD THERMAL PLANT

ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

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

* * * * *

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1986 JULY 28

FROM: CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SUBJECT: PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENTAL APPEAL BOARD DECISION
B.C. HYDRO, BURRARD THERMAL PLANT

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to Mr. R. Bennett, #45-7180 Pandora Street, Burnaby, B.C., V5A 1B7.

SUMMARY:

The Provincial Environmental Appeal Board has authorized the G.V.R.D., Director of Pollution Control, to issue a Permit allowing for the discharge of air contaminants from the Burrard Thermal Electric Generating Plant, Ioco, B.C. The Environmental Appeal Board in considering all of the evidence submitted to it during the Hearings in March of 1986 decided that the issuance of the Permit, with specific amendments, will not cause an unreasonable adverse effect to mankind and/or the environment.

REPORT

A. BACKGROUND:

Appearing on the 1986 February 17 Municipal Council Agenda was a report regarding the G.V.R.D. Air Emissions Permit No. VA330, B.C. Hydro, Burrard Thermal Plant. The report detailed the Environmental Health Division's review of the air emissions that would be discharged from the Burrard Thermal Plant and the reasons for the City of Port Moody's Appeal to the Permit.

Municipal Council concurred with the report's recommendations that the Chief Public Health Inspector present a brief to the Provincial Environmental Appeal Board.

B. PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENTAL APPEAL BOARD HEARING:

The Provincial Environmental Appeal Board conducted a Hearing on 1986 March 12, 13 and 14 at which time information was heard from the following appellants; Board of Directors G.V.R.D., City of Port Moody, Corporation of the District of Coquitlam, and private citizen Miss P. Graham.

The Corporation of the District of Burnaby's, Chief Public Health Inspector, acting as a witness to the City of Port Moody, presented the following concerns to the Environmental Appeal Board:

146

- (a) The ability of the existing G.V.R.D. air quality stations to determine levels of air pollution, such as ozone, in the residential areas of Capitol Hill and Burnaby Mountain.
- (b) The use of "Maximum Tolerable Level" as an indicator of unsatisfactory ambient air quality for considering curtailment of emission from the Burrard Thermal Plant.
- (c) Requesting the Environmental Appeal Board to consider the quantity of nitrogen oxides authorized to be admitted to an air basin that has been well documented as being affected by poor air quality conditions.

C. PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENTAL APPEAL BOARD DECISION:

On 1986 June 25, the Provincial Environmental Appeal Board decided that "the issuance of a Permit, with the amendments as listed below, will not cause an unreasonable adverse effect to mankind and/or the environment".

The amendment of major concern was a section which required the District Director of Air Quality Control to curtail emissions from the Burrard Thermal Plant during episodes of poor air quality.

The original requirement of the G.V.R.D. Permit, No. VA330, Section 5, Maintenance of Ambient Air Quality stated:

"If unsatisfactory ambient air quality levels are measured at one or more air quality evaluation stations, the District Director may order the Permittee to curtail the emissions from designated sources consistent with the need to prevent levels of substances measured at these monitoring stations from reaching or exceeding Maximum Tolerable Levels."

The amendment to this section as required by the Provincial Environmental Appeal Board is as follows:

"In the event the air quality level for a Designated Air Contaminant reaches or is predicted to reach a level equal to 50% of the difference between Maximum Acceptable Level and Maximum Tolerable Level for five continuous averaging periods as measured at the air quality evaluation stations, or if, in the opinion of the District Director, the Permittee is materially contributing to unsatisfactory ambient air quality levels (for five continuous averaging periods) as measured at one of more air quality evaluation stations, then the District Director shall order the Permittee to curtail the emissions from designated sources consistent with the need to prevent the levels of air contaminants measured at the monitoring stations from reaching or exceeding Maximum Tolerable Levels."

The amendment by the Environmental Appeal Board requires the G.V.R.D., Director of Pollution Control, to take action to prevent the community air quality from deteriorating up to or past 75 on the air quality index rather than at 100 as was interpreted on the original permit requirement.

In addition, the permit was amended to state that the Director shall rather then may order curtailment of emissions when the air quality index reaches a level or is capable of reaching past 75.

For the information of Council, the G.V.R.D. is currently addressing improvements to the Regional Air Quality Monitoring system. The Environmental Health Division Staff are working in close liaison with the G.V.R.D. Air Quality for the regional monitoring systems located within our Municipality.

B.C. HYDRO, BURRARD THERMAL PLANT
1986 JULY 28 3

ITEM	17
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	46
COUNCIL MEETING	86/08/05

The Provincial Environmental Appeal Board did not alter the quantity of emission authorized by G.V.R.D. Permit No. VA330. The major air emission of concern is the amount of nitrogen oxides emitted into the atmosphere. As stated in our 1986 February 17 report to Council, the amount of nitrogen oxides emitted from the Burrard Thermal Plant, operating at a 65% maximum daily rate, will be three times the total nitrogen oxides emitted from the four Burrard Inlet Oil Refineries. The G.V.R.D. Air Emissions Permit authorizes 44% maximum daily rate in 1986 and 1987, and 67% maximum daily rate in 1988.

A copy of the Judgement of the Provincial Environmental Appeal Board on the G.V.R.D. Air Emissions Permit for the Burrard Thermal Plant is available in the Environmental Health Division Office.

A letter has been forwarded to Mr. R. Bennett requesting that he contact Environmental Health Division Office in order that a complete explanation of the Environmental Appeal Boards Judgement on this matter can be given.

GVH/g1

cc: Director Administrative & Cultural Services
Medical Health Officer

George V. Harvie

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

