

ITEM 3
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 8
COUNCIL MEETING 87/02/02

RE: AIR EMISSION ODOUR COMPLAINTS

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

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

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1987 JANUARY 19
FROM: CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
SUBJECT: AIR EMISSION ODOUR COMPLAINTS

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT copies of this report be sent to:
 - a) Shell Canada Products Limited, 1700 - 750 W. Pender Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6C 2B8;
 - b) Chevron Canada Limited, 1500 - 1050 W. Pender Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6E 2M7;
 - c) Greater Vancouver Regional District, Pollution Control, 4330 Kingsway, Burnaby, B.C., V5H 4G8.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND:

Appearing on the 1986 December 15 Council Agenda was the report "Air Emission Odour Complaints Associated with Trans Mountain Pipe Line Company Limited and Shell Canada, Burnaby Mountain Tank Farms".

Arising out of Council's consideration of the report were questions regarding air quality and refinery operations. The following information is in response to the questions raised by Council.

2.0 QUESTIONS RAISED BY COUNCIL:

2.1 Question A

Do Shell or Chevron refineries store crude oil and if so are the storage tanks double sealed?

Response

The Chevron refinery operation uses three crude oil storage tanks, two single sealed and one double sealed. The Shell refinery operation uses one single sealed storage tank for partially refined crude oil.

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| ITEM | 3 |
| MANAGER'S REPORT NO. | 8 |
| COUNCIL MEETING | 87/02/02 |

Environmental Health Division staff have discussed with G.V.R.D. Officials whether double seals will become a regulatory requirement for crude oil or partially refined crude oil storage tanks located at the Shell and Chevron refineries. The G.V.R.D. is evaluating our concerns at this time and will be further discussing this subject with our staff.

Question B

What rail car product loading activity is taking place at the Shell and Chevron refinery sites?

Response

Both Chevron and Shell refineries have been transferring products at their rail car loading areas since the start-up of their operations. These products include L.P.G., gasoline, propane and diesel. The propane distribution is conducted in a closed system. The remaining products do not have a vapour recovery system. The volume of petroleum product transfer which takes place at the refineries rail car sites represents a very minor portion of their overall transfer activities.

Both the G.V.R.D. and Environmental Health Division staff are not aware of any air quality issues associated with the product transferring at the refinery rail car loading sites.

Question C

What type of air quality testing is taking place at the refineries?

Response

The G.V.R.D., Pollution Control Air Quality Permit for the Shell and Chevron refineries contains requirements for air contaminant testing. This includes stack testing on a quarterly basis for contaminants such as sulphur compounds, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide and particulate matter. The results of these tests are submitted to the G.V.R.D. for their review.

In addition to the stack testing, the refineries have recently been required by the G.V.R.D. to submit quarterly reports containing process data which is used to calculate air contaminant emissions.

The G.V.R.D. Pollution Control staff conduct their own stack testing at the refineries at a minimum frequency of twice a year.

Comment

The Community Ambient Air Quality program that will be conducted at the Forest Hills subdivision will provide data on pollutants which are associated with the Petroleum Industry. The monitoring will be conducted in a similar method and manner as at the G.V.R.D. Community Air Stations, (Confederation and Kensington Parks).

The special monitoring to determine possible health concerns during crude oil episodes within the Forest Hills subdivision has not been previously conducted within this Municipality. The results of this study will determine possible health concerns within the Forest Hills subdivision and also tell us whether a similar study should be conducted at other residential areas in close proximity to Petroleum Industry operations. It is anticipated the conclusions from the study will be available by the end of this year.

AIR EMISSION ODOUR COMPLAINTS
1987 JANUARY 19

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3.0 UPDATE INFORMATION ON G.V.R.D. AIR QUALITY PERMIT,
SHELL CANADA LIMITED BURNABY MOUNTAIN TANK FARM:

The G.V.R.D., Pollution Control have issued a one-year operating permit for the Shell Canada Products Ltd., Burnaby Mountain Tank Farm. In summary, the requirements of the permit are "that by 1987 September 30, only tanks with double seals are to be used for storage of crude oil or partially refined crude oil".

Currently Shell Canada is storing their partially refined crude oil in Tank 803 which had a double seal installed in 1986. The G.V.R.D. permit requires Shell Canada to upgrade Tank 801, (currently used for standby only) to a double seal by 1987 September 30.

Staff from this Division will monitor Shell Canada's progress in meeting the requirements of the G.V.R.D. Burnaby Mountain Tank Farm Permit.

If Council requires more specific information, copies of the G.V.R.D. Air Quality Permits for Shell Canada Products Ltd. and Chevron Canada Ltd., Burnaby refineries, are available in the Environmental Health Division.

Should the public have concerns regarding odours or other air quality issues associated with this Municipality's refinery operations, assistance is available from:

G.V.R.D., Pollution Control 432-6420
Burnaby Environmental Health Division 294-7390

George U. Harvie

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

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cc: Medical Health Officer
Director Administrative &
Community Services

