

ITEM	6
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	58
COUNCIL MEETING	94/10/17

TO: CITY MANAGER 1994 October 12

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

SUBJECT: BOUNDARY ROAD TRANSMISSION LINE

PURPOSE: To obtain Council authorization for staff to proceed with a joint application with the City of Vancouver to the British Columbia Utilities Commission for the undergrounding of the Boundary Road transmission line.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council undertake a joint application with the City of Vancouver to the British Columbia Utilities Commission requesting that BC Hydro underground the transmission line on Boundary Road at BC Hydro's expense.
2. THAT a copy of this report be sent to the Vancouver City Council.

REPORT

In response to requests from citizens concerning the existing overhead transmission line on Boundary Road, Burnaby Council has, together with the City of Vancouver, been active over a number of years in pursuing efforts to have BC Hydro underground the line.

These joint efforts have been unsuccessful in obtaining any commitment from BC Hydro. The Minister responsible for BC Hydro has advised that the appropriate forum for determining the merits of the case for undergrounding the line would be through the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC). The Commission has the authority under provincial legislation to require BC Hydro to underground the line.

City Manager
BOUNDARY ROAD TRANSMISSION LINE
1994 OCTOBER 12 - PAGE 2

ITEM	6
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	58
COUNCIL MEETING	94/10/17

To this end, Vancouver City Council has resolved to request the BCUC to undertake a public inquiry. Burnaby Council, at its regular Meeting 1993 November 29, adopted the following motion:


"That Council support the City of Vancouver's request that the B.C. Utilities Commission undertake a public inquiry in response to the request that BC Hydro underground the transmission line on Boundary Road at its own cost".

Subsequently staff from the City of Vancouver have prepared a draft application for submission to the BCUC and have requested that Burnaby outline the way in which we wish to participate in the BCUC process in order to support the application.

In view of Council's past initiatives and strong support for undergrounding this line, it is recommended that the City of Burnaby submit a joint application with the City of Vancouver to the BCUC requesting that BC Hydro underground the Boundary Road transmission line at BC Hydro's cost.

Upon Council adoption of this recommendation staff will work with the City of Vancouver to prepare a suitable application to the BCUC, and if a public inquiry is subsequently initiated, will work to prepare a joint submission for presentation at the inquiry.

Regarding costs to the City of Burnaby, it is our understanding from discussions with BCUC staff that costs to the participants in the inquiry process would be relatively modest. A future report to Council will outline funding requirements for consideration should this become necessary.


D. G. STENSON
DIRECTOR
PLANNING AND BUILDING

116

KR/lf

cc: Director Engineering
Chief Environmental Health Officer
City Solicitor
Medical Health Officer
Director Administrative and Community Services