

TO: CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2002 03 06
FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING **FILE:** 10-02-01
SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO B.C. CONTAMINATED SITES REGULATION
PURPOSE: To provide comments on the amendments to B.C. Contaminated Sites Regulation.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council receive this report for information.
2. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Environment and Waste Management Committee for information.

R E P O R T

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Council, at its regular meeting on March 04, 2002, received a correspondence from UBCM which provided information on the recent amendments to the B.C. Contaminated Sites Regulation. Arising from the consideration of the correspondence, staff were requested to prepare a report on the subject matter. The following report comments on amendments to the B.C. Contaminated Sites Regulation.

2.0 AMENDMENTS TO B.C. CONTAMINATED SITES REGULATION

On February 04, 2002, the provincial cabinet approved the Stage 2 amendments to the Contaminated Sites Regulation. In summary, the key amendments which are of particular interest to the City relate to:

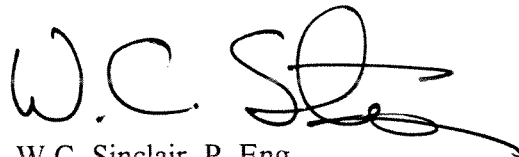
- ▶ Requiring the owners of contaminated sites to notify their neighbours if contamination is migrating onto their neighbours' property. This will prevent adjacent landowner being left unaware of contamination. The notification of migration is required for site investigations and independent remediation underway on or after February 04, 2002 but not before that date.

- ▶ Changes made to the Site Profile form which relate to specific wording, inclusion of additional commercial operations under Schedule 2 of the form and a new question regarding off-site migration of contaminants. In addition, the fee for submitting a site profile to an approving officer or municipality has increased from \$50 to \$100. Site Profile is no longer required to be submitted to the municipality at the time buildings are demolished if the demolition does not involve the disturbance or excavation of soil other than that incidental to the demolition.
- ▶ Expansion of the circumstances under which a municipality is exempt from providing a site profile when it zones or re-zones its own land. The situations could now include where a municipality does not intend to develop a parcel or parcels of land that it owns within the area being zoned or re-zoned for some time. This exemption applies only if the municipality at the time it undertakes to zone or re-zone the land commits in writing to the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection that it will submit a site profile at the time of development of the land.

Staff have participated during the amendment review process and support the above changes to the Contaminated Sites Regulation.

3.0 CONCLUSION

Recent amendments to the B.C. Contaminated Sites Regulation are supported by staff. Specifically, the neighbour notification requirement by owners of contaminated sites in an event of off-site migration will prevent adjoining property owners from being left unaware of contamination on their property.



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DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

DD:

cc: Director Planning and Building
Chief Building Inspector