

**TO:** CITY MANAGER

**DATE:** 2004 09 20

**FROM:** DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

**FILE:** 33200-10

**SUBJECT: CHEVRON CANADA REFINERY - ODOUR INCIDENT**

**PURPOSE:** To provide Council with information on the odour incident at Chevron Canada Refinery between September 10-12, 2004.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** this report be received for information purposes.

**R E P O R T**

At the regular Council Meeting on September 13, 2004, Council requested staff to provide information regarding an odour incident at Chevron Canada Refinery. The following report outlines the source of the odours at Chevron Canada Refinery and action taken by the GVRD.

The first calls regarding gasoline like odours began to be received by Chevron Canada Refinery staff and the GVRD during the late evening on Friday, September 10, 2004. GVRD staff contacted Chevron Shift Supervisor and initiated discussions to determine the source of the odours. Chevron staff, while reviewing their operations, also visited the area where the complaints were originating from to further identify the odours.

On Saturday, September 11, 2004, inspection by the GVRD and Chevron staff identified the source of the odours to be from Tank #1003, a floating roof intermediate feedstock storage tank located in Area 2 (see Attachment #1). The cause of the odour was determined to be an obstructed floating roof water drain line. As a result of the obstruction, some liquid feedstock in the tank had been displaced onto the roof, resulting in the generation of odours. A temporary odour suppression system was put in place and activated to reduce the odours while remedial work continued.

On Sunday, September 12, 2004, the obstruction was cleared and the accumulated material was removed from the floating roof tank. Remedial actions being taken by Chevron to prevent future recurrence of such events include: 1) a review of the mechanical design of the existing roof vents; 2) increase the frequency of routine tank roof inspections particularly during periods of heavy precipitation; 3) updating Chevron's internal odour control document; and 4) review internal callout protocols associated with Level Two Notification events.

For Council's information, the GVRD received a total of 26 calls from the residents during this period of September 10-12, 2004. The City, as per agreed protocol set by the GVRD, had received a regular update from the GVRD on actions being taken at the site. The City received three calls regarding this incident.

At the time of preparing this report, the GVRD District Director was in a process of preparing a letter to Chevron Canada regarding the incident. Staff will monitor the implementation of proposed actions by Chevron to prevent recurrence of such an event in future.

This is for Council's information.

  
W.C. Sinclair, P. Eng.  
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

DD:dh  
Attachment

cc: Fire Chief



