



VILLAGE OF BELCARRA

"Between Forest and Sea"

4084 BEDWELL BAY ROAD, BELCARRA, B.C. V3H 4P8

TELEPHONE 604-937-4100 FAX 604-939-5034

belcarra@belcarra.ca • www.belcarra.ca



October 31, 2013.

Kinder Morgan Canada
2844 Bainbridge Avenue
P.O. Box 84028
Burnaby, BC, V5A 4T9

Attention: Michael Davies, Director, Marine Development

Dear Mr. Davies,

Re: Post-Mortem on the 2007 Oil Spill Response

This has reference to [KMC's October 20th response](#) to Belcarra's [July 29th letter](#) regarding the post-mortem review by [Kinder Morgan Canada](#) (KMC) on the response by [Western Canada Marine Response Corporation](#) (WCMRC) to the 2007 oil spill into Burrard Inlet. While we appreciate KMC's answers to some of the questions that were posed, there are a number of questions and issues that have not been addressed by KMC.

KMC's Post-Mortem

Although KMC undertook its own post-mortem review following the 2007 oil spill, KMC still has not publicly disclosed its review of the incident. Your letter references some outcomes from the review, but does not discuss the problems and issues encountered during the oil spill response or identify the lessons learned from the incident. Trust is founded on transparency and open information sharing, and by openly addressing the problems and issues encountered during the 2007 oil spill, KMC can help build trust with its neighbouring communities.

WCMRC Response

We continue to have questions regarding the WCMRC response to the 2007 oil spill. Although WCMRC is located immediately adjacent to the Westridge Marine Terminal (WMT), it took WCMRC an exceptionally long time to get its vessels on the water and respond to the spill. On the day of the oil spill Rod MacVicar received a telephone call at approximately 1330 hours from the supervisor of the 'Open Water Sea Lion Project' located just east of the Barnet Beach, who reported that an oil spill was potentially endangering the research station. Rod drove from his home to the research station, boarded their research vessel along with technicians from the facility and proceeded to the scene of the oil spill. By that time it was almost 1500 hours, and they were first on scene. It is our understanding that WCMRC was not on the scene because the road was closed and the WCMRC crews could not get to the response vessels. Has WCMRC implemented appropriate emergency response protocols to prevent such a reoccurrence?

WCMRC says it can respond to oil spills within the Burrard Inlet harbour in six hours — the duration of a full tidal cycle — which is an unacceptably long response time. There is something wrong with the emergency response plan if WCMRC vessels cannot respond to oil spills in Burrard Inlet within one hour of a spill being reported. Rod MacVicar was on scene in less than an hour and he was not the first to know about the oil spill. How can KMC suggest that the WCMRC response to the 2007 oil spill was either timely or adequate when the WCMRC response was not assessed by an independent third party?

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Oil Containment Booms

The oil spill containment booms used by WCMRC did not fully contain the spilled oil in 2007, and Rod MacVicar and others have photographs of gaps in the booms and escaping oil. The oil containment booms also were inadequate in sealing spills on the rocky tidal shore, another issue that we have previously raised that neither KMC nor WCMRC have acknowledged or addressed. The summer weather, daylight conditions and proximity to WCMRC response vessels during the 2007 oil spill incident could not have been any better for a spill response, yet there was a considerable amount of unrecovered fugitive oil that contaminated the beaches of Burrard Inlet. We are still waiting for assurances that KMC and WCMRC will utilize the “best available technology” for all oil containment booms used both at the WMT facility and for any oil spill response in Burrard Inlet.

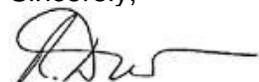
Incident Command

It is our understanding that KMC brought-in a consultant from the USA to handle the oil spill response and provide needed expertise that KMC did not have available “in-house”. While expertise in “Incident Command” is important, it is equally important to have expert knowledge of the Burrard Inlet locale and the roles of the regional emergency response agencies. Does KMC plan to develop its own expertise for oil spill incident command, or will KMC continue to rely on outside consultants?

It is also our understanding that after the first day of the oil spill, all direction of spill response was assumed by KMC and its consultant. What were the roles of KMC, WCMRC and the Canadian Coast Guard during the 2007 oil spill incident? Who had responsibility for directing the WCMRC response, and ensuring that clean-up measures were comprehensive and adequate? Were the oil spill response measures undertaken on Burrard Inlet during the first week assessed by an independent third party, and is there a report of the assessment?

As always, Kinder Morgan’s fullsome response to the foregoing would be appreciated by all of the communities located around Burrard Inlet.

Sincerely,



Ralph Drew, Mayor
Village of Belcarra

RED/

cc: Ian Anderson, President, Kinder Morgan Canada
Greg Toth, Senior Project Director, TMEP, Kinder Morgan Canada
Lexa Hobenshield, Manager, External Relations, Kinder Morgan Canada
Kevin Gardner, President, WCMRC
Robin Silvester, President and CEO, Port Metro Vancouver
Darrell Desjardin, Director, Sustainable Development, Port Metro Vancouver
Laura Strand, Manager, Aboriginal Affairs, Port Metro Vancouver
Naomi Horsford, Manager, Community Affairs, Port Metro Vancouver
Environment and Parks Committee, Metro Vancouver
Burrard Inlet Mayors and Councils