



CITY OF BURNABY
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
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For Immediate Release

Burnaby Fire Department Releases Comprehensive Risk Analysis that Demonstrates Proposed Burnaby Tank Farm would Dramatically increase Risk to Public Safety and Environment

To ensure the National Energy Board has access to detailed, expert information on the significant potential public and environmental dangers associated with Kinder Morgan's proposed expansion of the Burnaby Mountain Tank Farm, the Burnaby Fire Department has prepared a [comprehensive risk assessment](#) that analyzes the fire and safety risks, hazard events and consequences associated with the proposed project.

"This report is comprehensive and jarring," says Mayor Derek Corrigan. "It is remarkable that Kinder Morgan is even asking the citizens of Burnaby to assume such risks, but even moreso that the National Energy Board is willing to consider expanding this storage site in this location – on a hillside near thousands of residents and a busy university, and adjacent to an urban conservation area.

"Not only is the National Energy Board considering this request from Kinder Morgan, but they continue to tell Burnaby and other intervenors that the vast majority of our questions regarding tank farm safety can be answered after the Board decides whether or not to approve the project. This report clearly demonstrates that questions about the safety of this proposed tank farm expansion should be answered prior to any decisions being made by the NEB and that the Board should consider this an essential priority."

The report's many significant conclusions include that:

- the Burnaby Mountain Terminal is not the appropriate location for the expansion and poses significant constraints from an emergency/fire response perspective, including:
 - Safety of firefighters;
 - Effectiveness to combat fire and contain it;
 - Evacuation of adjacent neighbourhoods and protection of adjacent properties
- the proposal increases the risk associated with a multiple tank fire event due to the reduction in space between storage tanks. Fires occurring in the tank farm would have greater risk of spreading and the potential to be more severe in magnitude.

- the reduced distance will increase the priority of evacuation operations needed to be conducted simultaneous with fire-fighting.
- the project would increase the impacts associated with the risks of crude oil loss of containment or fire across all potential events types due to the increased proximity to residential population densities, highly susceptible conservation forest areas and downhill or downwind sensitivities
- the configuration of the tank farm on a hillside on such a tight footprint means that emergency responders would likely be forced to allow the tank fire to burn out while adjacent tanks are protected
- emergency responders would be forced to significantly risk their personal safety in order to overcome the design inadequacies of the facility
- a tank fire boil-over would result in large area life hazard and a tank fire burnout would require an emergency activation of provincial scale
- the project would create elevated risk and consequences of risk occurring to the community, including exposing the community to additional hazards:
 - The consequences of a seismic event are increased due to the location of a facility elevated immediately above residential communities
 - The potential for highly toxic hydrogen sulfide emissions would expose residential areas to conditions that are immediately dangerous to life
 - There would be greater potential for citizen exposure within the adjacent communities to the hazardous effects of flammable gas outfalls and sulphur-based gases
 - The expansion would reduce the heat-source distance to wildland impact and potential wildfire exposure of the Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area by 66%
- The proposed tank farm would present a significantly larger fire control risk than the existing facility. The risk of community impacts outside of the facility from a tank farm fire event are increased by 70%

Background: As part of its application to the National Energy Board to build a new pipeline between Alberta's tar sands and Burnaby, for shipment of bitumen to markets outside of Canada, Kinder Morgan proposes to expand the Burnaby Mountain tank farm terminal to: triple the amount of storage on the existing site to 5.6 million barrels; add 14 new, larger tanks (one of which is a replacement); keep the remaining 12 tanks; and to store and ship heavy crude petroleum products containing diluted bitumen.

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For additional information, contact:
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Click [here](#) for key illustrative graphics and descriptions extracted from the [report](#). Additional information regarding all graphics is contained within the report.