

From: [Lo, Reamick ENV:EX](#)
To: [Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX](#)
Cc: [Maitland, Julie LASS:EX](#)
Subject: RE: CN derailment in South Hazelton
Date: March 9, 2018 9:40:52 AM

Hi Tristan,

Here's our response:

- ENV and the Environment Canada were onsite Feb 28th assessing any potential leaching/runoff issues from coal stockpile with no major concerns identified during the site visit.
- More recent sampling, since the small melt period from last week, are expected next week and will provide clarity on any contamination from the coal stockpile. No issues are anticipated based on past sampling results.
- As of March 5th, 64 rail cars have been fully or partially loaded with approximately 75% of the coal stockpile removed. The CN track machine broke down March 5th, with remaining coal being removed once a repair is in place.
- Confirmatory soil samples will be taken once all coal has been removed from site to ensure there is no further risk of and any contamination.
 - BC MOE has issued a recovery order which will help identify long term actions (including restoration, impact assessment and monitoring of the recovery as well as mandatory consultation and communities).
 - MOE has requested that CN organize an in person meeting with all interested partners/stakeholders to discuss mid and longer term restoration and monitoring activities. Awaiting reply from CN to confirm date.

Thanks again.

Warmly,

Reamick Lo

Executive Assistant to the **Honourable George Heyman**
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
P: 250-812-8642

From: Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 3:31 PM
To: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX
Cc: Maitland, Julie LASS:EX
Subject: FW: CN derailment in South Hazelton

Hi Reamick,

What tools does the government have to ensure that CN is held accountable for this situation?

Thanks,

Tristan

From: Maitland, Julie [<mailto:Julie.Maitland@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 2:45 PM
To: Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX
Subject: FW: CN derailment in South Hazelton
From: s.22
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2018 2:00 PM
To: Donaldson.MLA, Doug <Doug.Donaldson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: CN derailment in South Hazelton
Hi Doug,

I am writing because I'm very concerned about the impact of the spill caused by the derailment of CN coal cars in South Hazelton. CN's attitude regarding the full and timely clean up of the site, as well as their seeming lack of commitment to adequately monitor the future environmental impact of the spill is troubling. s.22 I

feel that I need to make my concerns clear to you.

s.22 worked successfully s.22 to re-establish Coho salmon stocks from near depletion in the Mission Creek watershed. These efforts, which have entailed thousands of hours of volunteer work over the years, are in jeopardy due to the damage created by the recent CN coal spill. A significant amount of coal was flushed into the Mission Creek watershed, and water sampling has indicated that levels of iron, aluminum, manganese, cobalt and fluoride (among others) are nearing or exceeding established safe levels. The impact that these substances could have on the existing and future habitat and ecology of Mission Creek needs to be effectively monitored. CN should be accountable to all of the stakeholders in the Mission Creek watershed, and s.22 has a significant and valid interest which I feel is being ignored or downplayed by CN. I also feel that there is a reluctance for CN to fully accept responsibility for the remediation and long term monitoring of the damage caused by this spill. While the remediation work to date has involved getting the coal out of the creek at the spill site and stabilizing the bank on the east side of the track, a large stockpile of recovered coal still remains on the west side awaiting clean-up. This stockpile is open to the weather, and the heavy snowfall in the area this winter is starting to melt. Runoff from the stockpile remains a threat to the Mission Creek ecosystem, and yet CN is unable to provide us with an estimate for the timely cleanup of this mess. Potential damage to this habitat will only increase each day that this stockpile remains where it is, open to erosion, and leaching into the environment.

I am asking that you, both as my MLA and as the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, do whatever is required to hold CN accountable for the immediate clean up of this spill. Also, we ask that CN be compelled to inform all stakeholders s.22

s.22 of decisions regarding the clean up and remediation of the damage that has been caused, and that CN is required to ensure that adequate future environmental monitoring of the watershed is put into place.

Time is of the essence in this situation, and I would appreciate a response as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this. I am available to discuss this matter via telephone s.22, or a teleconference s.22 could be arranged, or even a face to face meeting

if that would be feasible.

Sincerely,

s.22

From: [Lo, Reamick ENV:EX](#)
To: [Routley,MLA, Douglas G LASS:EX](#)
Subject: Re: Drumbeg Provincial Park
Date: March 16, 2018 10:32:28 AM
Attachments: [Drumbeg Letter.docx](#)

Dear Constituency Assistants,

Attached is a letter from your constituent [s.22](#) with regard to Drumbeg Provincial Park and Minister Heyman is copied in the letter. ENV is providing the following bullets for your reference:

- Drumbeg Provincial Park, together with Gabriola Sands Provincial Park and Sandwell Provincial Park, is one of three Provincial Parks that BC Parks manages on Gabriola Island.
- The 1987 Master Plan for Drumbeg Provincial Park, referred to by [s.22](#), does in fact reference the presence of scotch broom and the recommendation for removal of this invasive plant. While the Master Plan is over 30 years old, BC Parks believes it provides adequate management direction until such time that development of a new management plan is possible.
- BC Parks is very appreciative of the efforts made by [s.22](#), members of the local community and the Gabriola Land and Trails Trust (GaLTT) in past and current efforts with controlling and removal of scotch broom from within the park. BC Parks has supported the volunteer efforts in the past with tools and advice. Additionally, BC Parks is currently developing a volunteer agreement with GaLTT to ensure the efforts to control scotch broom are maintained with the support of BC Parks.
- [s.22](#) has expressed concerns with public safety due to a fallen ("snagged") tree within the park. BC Parks staff have investigated this situation and determined that the "trail" on which the fallen tree is located is not a trail that has been sanctioned by BC Parks. The trail in question appears to be a "social trail" that was created over time through use by some members of the public however it was never developed nor sanctioned by BC Parks as a designated park trail. BC Parks is careful to ensure that we do not sanction trails in protected areas that were created through random use or convenience as this can result in undesirable impacts to park values and financial pressures related to ongoing maintenance. While public safety is always paramount, there are many locations within protected areas that are left in a natural state, for natural processes to occur, in an effort to maintain the natural and cultural values. The area covered by the tree in question is forested and the tree does not pose a hazard to visitors who are walking within the designated trails in the park.
- BC Parks agrees that the signs that were initially installed in the area of the unauthorized trail being referenced in [s.22](#) letter could be perceived as misleading. Since the date of the letter, BC Parks has replaced the signs with new information that identifies the area covered by the trail as an area that is being left in a natural state to allow for natural processes to occur, avoiding the soil compaction and damage to native vegetation that would otherwise occur. We hope the public will understand this message.
- BC Parks funds the ongoing, routine operation and maintenance of the park, which includes the maintenance of designated park trails, through a Park Operator Agreement (POA) held by RLC Park Services. The maintenance of unsanctioned trails, such as the "trail" in question, is not a contractual requirement of our Park Operator. The current POA held by RLC Park Services is under a ten year term, with an expiry date of October 31, 2026. RLC Park Services is meeting

the terms and conditions of the POA and there are no plans to terminate this contract prior to that expiration date. The facility maintenance standards required of RLC Park Services in Drumbeg Provincial Park matches the provincial standards applied throughout the provincial park system.

Thanks.

Warmly,

Reamick Lo

Executive Assistant to the **Honourable George Heyman**

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

P: 250-812-8642

From: s.22

Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2018 1:04 PM

To: Routley.MLA, Douglas G LASS:EX

Cc: Anne Landry; Derek Kilbourn; Minister, ENV ENV:EX

Subject: Drumbeg Provincial Park

Dear Doug,

Please see the attached letter.

Regards,

s.22

From: [Larson.MLA, Linda LASS:EX](#)
To: [Lo, Reamick ENV:EX](#)
Subject: RE: BC Conservation Officers
Date: March 16, 2018 3:17:39 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Reamick,

Thank you so much for the speedy turn around (as always). I hope you have an awesome weekend!
Cheers,



Colleen Misner

Senior Constituency Assistant
on behalf of Linda Larson, MLA
Boundary-Similkameen
6369 Main Street, PO Box 998
Oliver, British Columbia V0H 1T0
Office: (250) 498-5122 Toll Free : 1 (855) 498-5122
E-mail: Linda.Larson.MLA@leg.bc.ca

From: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX [<mailto:Reamick.Lo@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 2:43 PM

To: Larson.MLA, Linda

Subject: RE: BC Conservation Officers

Hi Colleen,

Here's our response:

• **There are over 69,000 law enforcement officers in Canada, and only 150 of them can be B.C. Conservation Officers.**

- We are unaware of where the above information was found, however, we can confirm that it is incorrect.
- The BC Conservation Officer Service (COS) is comprised of 160 sworn Conservation Officers (CO's).
- There is no limit set for Conservation Officers in British Columbia.
 - The number of officers is based upon salary funding allocation for CO positions and infrastructure required to support these positions.

• **Why is it that only 150 can be Conservation Officers?**

- This statement is incorrect.
- The amount of officers in the COS is based upon funding allocation in support of the positions and infrastructure required to support these positions.

• **Is there a law written up to restrict the number of members who work as BC Conservation Officers, and if so could you tell me what that law is?**

- No. The numbers of Conservation Officers in BC is not restricted. Please see above for further explanation.

• **I believe we need more field CO's to monitor and protect BC's resources and want to encourage the hiring of 50 more personnel.**

- While we appreciate the sentiments of the writer, the number of sworn Conservation Officers in British Columbia is based upon the budget set out each year for the Ministry of Environment and further allocated to the BC COS.
- For the new fiscal year, the BC COS has received a budget increase to support recruitment of 12 officers to bring the total count of sworn officers to 160.

Thanks so much again.

Warmly,

Reamick Lo

Executive Assistant to the **Honourable George Heyman**

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

P: 250-812-8642

From: Larson.MLA, Linda [<mailto:Linda.Larson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 7:34 PM

To: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX

Subject: Re: BC Conservation Officers

Thanks very much!

Colleen Misner,
from my mobile office.

On Mar 12, 2018, at 12:39 PM, Lo, Reamick ENV:EX <Reamick.Lo@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Colleen,

Thanks for your inquiry. I'm looking into it and will keep you posted.

Warmly,

Reamick Lo

Executive Assistant to the **Honourable George Heyman**

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

P: 250-812-8642

From: Larson.MLA, Linda [<mailto:Linda.Larson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 12:13 PM

To: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX

Subject: FW: BC Conservation Officers

Hi Reamick,

I hope this email finds you well.

Please see the below email from a constituent who has some questions about the number of CO's in the Province of BC. I am hoping you can help us answer this one. I have highlighted his concerns.

Thanks,

Colleen Misner

Senior Constituency Assistant

on behalf of Linda Larson, MLA

Boundary-Similkameen

6369 Main Street, PO Box 998

Oliver, British Columbia V0H 1T0

Office: (250) 498-5122 Toll Free : 1 (855) 498-5122

E-mail: Linda.Larson.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Hi Rick,

Thanks for taking the time to write.

Conservation Officers fall under the Ministry of Environment so I am sending your email to them for

an answer to your questions.
Hopefully we will get a response in short order.
Thanks,

Colleen Misner
Senior Constituency Assistant
on behalf of Linda Larson, MLA
Boundary-Similkameen
6369 Main Street, PO Box 998
Oliver, British Columbia V0H 1T0
Office: (250) 498-5122 Toll Free : 1 (855) 498-5122
E-mail: Linda.Larson.MLA@leg.bc.ca

From: s.22

Sent: Friday, March 9, 2018 4:58 PM

To: Larson.MLA, Linda <Linda.Larson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: BC Conservation Officers

Hi Linda,

I am doing some research about the BCCOS and noticed this excerpt in the web write up that got me wondering.

I will paste the phrase from the web for you to read and then maybe you could help answer my question on it.

"

How to Become a B.C. Conservation Officer

A B.C. Conservation Officer's job is diverse and demanding. As the front lines of environmental law enforcement in British Columbia, a tremendous amount of responsibility and trust is invested in each member of the Conservation Officer Service (COS).

There are over 69,000 law enforcement officers in Canada, and only 150 of them can be B.C. Conservation Officers."

Can you tell me, or find out for me, Why is it that only 150 can be Conservation Officers? Is there a law written up to restrict the number of members who work as BC Conservation Officers, and if so could you tell me what that law is?

I believe there are 148 CO's in BC at the present time. I believe we need more field CO's to monitor and protect BC's resources and want to encourage the hiring of 50 more personnel. I have a funding model worked out to provide the salary dollars required for the positions and am currently gathering survey data from the residents who would be in favor of the plan.

If you can assist me on this issue, I would be most grateful. I look forward to your response at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely

s.22

From: [Lo, Reamick ENV:EX](#)
To: [Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX](#)
Cc: [Forslund, Nicole LASS:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Recycle BC
Date: March 16, 2018 3:59:04 PM

Hi Tristan,

Here's our response:

- The Recycling Regulation requires that Recycle BC (the stewardship agency for producers of packaging and paper products) provide adequate public access to recycling services across British Columbia, and although this has largely been accomplished with curbside, multi-family and more than 200 depot services now in place, contractual disputes may result in a suspension of services in an area where there is no immediate alternative depot operator available.
- While the Ministry does not prescribe which facilities Recycle BC will contract with, or the contractual terms and conditions to which operators are held accountable, we are looking to Recycle BC to reconcile this service level with its stewardship plan obligations.
- In the meantime, Ministry staff and Recycle BC have a good working relationship with Board members responsible for the Bulkley Valley Bottle Depot and it is expected operational concerns can be resolved going forward. This has been the case with the small handful of other depot operators across BC that have been involved in contractual disputes with Recycle BC.
- It is in the interests of all parties to see this issue resolved as soon as possible in order for residents to continue diverting as much recyclable material as conveniently as possible.

Warmly,

Reamick Lo

Executive Assistant to the **Honourable George Heyman**

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

P: 250-812-8642

From: Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 12:26 PM
To: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX
Subject: FW: Recycle BC

Hi Reamick,

I understand that Recycle BC falls under your Ministry. Can you assist with some answers? There was an article in the local newspaper yesterday, and we have had several concerned resident looking for some clarity regarding Recycle BC's decision not to renew the contract.

Thanks,

Tristan

From: Forslund, Nicole [<mailto:Nicole.Forslund@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 12:04 PM
To: Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX
Subject: Recycle BC

Hi Tristan,

Request for information regarding: Recycle BC terminating contract with Bulkley Valley Bottle Depot. They have been told that Recycle BC has not been transparent as to why the contract is not being renewed and are worried about rural recycling options into the future.

Nicole

From: [Lo, Reamick ENV:EX](#)
To: [Fogg, Bruce PREM:EX](#)
Subject: RE: BULLET POINTS - LJF CONSTIT -- bitumen
Date: March 20, 2018 12:02:36 PM

Bruce,
Here's an update:

There are currently two proposed oil refineries being proposed in the Kitimat/Terrace area, the Pacific Future Energy Refinery Project and the Kitimat Clean Refinery Project. They are approximately 15km away in proximity to each other.

Pacific Future Energy Refinery Project <https://projects.eao.gov.bc.ca/p/pacific-future-energy-refinery/detail>:

- Pacific Future Energy Corporation (PFEC) proposes to build and operate the Pacific Future Energy Refinery Project (PFER), an oil refinery and associated infrastructure to supply diesel, gasoline and kerosene (jet fuel) to domestic and international markets.
- On October 7, 2016, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change referred the PFER Environmental Assessment (EA) to a Federal Review Panel.
- The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) issued final Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines (EISg) to PFEC on December 12, 2016.
- On April 5, 2017, the provincial Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy issued a section 14 Order directing that the EA be conducted by a joint review panel with Canada. The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) and CEAA are awaiting a revised and updated project description for the project from the proponent. Once this is received the EAO and CEAA will develop the scope, procedures and methods for the joint review panel.
- Since spring 2017, there has been no correspondence from the proponent to the EAO.
- There is no current timeline for completion of the Pacific Future Energy Refinery EA.

Kitimat Clean Refinery Project <https://projects.eao.gov.bc.ca/p/kitimat-clean-refinery/detail>:

- The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) issued a Section 10 Order to Kitimat Clean Ltd. (Proponent) for the Kitimat Clean Refinery Project (KCR) on May 19, 2016, commencing the provincial environmental assessment (EA).
- On September 9, 2016, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) announced that the KCR application will be referred to an independent panel review process.
- On October 2, 2016, Kitimat Clean Ltd. requested a temporary suspension of the federal EA to provide time to secure additional project investors. Although CEAA does not have a mechanism to suspend the EA, the Proponent's lack of response to Federal information requests issued in September achieved a de facto suspension.
- As a result of the proponent requesting that the process be temporarily suspended, there has not been a legal determination from the provincial Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy regarding the conduct by a joint review panel with Canada (i.e. issuance of a section 14 Order). Once this is issued, the EAO and CEAA will develop the scope, procedures and methods for the joint review panel.
- Since fall 2016, there has been no correspondence from the Proponent to the EAO.
- There is no current timeline for completion of the KCR EA.

Warmly,

Reamick Lo
Executive Assistant to the Honourable George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
P: 250-812-8642

-----Original Message-----

From: Fogg, Bruce PREM:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 3:09 PM
To: Ranjan, Ramesh JTT:EX; Hill, Robert EMPR:EX; Lo, Reamick ENV:EX
Cc: Frederiksen, Hans LASS:EX; Mitchell-Starkey, Maureen LASS:EX

Subject: FW: BULLET POINTS - LJF CONSTIT -- bitumen

Hi friends. I'm using the scattergun approach here....not sure which Ministry might be able to provide me a couple of bullets on the Black refinery issue.

Can one of you find a couple and send them along?

Please and thanks and best

Bruce Fogg
Executive Assistant (Constituency)
Premier John Horgan, MLA
Langford-Juan de Fuca
250-391-2801
c) 250-208-2179

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2018 6:15 PM

To: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: bitumen

Mr. Horgan, can you explain to me why Mr. Black , who has financing in place and has offered for some time , is not building a refinery in BC so that the bitumen from Alberta can be refined before it is shipped. I have no objection to twinning the pipeline but I , as many others in BC , have severe concerns about bitumen being shipped in our pristine coastal waters . Why have we not embraced his offer —???

Sincerely, s.22 (P.S. I am a long standing NDP supporter)

s.22

s.22 : and am so frustrated by the political “ push me , pull you “ going on . I know economically and for employment opportunities we need to embrace this pipeline . I look forward to your response.

s.22

From: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX
To: Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX
Subject: Centerm expansion project
Date: March 22, 2018 12:40:16 PM

Hi Brenda,

Here's an update for you with respect to your inquiry:

Centerm Expansion Project <https://www.portvancouver.com/development-and-permits/status-of-applications/centerm-expansion-project/>

- The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA) is proposing a series of improvements to the Centerm container terminal and port roads. The proposed Centerm Expansion Project (Centerm) would increase the maximum container handling capacity by two-thirds, from 900,000 twenty-foot equivalent unit containers (TEUs) to 1.5 million TEUs.
- The VPFA's Project and Environmental Review (PER) process for Centerm will assess project impacts and propose mitigations to reduce or avoid adverse project effects.
- If that process concludes that the project is not likely to cause significant adverse effects, then the project may proceed from a federal perspective. If, on the other hand, the project is likely to cause significant adverse effects, it will be referred to the Federal Cabinet to decide whether those effects are justified in the circumstances.
- Centerm is entirely on federal lands, and in light of the PER process underway, the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) will let the VFPA process continue to completion before determining if Centerm triggers a provincial EA.
- The Strathcona Residents' Association has raised concerns regarding the impacts of Centerm and the PER process, in particular, related to noise effects, visual impacts, and the potential for increased safety risks posed by rail and truck traffic.
- The EAO has been in communication with the Strathcona Residents' Association regarding the proposed Centerm Project.
- The EAO continues to be engaged with the VFPA regarding Centerm and monitors its progress through the PER process.
- After the PER process has concluded, the EAO will evaluate the report and undertake consultations with Indigenous groups and potentially the public. Whether to conduct an environmental assessment or grant an exemption will largely depend on if the project is assessed to have significant adverse effects. Consistent with the EAO's guidance for exemptions, the results of the PER process can be taken into account in making that determination.

Hope this helps.

Warmly,

Reamick Lo

Executive Assistant to the **Honourable George Heyman**

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

P: 250-812-8642

From: Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX

Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 2:14 PM

To: Frampton, Caelie ENV:EX

Cc: Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX

Subject: Centerm expansion project

Hi Caelie,

I hope you're doing well. Please take a look at the attached. Minister Simpson met with some constituents last Friday and they brought up these concerns. He's asked me to send it to Minister Heyman's staff to find out what is happening with this file. Are you able to shed some light on it for us please? Let me know your thoughts. Thanks.

Brenda

Brenda Tombs

Executive Assistant

Honourable Shane Simpson

Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

C: 250.361.8147

From: [Tegart.MLA, Jackie LASS:EX](#)
To: [Lo, Reamick ENV:EX](#)
Subject: RE: constituent s.22
Date: March 22, 2018 2:06:21 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

You're the greatest...thanks a million Reamick!

From: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX [<mailto:Reamick.Lo@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2018 2:05 PM
To: Tegart.MLA, Jackie
Subject: RE: constituent Brennon LeClair

Hi Lori,

I'm looking into it and will get back to you as soon as I'm able.

Warmly,

Reamick Lo

Executive Assistant to the **Honourable George Heyman**
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
P: 250-812-8642

From: Tegart.MLA, Jackie [<mailto:Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2018 1:25 PM
To: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX
Subject: RE: constituent s.22

Hello Reamick,

On February 6th, our constituent s.22 sent the email below to the Environmental Compliance office as we advised him to do. To date he has only received a generic acknowledgement for his email that appeared to be intended for the Permit Holder, which he is not.

s.22 is concerned that now that spring melt is upon us, with the rain season to soon follow, boiling capacity and the seemingly unauthorized atmospheric discharge is going to increase substantially. Before taking any further action he would like to know what steps the Ministry has or is going to take to ensure that Koopers in in compliance. Could you please advise.

Thank you so much.

Regards,

Lori



Lori Pilon

Constituency Assistant
to MLA Jackie Tegart
Fraser Nicola
405 Railway Avenue, PO Box 279
Ashcroft, British Columbia V0K 1A0
Office: (250) 453-9726
Toll Free : 1 (877) 378-4802

From: s.22
Date: February 6, 2018 at 12:37:06 PST
To: EnvironmentalCompliance@gov.bc.ca
Subject: Concerns Koppers Ashcroft permit 7248 Authorized Discharges

To whom it may Concern

I would like to express concerns regarding the Ashcroft Wood Treating Facility permit 7248. Location 1425 Evans Road, Ashcroft B.C., V0K1A0.

Concerns to be reported of possible compliance violations.

1.1 Steam Boiler reference number E212284

This site has two coil tube steam boilers, not one. Concerns relate to the incorrect number of Boilers on the licence and what effect it has on the rated output of 75cubic meters per minute of natural gas combustion.

1.3 Preservative Work Tanks reference number E216392

These work tanks have been used in the past year to store and boil effluent. Concerns relate to the use of the tanks to boil to atmosphere effluent vapour, contrary to the listed use of storage only and what effect this has on the rated output both in quantity and content.

These tanks also contain Bunker Fuel C

These tanks may not have been rated to the temperature requirements needed to use as Boil tanks, they do not contain safety pressure relief systems.

1.4 Four Creosote Oil Storage Tanks reference number E216393

These tanks are used to store and to boil to atmosphere effluent. Concerns relate to the contrary listed use of creosote storage and what effect this has on the rated output both in quantity and content.

Addition of a gas fired heater to storage Tank One (per site plan A) has tripled the output of effluent vapour to atmosphere. Per 2.7 Process Modifications this item does not seem to be listed on the permit.

Storage Tanks One and Two are rated to 200 Degrees Fahrenheit, 12 Degrees F below the boiling point of water.

Storage Tank Three (per site plan A) was condemned on the top portion Over One year ago. Contrary to general requirements 2.3 permittee must inspect the authorised works regularly and maintain them in good working order.

Tanks One and Two have frothed over, released through the safety pressure relief valve within the past year on more than one occasion.

Tank Five has frothed over within the past year through visible holes in the roof section of the Tank, and Damaged Vent Stack.

Tanks Five and Six have no Safety Pressure Release System.

1.5 Two Wastewater Storage Tanks reference number E216394

These tanks are used to store effluent. Contrary to the permit there are Four Tanks not Two. These tanks are used to store and boil effluent to atmosphere. Concerns relate to the contrary listed use, number of storage tanks, and the effect of rated output both in quantity and content.

These tanks have exterior visible and marked damage contrary to general requirements 2.3 permittee must inspect the authorised works regularly and maintain them in good working order.

1.6 Cyclone reference number E299691

Treated wood has been processed in the Saw Mill and Timberline facilities. Concerns relate to possible entry of creosote and bunker fuel C contaminated particles possibly entering the cyclone. Processing includes Drilling and Incising processes.

Over the last 2 years the cyclone was run despite multiple complaints of excessive dust by mill operators. A rotary airlock was installed mid 2017.

An IH Air Quality Study done in 2016 showed excessive exposure to wood dust for infeed operators. Further included in the process of the wood treating facility is a "Vent to Atmosphere Tank" as part of the vacuum system used in the wood preservation process. Concerns relate to the absence of this process on the permit and what the quantity and contents being vented to atmosphere are.

The vented to atmosphere system used to discharge vapour collected from the retort cylinders containing water vapour, creosote, and bunker fuel C.

Related there were 14 orders issued by WCB in September of 2017 regarding exposure controls to workers, PPE requirements, and enforcement of Safety Procedures. Reference Work Safe BC Inspection Report #201718305040A.

Regards

s.22

From: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX [<mailto:Reamick.Lo@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: Friday, February 2, 2018 3:50 PM

To: Tegart.MLA, Jackie <Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: constituent s.22

Hi Monika,

Here is our response:

- Koppers Ashcroft Inc. holds an *Environmental Management* Act permit that was issued February 16, 1987, authorizing air discharges from a creosote wood treatment facility located close to 1425 Evans Road, Ashcroft, BC.
- The permit has been amended over the years and most recently, in April 2017 the ministry issued a minor permit amendment to authorize the addition of natural gas heaters on 2 existing creosote tanks. A copy of the most current permit is available online at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/waste-discharge-authorization/search-status-and-documents> (search for authorization # 7248).
- The most recent ministry site inspection occurred on June 27, 2017 where additional works were found onsite that were not included in the permit. An advisory letter was issued and the permittee was directed to submit an application for a further amendment to address the changes.
- An application to amend the permit was submitted October 4, 2017 and the file is currently under review by Ministry staff on the South Authorizations Team in the Regional Operations Branch.
- Of note regarding the permit:
 - Any cutting and trimming is limited to untreated wood so that emissions from the cyclone will not include treated wood.
 - There are no authorized discharges in the permit for liquid waste/effluent. If someone observes an effluent discharge from the site, or has other specific concerns which they believe to be violations of the permit, these can be reported to the ministry by email to: EnvironmentalCompliance@gov.bc.ca. This mailbox is reviewed regularly by ministry Compliance Staff.

Thanks.

Reamick Lo

Executive Assistant to the **Honourable George Heyman**

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

P: 250-812-8642

From: Tegart.MLA, Jackie [<mailto:Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>]

Sent: Friday, January 26, 2018 3:07 PM

To: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX

Subject: constituent s.22

Hi Reamick,

MLA Tegart received a message from constituent s.22 who voiced concerns in relation to a company called Koppers located near Ashcroft B.C. Koppers is a sawmill and chemical wood treating plant for rail tie products. s.22 has been an employee of Koppers over the past three years and has seen significant changes in volume of production of the plant possibly significantly affecting air and water quality for Ashcroft residents and surrounding area. His contact is s.22

Would you be able to look into this issue for us?

Cheers,



Monika Walker

Constituency Assistant

to MLA Jackie Tegart

Fraser Nicola

405 Railway Avenue, PO Box 279

Ashcroft, British Columbia V0K 1A0

Office: (250) 453-9726

Toll Free : 1 (877) 378-4802

From: [Lo, Reamick ENV:EX](#)
To: [Tegart.MLA, Jackie LASS:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Gas tank leaking hazard
Date: March 23, 2018 9:29:46 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Lori,

Here's an update for you:

- The commissioning and decommissioning of fuel tanks is regulated under the fire code and managed by local fire departments in each community.
- The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy normally requires site assessment information when a service station is decommissioned or is being upgraded.
- If independent remediation occurs at the site or if contamination has been identified off-site, landowners have a duty to advise the Ministry.
- Regarding the Ashcroft service station (Ministry contaminated site ID 19478), the Ministry was advised by a member of the public that the service station had decommissioned. When stations are decommissioned, the site owner has a duty to submit a [site profile](#) to the Ministry. If this property was then sold and plans put in place to restart operations, this provision is not required.
- We do not have a file for the Lytton site and the only information the Ministry might have on the Yale site (possibly contaminated site ID 9869) is a reported spill in 2005.
- The Ministry does not currently have evidence that any of these sites is causing contamination or is a problem.

Thanks again.

Warmly,

Reamick Lo

Executive Assistant to the **Honourable George Heyman**
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
P: 250-812-8642

From: Tegart.MLA, Jackie [<mailto:Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 9:08 AM
To: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX
Subject: FW: Gas tank leaking hazard

Hello Reamick,

I am forwarding the following email from a resident of BC for the Ministry of Environment's information and action if appropriate.

Regards,



Lori Pilon

Constituency Assistant
to MLA Jackie Tegart
Fraser Nicola
405 Railway Avenue, PO Box 279
Ashcroft, British Columbia V0K 1A0
Office: (250) 453-9726
Toll Free : 1 (877) 378-4802

From: s.22

Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 7:03 AM

To: Tegart.MLA, Jackie <Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Gas tank leaking hazard

Hello, I am a resident of BC.

In recent years there have been several facts that I learned while investigating a gas station business in a nearby area.

But I do not think anyone knows about this, so I think I should inform the community.

Esso gas station in Yale

Address: 31260 Mary St, Yale, BC V0K 2S0

Hours:

Open today · 8a.m.–7p.m.

Phone: (604) 863-0012

Province: British Columbia

First of all, the gas station was once owned by the owner in 2007, and the tanks buried underground at that time were already 20 years old. After that, a new owner was bought by 2013, but there was no tank exchange.

The above facts were found in the conversation between the former owner and the new owner.

This gas station is located within one kilometer of the Fraser River.

The soil is mostly composed of sand and rocks.

If there is a leak accident, it will not take long to pollute the river.

In addition, village residents build houses and live by river beside gas station.

Because the gas station is located on the river, if there is a leak, all the damage will be felt by local residents and citizens.

My main concern here is that the gas station is operating without environmental insurance.

In the event of an accident, the damage of the local people including the destruction of the environment ecosystem is big enough to be beyond imagination, and there is no protection against it.

Husky gas station in Ashcroft

Address: 106 Brink St, Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0

Hours:

Open today · 5:30a.m.–9p.m.

Phone: (250) 453-0029

Province: British Columbia

The gas station was once owned by the owner in 20010, and the tanks buried underground at that time were already 22 years old. After that, a new owner was bought by 2017, but there was no tank exchange.

The above facts were found in the conversation between the former owner and the new owner.

This gas station is located within 500 meters of the Thomson River.

The soil is mostly composed of sand and rocks.

If there is a leak accident, it will not take long to pollute the river.

In addition, village residents build houses and live by river beside gas station.

Because the gas station is located on the river, if there is a leak, all the damage will be felt by local residents and citizens.

My main concern here is that the gas station is operating without environmental

insurance.

In the event of an accident, the damage of the local people including the destruction of the environment ecosystem is big enough to be beyond imagination, and there is no protection against it.

Esso gas station in Lytton

Address: 176 Trans-Canada Hwy, Lytton, BC V0K 1Z0

Hours:

Open today · 6a.m.–10p.m.

Phone: (250) 455-2356

Province: British Columbia

The gas station was once owned by the owner in 2009, and the tanks buried underground at that time were already 20 years old. After that, there was no tank exchange.

The above facts were found in the conversation between the former owner and the new owner.

I have tried these gas stations a few times in the hope that they have at least an environmental insurance policy, but they have not been accepted. One of the gas stations had environmental insurance, but in 2017 it was replaced by a new owner and is no longer available.

Of course, it is the owner's decision to insure the operation, but since the duration of use is limited to 20 years to 25 years due to the nature of steel tanks, the relevant laws or measures are urgent in the government or city.

Please help our community to improve this issue.

Thank you

s.22

From: [Lo, Reamick ENV:EX](#)
To: [Rathje, Leanne LASS:EX](#)
Cc: [Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Water extraction plant Environmental review
Date: March 26, 2018 4:01:07 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Leanne,

FLNR is the Ministry responsible for receiving, reviewing and issuing water authorizations under the *Water Sustainability Act* (WSA). The WSA was brought into force on February 29, 2016 and updates and replaces the previous Water Act, bringing in a number of important changes for existing and new surface water and groundwater users.

ENV's responsibility is primarily around leading development of the policy, legislation, science and standards. Because we are still in the early days of implementation of the WSA, ENV staff are working closely with the FLNR authorizations staff to help iron out the bugs that typically arise during implementation of complicated new legislation.

If appealing the broader appeal WSA/legislation, then that could potentially be ENV and FLNRO. FLNRO owns the legislation of WSA, but ENV is responsible for leading the policy and standards. If it is the actual decision that was made by a statutory decision maker on the license then that is FLNRO. The appeal would be made through Front Counter BC. It's an appeal with an actual water license, correct? If it's the case, I'd redirect your inquiry to my colleague Tristan with FLNR.

Warmly,

Reamick Lo

Executive Assistant to the **Honourable George Heyman**
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
P: 250-812-8642

From: Rathje, Leanne [<mailto:Leanne.Rathje@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 11:03 AM
To: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX
Subject: Water extraction plant Environmental review

Hello Reamick,

FLNRO has approved a water license application to withdraw 10,000. Litres daily from an aquifer in Mervile, just north of Courtenay. The Conditional Water Licence number is 500169, and the address of the water license is [s.22](#).

[s.22](#); I have been advised that a gentleman named [s.22](#) ; has applied for an Environmental Appeal of the water license.

Because of this environmental appeal, the owner of the water license has been told the Ministry staff is unable to speak with him. I am unsure as it is in appeal if RRL is able to meet with the person who filed the appeal.

If you could look into this for me, I would appreciate it! If you need any further information from, please let me know.

Thanks Reamick, and regards,

Leanne

Leanne Rathje | Constituency Assistant to
Ronna-Rae Leonard MLA for Courtenay-Comox
leanne.rathje@leg.bc.ca | 437 5th St, Courtenay BC
Ph: 250-703-2410

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday, 10 am to 4 pm, and Fridays by appointment

It is a privilege to live and work on the traditional lands of the K'omoks First Nations.

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From: [Lo, Reamick ENV:EX](#)
To: [Gold, Elana LASS:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Information Request
Date: March 28, 2018 3:13:18 PM

Hi Elana,

Thanks so much for the inquiry. Here's our response:

- Diluted bitumen is a mixture of non-upgraded bitumen and a diluent. The most commonly used diluent is naphtha-based oil called condensate that can include by-products of natural gas. Typically, diluted bitumen consists of blends of 20% to 30% condensate and 70% to 80% bitumen.
- The chemical composition of diluted bitumen varies between producers and over time due to temperature variations.
- Typically, diluted bitumen contains heavy hydrocarbons (asphaltenes etc.), light hydrocarbons (butane, octane, etc.), sulphur, BTEX (benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, xylene), salt, metals, sediments and other trace components.
- The crudemonitor.ca data portal maintained by Crude Quality Inc. has detailed analyses of selected physical bulk properties and chemical constituents of the oils shipped in pipelines from Alberta, with data covering the last five years.

Thanks again.

Warmly,

Reamick Lo

Executive Assistant to the **Honourable George Heyman**
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
P: 250-812-8642

From: Gold, Elana [<mailto:Elana.Gold@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 3:10 PM
To: Lo, Reamick ENV:EX
Subject: FW: Information Request

Hello Reamick,

a note to follow up on your phone call last month regarding this email inquiry.

Can you please let me know when we might receive a response?

Thanks,

Elana



Elana Gold
Constituency Assistant to
Linda Reid, MLA
Richmond South Centre
P: 604-775-0891
F: 604-775-0999
elana.gold@leg.bc.ca

From: Gold, Elana
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2018 12:12 PM
To: Minister, ENV ENV:EX <ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Information Request

Good morning,

a constituent of MLA Reid's, ^{s.22} has requested information on the chemical composition of diluted bitumen from the BC government .

He is seeking a full chemical analysis breakdown. Could the Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy please provide this information to us for dissemination to the constituent?

Kind regards,

Elana

