



Bill Siksay

Member of Parliament

BURNABY-DOUGLAS

BURNABY
August 2, 2007

Dear Friends,

It has been more than a week now since the oil line beneath the Barnet Highway in Burnaby was ruptured. I am writing to let you know about the steps I have taken to address several major areas of concern, to provide details on what the federal government's roles are in this matter, and to make contacts available to constituents who have additional inquiries regarding the incident.

First, I must applaud the spirit of cooperation that has marked the immediate response to the pipeline accident and oil spill. Through the comprehensive emergency response which involved collaboration with the City of Burnaby, Focus Wildlife, Burrard Clean, government agencies, and Kinder Morgan:

- The oil spill has been largely contained and a majority of the work to remove oil has been completed.
- The Barnet Highway as well as the pipeline has been repaired.
- Thirty-three families have been able to return to their homes that were damaged. Seven families are still waiting for work to be completed before they return home.
- Focus Wildlife, an emergency response group, has recovered fifteen birds affected by the oil and they are being rehabilitated.
- Fraser Health will continue to monitor the affected residents for any symptoms related to the release of oil.
- Barnet Beach still requires some clean up work, though beaches in North Vancouver and Belcarra have re-opened.

As a federal Member of Parliament, I do however still have concerns that I will continue to follow-up on to make sure that the proper measures are being taken. My main concern is primarily for the folks who were directly affected. Their lives must get back on track as quickly as possible. Burnaby Douglas is criss-crossed by pipelines and we need to make sure that people are safe where they live. Wildlife victims of the spill and environmental damage also continue to require urgent action. I am here for the long run to support residents affected by this spill as well as those concerned about the environmental and wildlife impacts and to address any lingering problems resulting from the spill. Many of the concerns raised in response to the event are long-term problems that must be considered in any actions taken by the federal, provincial, municipal governments and agencies in addressing the contaminated areas.

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I have also been in contact with all of the relevant federal ministries and agencies regarding the oil spill to determine their roles and what actions they are taking in response to the incident. The National Energy Board (NEB) has been designated as the lead agency on this issue and its role is to co-ordinate the federal government response to the incident. They are overseeing the actions of Kinder Morgan to ensure that they comply with regulations. The NEB is also co-ordinating with the local, provincial, and other federal departments.

They have several expert staff on site working with the Incident Command Centre and the regional environmental emergency team to assist with the response to the environmental clean up and working in support of the Transportation Safety Board's investigation. They will continue to follow up to ensure that the environmental clean up is completed and their expectation is that the remediation effort of the site and its environs will be restored to its pre-incident level. If you would like any more information regarding the NEB, you can find their website at <http://www.neb.gc.ca>. Kinder Morgan has also established a website to provide updates regarding the oil spill at <http://www.westridgeupdate.ca>.

The Transportation Safety Board investigation, currently underway, will look into all the circumstances surrounding this incident. They will make a determination, in due course, as to the root cause and any contributing factors. Transportation Safety Board may make recommendations required to avoid similar incidents in the future. The NEB has the responsibility to consider these recommendations and respond to them including taking the necessary regulatory actions.

I have also been in contact with Janice Dickie of the Wildlife Rescue Association of BC to support the association's efforts to make certain that any wildlife affected by the oil spill receive the full support necessary to be rehabilitated. Furthermore, I have also been in touch with the office of Chief Leah George Wilson of the Tsilil-Waututh Nation to follow up on concerns about First Nations archaeological sites and the clean up efforts in their traditional lands.

The oil spill has also raised serious questions about pipeline safety and any concerns or recommendations arising from the investigations now underway will need to be immediately addressed. While the results of the investigation will hopefully provide answers about what went wrong, I will be looking to ensure that any recommendations coming out of the investigation are implemented as well as ensuring that the relevant federal legislation and regulations are amended where necessary. We need to be sure that follow up is done quickly and properly so that pipeline safety and emergency response policies are effective and in place.

Finally, my staff and I are here to provide whatever assistance we can to anyone directly affected by the spill and evacuation. If you have had any concerns about the pipeline accident and the emergency response, I would certainly welcome you to contact my office regarding your concerns in how the situation was handled. Please be assured that I will continue to follow-up on any issues related to the incident and keep you updated on any developments.

Sincerely yours,



Bill Siksay, MP
Burnaby-Douglas

WLS/ bay
CEP/SCEP 232

Key Contacts for Residents

Oil Sighting Hotline (toll-free)

1 (877) 843-8246

For property queries:

Claims mailbox (toll-free)

1 (800) 965-8675

Bob Love, Manager, Lands and Rights-of-Way

Office: (604) 268-3097

Cellular: (604) 992-1955

Email: bob_love@kindermorgan.com

For health queries:

Burnaby Health Protection

(604) 918-7683

For wildlife sighting:

Focus Wildlife (toll-free)

1 (877) 774-6297

For federal queries:

Transportation Safety Board's 24-hour hot line at 819-997-7887

Environment Canada (toll-free) 1 800 668-6767

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (toll-free) 1-800-465-7735

For other queries:

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