

To: Mayor and Councillors

Date: April 18, 2010

From: Councillor Harold Steves

Re: Proposed Jet Fuel Project

City staff have provided an update on the proposed Jet Fuel project dated April 16, 2010 with copies of previous resolutions adopted by Richmond Council.

The motion adopted by Richmond Council at the meeting of the General Purposes Committee on June 1, 2009 endorsed a "preference" for a jet fuel line resulting in "no net gain of jet fuel line length on Lulu Island" and "options that do not include an off-loading facility on the south arm of the Fraser River"

At the public consultation meeting held by the BC Environmental Assessment Office April 14 it became clear that the VAFFC has not looked at alternatives but is instead taking Richmond's "preference" for alternatives as tacit approval.

The City of Richmond has opposed the offloading of oil and jet fuel for over 40 years. In 1968 Swan and Wooster Engineering placed survey stakes with orange ribbons all around Garry Point and land previously owned by the Fishermen's Co-op, now known as Co-op Slough for the construction of an oil tanker terminal owned by IOCO. There were concerns that such a terminal could result in a minor oil spill during off-loading that could destroy part or all of a salmon run as fingerlings hug the shorelines on their journey to the sea. A major spill could do serious damage to all of Sturgeon Banks and the entire Fraser River estuary. As a result, there was considerable opposition from the public and Richmond Council. The survey stakes were removed. On or about that time the existing 41 km pipeline was built to the airport. Richmond's fears were validated when the Exxon Valdez later broke up off the Alaska Coast. Subsequent attempts to have an oil or jet fuel offloading facility in the estuary have also been rejected.

Today we are being asked to allow a pipeline and off-loading facility on the south arm of the Fraser River in competition with the existing pipeline even though IOCO was not allowed to have an off-loading facility in the south arm of the Fraser River. While they have been "renamed" as "barges" these are real tankers that have the same real threats to the environment as those proposed in previous incarnations.

To make Richmond's position clear the following motion is proposed:

That in any new jet fuel supply systems to the YVR, Richmond Council is opposed to:

- (a) an off-loading facility on the south arm of the Fraser River,***
- (b) a jet fuel line through Richmond farmland and urban areas of Richmond,***
- (c) any gain in length of jet fuel line greater than the existing jet fuel line on Lulu Island.***