MOTION ON NOTICE B.3

3. UBCM Emergency Resolution:

Requiring Consequence and Response Capacity Assessment for Sunken or Submerged Diluted Bitumen in Local Communities

MOVER: Councillor Reimer SECONDER: Councillor

WHEREAS new information came to light in July 2014, after the UBCM motion deadline, regarding the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project regarding a lack of required planning for emergency response to sunken or submerged diluted bitumen;

AND WHEREAS this information is highly concerning to the City's emergency response staff for both current and proposed future shipments of diluted bitumen in water adjacent to Vancouver;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council endorse the following resolution entitled "Requiring Consequence and Response Capacity Assessment for Sunken or Submerged Diluted Bitumen in Local Communities" for submission as an Emergency Resolution to the UBCM 2014 Annual Convention:

Requiring Consequence and Response Capacity Assessment for Sunken or Submerged Diluted Bitumen in Local Communities

WHEREAS on December 16, 2013, Kinder Morgan submitted an application to the National Energy Board for the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project to increase the transportation of diluted bitumen via pipeline through British Columbian communities, across more than 700 streams and water-crossings in 12 BC watersheds;

AND WHEREAS diluted bitumen has been shown to submerge and/or sink when spilled into freshwater environments, resulting in prolonged and costly response operations with limited success and negative impacts to local ecosystems, public and environmental health, local economies, and cultural and recreational resources:

AND WHEREAS, as per Trans Mountain's response on July 11, 2014, to intervenors in the NEB hearing, Trans Mountain maintains that in the event of a diluted bitumen spill sunken or submerged oil "would be treated as a post-emergency response function" and declined to provide any specific information about how response plans or equipment stockpiling for the project would address submerged or sunken diluted bitumen, thereby raising serious concerns about the capacity to respond to the risk currently posed to local communities and watersheds by the existing Trans Mountain pipeline;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, for the protection of communities and ecosystems reliant on the health of watersheds across BC, the Union of BC Municipalities call on the National Energy Board to compel Trans Mountain and all other pipeline operators shipping diluted bitumen, to provide site specific consequence analyses and response plans and tactics for submerged and sunken oil to be subject to public review and approval by impacted communities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UBCM call on the Provincial Government to conduct a full assessment of the response plans, tactics, equipment and capacity currently available within the Province of BC to respond to sunken or submerged oil.

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