



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (Committee of the Whole)

AGENDA

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Page		Action
	1) Accept Supplementary Agenda	
	2) Minutes	
2-4	Waste Management Committee Meeting Minutes February 6, 2014	Receive
	3) Business Arising Out of the Minutes	
	4) Items for Discussion	
	Manson Creek Landfill	
	5) Reports	
	6) Correspondence	
5-6	E-Mail from: Brenda Black, Environmental Protection Officer, BC Ministry of Environment, Re: Manson Creek Landfill Conference Call Discussion and Inspection Pictures	Receive
7-8	Letter to: Brenda Black, Environmental Protection Officer, BC Ministry of Environment, Re: Manson Creek Landfill – February 12, 2014 Conference Call Follow-up	Receive
9	Letter to: Brenda Black, Environmental Protection Officer, BC Ministry of Environment, Re: Response to Inspection of Manson Creek Landfill on September 6, 2013	Receive
10-14	Letter from: Brenda Black, Environmental Protection Officer, Ministry of Environment, Re: Inspection of Manson Creek Landfill on September 6, 2013	Receive
	7) New Business	
	8) Adjournment	

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**
(Committee Of The Whole)**Thursday, February 6, 2014**

PRESENT:	Acting Chair	Bill Miller
	Directors	Steve Freeman Carman Graf Dwayne Lindstrom Rob MacDougall Rob Newell Jerry Petersen Ralph Roy Stoney Stoltenberg
	Directors Absent	Taylor Bachrach, Town of Smithers Tom Greenaway, Electoral Area "C" (Fort St. James Rural) Bill Holmberg, District of Houston Thomas Liversidge, Village of Granisle Luke Strimbold, Village of Burns Lake Gerry Thiessen, District of Vanderhoof
	Alternate Directors	Bob Hughes, Electoral Area "C" (Fort St. James Rural) Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle Charlie Northrup, Town of Smithers
	Staff	Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services Hans Berndorff, Financial Administrator Janine Dougall, Director of Environmental Services Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant
	Other	Ian Houghton, Burns Lake
	<u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	Acting Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 12:58 p.m.
	<u>AGENDA</u>	Moved by Director MacDougall Seconded by Director Stoltenberg
	<u>WMC.2014-1-1</u>	"That the Waste Management Committee receive the February 6, 2014 Waste Management Committee Agenda."
	<u>MINUTES</u>	(All/Directors/Majority) <u>CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</u>
	<u>Waste Management Committee Meeting Minutes -May 9, 2013</u>	Moved by Director Stoltenberg Seconded by Director Freeman
	<u>WMC.2014-1-2</u>	"That the Minutes of the Waste Management Committee for May 9, 2013 be received."
		(All/Directors/Majority) <u>CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</u>

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Landfill Criteria for Municipal
 Solid Waste, Draft Interim
 Second Edition

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
 Seconded by Director Roy

WMC.2014-1-3

"That the Waste Management Committee receive the correspondence regarding "Landfill Criteria For Municipal Solid Waste, Draft Interim Second Edition."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Janine Dougall, Director of Environmental Services provided an overview of the Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste Draft Interim Second Edition. Concerns were brought forward regarding the new proposed standards that include using an HDPE (High Density Polyethylene) geomembrane liner and a secondary compacted clay liner or Geosynthetic Clay Liner (GCL) and no longer being able to use natural barriers such as clay for leachate containment. Third party consultation is also being recommended for reporting requirements along with an extended landfill contaminating lifespan and financial security considerations. Discussion took place regarding the additional cost to the RDBN that the changes will impose. Staff are currently drafting a comment document to provide to the Ministry of Environment and will provide further information regarding the cost to the RDBN for possible implementation of new guidelines in the *Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste*.

Discussion took place regarding options for waste disposal such as incineration. Staff conducted an extensive study a number of years ago and continues to monitor for technologically feasible options.

The importance of moving forward with industry Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programs for recycling and ensuring adequate service levels for residents in the region was discussed.

REPORTS

Notification of Participation
 On Extended Producer
 Responsibility Advisory Groups

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
 Seconded by Director MacDougall

WMC.2014-1-4

"That the Waste Management Committee receive the Director of Environmental Services January 27, 2014 memo titled "Notification of Participation on Extended Producer Responsibility Advisory Groups."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

**Vanderhoof Transfer Station
Fire on February 4, 2014**

Ms. Dougall provided an outline of the fire that occurred at the Vanderhoof Transfer Station in the early morning hours of February 4, 2014. A passerby recognized smoke coming from the building and called 9-1-1. The Vanderhoof Fire Department responded and accessed the building to attempt to distinguish the fire. The fire was in the garbage in the walking floor trailer inside the transfer station. RDBN employees removed the trailer from the building, the garbage was then unloaded from the trailer, spread out and was ultimately extinguished.. The Vanderhoof Fire Department disbursed the fire and flare ups that occurred.

The cause of the fire is unknown however it was most likely the result of inappropriate materials being placed in the garbage (eg. ashes).

An insurance claim process has been initiated for both the transfer station building and the waste haul trailer.

Ms. Dougall expressed her thanks to everyone who responded.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

WMC.2014-1-5

"That the meeting be adjourned at 1:27 p.m."

Bill Miller, Acting Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

janine Dougall

From: Black, Brenda ENV:EX <Brenda.Black@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: February-25-14 2:58 PM
To: janine Dougall
Subject: RE: Manson Creek conference call discussion and inspection pictures

I'll send the pictures in another e-mail. The file is 25mb and didn't go through the first time. If it doesn't work then I'll put on a disc and send to you via mail.

Brenda

From: Black, Brenda ENV:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 2:55 PM
To: 'janine Dougall'
Cc: Chretien, Denny ENV:EX; Beckett, Matthew ENV:EX
Subject: Manson Creek conference call discussion and inspection pictures

Janine,

As promised, if I didn't send the attached pictures and meeting notes to you after our call on February 12th, I wouldn't send them until this week. Attached to this e-mail is a compressed folder containing all the pictures that were taken during the inspection of the Manson Creek landfill on September 6, 2013 and below are my meeting notes in point form.

You had mentioned that you would like Denny's contact information to get his thoughts on the site. Denny is the only conservation officer in MacKenzie. He has been copied on this e-mail and you can e-mail him at Denny.Chretien@gov.bc.ca.

Meeting notes

In attendance:

Matthew Beckett, Environmental Protection Officer,
 Janine Dougall, Manager of Environmental Services (RDBN),
 Taylor Bachrach, Chair, Waste Management Committee (RDBN), and;
 Bill Miller, Chair, Board of Directors (RDBN)

- Notification to the RDBN that as of April 1st, 2014 I will no longer be responsible for administering the Manson Creek file and a new Environmental Protection Officer for the file has yet to be assigned. I will advise the RDBN when the new EPO administering the files has been assigned (likely not till April 1st).
- Discussion about the challenges the RDBN faces in operating the landfill site including the remote location, seasonal population of the area, access to the site, and frequency of contractor visits to the site.
- The RDBN plans to operate the site as a landfill as per the current approved SWMP for the RDBN (but pending a site visit this year and consultation with the community and site contractor that decision may be impacted – if the RDBN decides to take a new approach to this site in future, they will notify the Ministry). This satisfies the requirement outlined in my letter dated December 17, 2013 of "Please confirm with the Ministry of Environment by January 31, 2014 whether the RDBN intends to operate the site as a landfill or as a transfer station."
- Janine and Rory will visit the site in 2014, after the snow melts, to assess the situation at the landfill.

- 6
- After the site visit Janine will send a record of the findings to the MOE and outline the future plans of the RDBN going forward. Due to this decision I am adjusting my the second requirement in my letter dated December 17, 2013 from "Also confirm with the Ministry of Environment by February 28, 2014 what steps the RDBN will take to ensure the safety of residents using the site along with the timeline for implementation of the proposed steps" to "Confirm with the Ministry of Environment by August 31, 2014 the findings of the site visit and what steps the RDBN will take to ensure the safety of residents using the site along with the timeline for implementation of the proposed steps." We then had a general discussion about potential changes that could be made at the site including discussion about the cost/maintenance associated with the installation/maintenance of an electric fence versus other bear proofing measures that might be used at the site such as utilizing bear proof waste containers for storage of MSW with the bins being emptied out and covered immediately when the contractor visits the site.
 - Before the call ended I highlighted to the RDBN representatives on the call that garbage conditioned, human habituated bears are a real threat to public health and safety. The RDBN is now aware that, based on my inspection findings, it appears bears are frequenting the site and any conflict that might arise between site users and wildlife will result in details of any such conflict being directed to the compliance and enforcement branch of the Ministry of Environment for investigation purposes.

For Denny's reference I have attached a copy of the letter that you, Janine, sent to me after our conference call on February 12th.

I do not have Taylor or Bill's e-mail addresses, so if you could please forward this e-mail to them, I would appreciate it.

Thanks,

Brenda Black
Environmental Protection Officer
BC Ministry of Environment - Omineca Region
325 - 1011 Fourth Avenue Prince George BC V2L 3H9
p. 250-565-6446 | f. 250-565-6629 | e. Brenda.Black@gov.bc.ca

24-hour Spill/Environmental Emergency Reporting: 1-800-663-3456 (Provincial Emergency Program)
24-hour RAPP (Report All Poachers and Polluters) tip-line: 1-877-952-7277 (Conservation Officer Service)
www.gov.bc.ca/env

Please be aware that while your inquiries are important to us, due to a high workload volume within the Omineca-Peace Region a response can be expected in the next five business days. If you do not receive a response in the next five business days, please feel free to resend your message. Inquiries/applications are reviewed on a first in, first out basis.

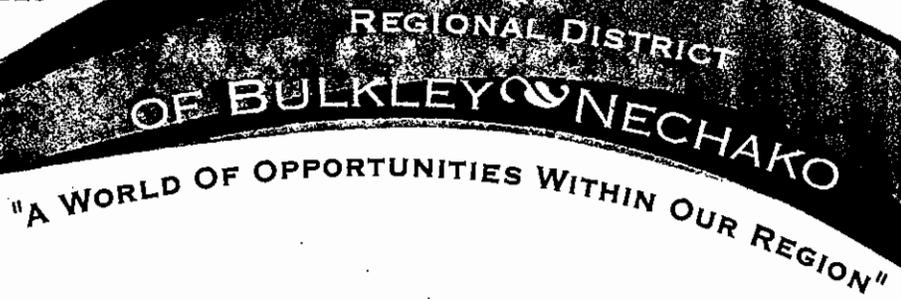
If this matter is urgent please contact Arvind Saraswat by e-mail at Arvind.Saraswat@gov.bc.ca or phone at 250 565-6459. Or phone the front desk at 250 565-6135.

If this is an ongoing environmental emergency, please call the 24-hour Spill/Environmental Emergency Reporting line at 1-800-663-3456.

Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) tip-line: 1-877-952-7277 (Conservation Officer Service)



37, 3RD AVE, PO BOX 820
BURNS LAKE, BC
VOJ 1E0



February 20, 2014

Brenda Black
Environmental Protection Officer
BC Ministry of Environment
Suite 325 - 1011 4th Avenue
Prince George, BC
V2L 3H9

COPY

Dear Brenda Black,

Re: Manson Creek Landfill – February 12, 2014 Conference Call Follow-up

Thank you for taking the time to speak with Regional District representatives, Bill Miller (Board Chair), Taylor Bachrach (Waste Management Committee Chair) and Janine Dougall (Director of Environmental Services) regarding the concerns noted during an inspection of the Manson Creek Landfill on September 6, 2013.

The purpose of this letter is to outline, as discussed during the February 12, 2014 conference call, the approach to be taken by the Regional District in addressing the Ministry's concerns. First however, it must be reiterated that although the Regional District appreciates and respects the concerns of the Ministry of Environment (MoE), the Manson Creek Landfill is an isolated landfill that serves a small and seasonal population base (estimated at less than 50 people). Cost effective operation of the site as a consequence is extremely difficult.

According to the RDBN Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (September 1996), the site was slated to be operated as a long term landfill, with the RDBN requesting exemptions to the landfill criteria for such requirements as monitoring, waste measurement, supervision, etc. Some upgrades to the site were anticipated as being possibly required, such as surface water drainage and bear access control. The Plan also states that should the RDBN requested exemptions from the MoE be rejected, the site is to be closed.

For the RDBN to implement effective changes at the site that will be to the benefit of the residents, bears and environment as a whole, consultation with local residents, conservation officers and the RDBN Board of Directors will be required. Given this, the Regional District will conduct the following activities in 2014:

1. In the spring (once all snow has melted), RDBN Environmental Services Staff will conduct a site visit at the Manson Creek Landfill to assess the site and determine the appropriate approach (plan) to address MoE concerns as noted in the September 6, 2013 Inspection Report.

MUNICIPALITIES:

SMITHERS	FORT ST. JAMES
VANDERHOOF	FRASER LAKE
HOUSTON	TELKWA
BURNS LAKE	GRANISLE

ELECTORAL AREAS:

A - SMITHERS RURAL	E - OOTSA LAKE/FRANCOIS LAKE
B - BURNS LAKE RURAL	F - VANDERHOOF RURAL
C - FORT ST. JAMES RURAL	G - HOUSTON RURAL
D - FRASER LAKE RURAL	

INQUIRIES@RDBN.BC.CA
WWW.RDBN.BC.CA

PH: 250-692-3195
FX: 250-692-3305
TF: 800-320-3339



2. Following the site visit RDBN Environmental Services Staff will report back to the RDBN Waste Management Committee.
3. MoE staff will also be provided an update on the findings from the site visit and will be given a further timeline on implementation of potential site upgrades once direction from the RDBN Waste Management Committee is received.

The MoE has also indicated the intent to issue an Operational Certificate (OC) for the site, if it is to be operated in the long term as a landfill. As this time, it is requested that the MoE provide to the RDBN a draft of the OC to be issued for the site, by no later than March 31, 2014, to allow the RDBN to consider the implications of requirements in reviewing the overall long-term costs for the facility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janine Dougall".

Janine Dougall

Director of Environmental Services

cc Bill Miller: Chair, Board of Directors
Taylor Bachrach: Chair, Waste Management Committee



37, 3RD AVE, PO Box 820
BURNS LAKE, BC
VOJ 1E0



January 13, 2014

Brenda Black
Environmental Protection Officer
BC Ministry of Environment
Suite 325 - 1011 4th Avenue
Prince George, BC
V2L 3H9

COPY

Dear Brenda Black,

Re: **Response to Inspection of Manson Creek Landfill on September 6, 2013**

Thank you for sending a copy of the inspection report (received by e-mail on December 17, 2013). The concerns identified in the letter dated December 17, 2013 regarding the bear access to the waste disposed at the facility is duly noted and requires an investigation to develop a plan that will both be reasonable and effective in implementation.

The deadline that you have provided the Regional District of January 31, 2014 to indicate the intent of the RDBN to operate the facility as a landfill or transfer station in the long term is unrealistic and unattainable. As is the provided deadline of February 28, 2014 for the Regional District to provide details of the steps to be taken to ensure the safety of residents. This is not to say that the RDBN considers the issues identified in the Inspection Report as trivial or irrelevant. On the contrary, for the RDBN to implement effective changes at the site that will be to the benefit of the residents, bears and environment as a whole, this will require consultation with local residents, conservation officers and RDBN Board of Directors. This consultation will be necessary to create a safe transition process for both bears and humans. The least desirable situation is that the RDBN stops access to the site and ultimately drives the bears to local resident's homes, without adequate advance preparation.

A more realistic timeline for the RDBN would be to develop a plan for the facility in 2014 with implementation of the plan in 2015. In an effort to better understand the perspective of the Ministry of Environment and to discuss this issue in greater detail, it is requested that a meeting be held between RDBN and MoE staff at your earliest convenience. Please contact the undersigned below to arrange for a meeting time that is suitable for all parties.

Sincerely,

Janine Dougall
Janine Dougall

Director of Environmental Services

cc Bill Miller: Chair, Board of Directors
Taylor Bachrach: Chair, Waste Management Committee

MUNICIPALITIES:

SMITHERS FORT ST. JAMES
VANDERHOOF FRASER LAKE
HOUSTON TELKWA
BURNS LAKE GRANISLE

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D - FRASER LAKE RURAL

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FX: 250-692-3305
TF: 800-320-3339

December 17, 2013

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
PO Box 820
Burns Lake BC V0J 1E0

Dear Janine Dougall:

RE: Inspection of Manson Creek landfill on September 6, 2013

Please find enclosed the report from my inspection of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Manson Creek landfill on September 6, 2013.

Permit PR-7912 was issued on September 21, 1987. The permit has not been amended since it was issued. If the site is to remain open the RDBN must take steps to ensure the safety of residents using the site as well as ensure that the site is not utilized as a source of food for the surrounding bear population.

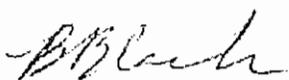
Please confirm with the Ministry of Environment by January 31, 2014 whether the RDBN intends to operate the site as a landfill or as a transfer station. Also confirm with the Ministry of Environment by February 28, 2014 what steps the RDBN will take to ensure the safety of residents using the site along with the timeline for implementation of the proposed steps.

Please be aware that if the site is to remain open as a landfill, the Ministry of Environment intends to issue an operational certificate for the landfill.

All items inspected were found to be in compliance with the terms and conditions of permit PR-7912.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further please contact me at (250) 565-6446 or via e-mail at Brenda.Black@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely,



Brenda Black
Environmental Protection Officer
Omineca and Peace Regions

Encl.



Ministry of Environment
Inspection Record

Environmental Protection Division

EP System: <u>AMS</u>	Inspection Status: <i>FINAL</i>	
System Number: 7912	Inspection No: <i>11752</i>	
EP System Status: <u>Active</u>	Inspection Date: 2013-09-06	
Region: <u>Omineca</u>	Office: <u>Prince George</u>	
Trigger: <u>Planned</u>	Incidents of Non-Compliance Observed: <u>No</u>	
Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Level: <u>Level 0</u>	Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Category: <u>Category 0</u>	
Inspector Name(s): Brenda Black		Risk Ranking: <u>Over 2 = High</u>
Audit: no audit associated with inspection	Total Non-Compliance(s): <i>0</i>	
Regulated Party: Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako		
Regulated Party Contact(s): Janine Dougall		
Mailing Address: PO Box 820 Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0		
Phone No: (250)692-3195	Fax No: (250)692-3305	
Contact Email: janine.dougall@rdbn.bc.ca		
Location Description or Site Address: Landfill site is located at 65.5km on the Finlay Manson Forest Service Road.		
Latitude: 55.712	N	Longitude: 124.51497
W		
Receiving Environment(s): <u>Air & Land</u>		

Summary

MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Inspection Period:

From: 2013-09-06

To: 2013-09-06

Requirement Source:

Permit

Activity: On Site

Waste Type: Refuse

Inspection Summary:

The landfill is a small rural site serving the communities of Manson Creek and Germanson Landing. The site is a trench operation with storage for metal and tires. There is no electric fence and there is evidence that the site is being frequented by bears.

Response:

Notice

Compliance Summary	In	Out	N/A	N/D
Operations	2	0	0	3

Inspection Details

Requirement Type: Operations

Requirement Description:

A. Landfill Operation

Details/Findings:

The landfill is operated as a trench and fill site. Refuse is dumped into an open trench and the trench is required to be covered once every 40 days and at least once every two months.

Refuse was visible in the trench. The site is open 24hrs/day and is unattended. Unable to determine when the refuse in the trench was last covered.

Compliance: Not Determined

Requirement Type: Operations

Requirement Description:

B. Wildlife Nuisance

Details/Findings:

Permit 7912 states the following:

"The subject discharge is one that is of concern because of the possibility of a nuisance or hazard being caused by bears or other animals attracted to the site. Additional works may be required or other operating instructions may be issued by the Regional Waste Manager if such problems arise."

During the inspection there was evidence of bears frequenting the site, including old scat and large amounts of waste that had been pulled out of the trench into the forest located behind the trench. Due to the wording of permit PR-7912, the RDBN is currently in compliance. If the site is to remain open long term, the RDBN will have to take steps to prevent bears from accessing the waste and becoming garbage conditioned and human habituated. Garbage conditioned and human habituated bears constitute a threat to public health and safety. Additionally, if the site is to remain open long term, the RDBN can expect that permit PR-7912 will be replaced with an operational certificate for the site.

Compliance: In**Requirement Type: Operations****Requirement Description:**

C. Site Preparation and Restoration

Details/Findings:

Permit 7912 states the following:

"Provision of fencing, site access, vehicle safety barriers, surface water diversionary works, firebreaks and site restoration as required, shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the Regional Waste Manager."

There is no fence at the site. Logs laid across the entrance to the trench are the only vehicle safety barriers on site. There are no surface water diversionary works. There are no firebreaks between the site and the encroaching forest. Site restoration has not been carried out as the site remains open.

To date, the Ministry of Environment has not issued direction to the RDBN to make site improvements; therefore, the RDBN is in compliance with the terms and conditions of PR-7912. However, if the site is to remain open long term, the RDBN will have to take steps to upgrade the site to include adequate fencing or, in absence of fencing the site, make site improvements to prevent bears from accessing the waste and becoming garbage conditioned and human habituated. Garbage conditioned and human habituated bears constitute a threat to public health and safety. Improvements will also be required to upgrade vehicle safety barriers, install surface water diversionary works (if the RDBN chooses to keep the site operational as a landfill), and install firebreaks between the site and the encroaching forest. Additionally, if the site is to remain open long term the RDBN can expect that permit PR-7912 will be replaced with an operational certificate for the site.

Compliance: In**Requirement Type: Operations****Requirement Description:**

D. Segregation of Metallic Wastes

Details/Findings:

Permit 7912 states the following:

"Segregate large metallic wastes such as appliances and auto bodies, etc., for disposal in a separate area of the site."

Large metallic waste was segregated into a pile adjacent to the trench. The approximate size of the pile was 25 meters long and 10 meters high. There is also a large pile of tires adjacent to the scrap metal pile.

Compliance: Not Determined

Requirement Type: Operations

Requirement Description:

E. Open burning

Details/Findings:

There was evidence, including ash and burned materials, that burning had occurred in an area between the scrap metal pile and the trench. As there was no attendant present, confirmation that the conditions for the open burn were in accordance with the terms and conditions of PR-7912 was not available.

Compliance: Not Determined

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY REGULATED PARTY and/or ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Permit PA-7912 was issued on September 21, 1987. The permit has not been amended since it was issued. If the site is to remain open the RDBN must take steps to ensure the safety of residents using the site as well as ensure that the site is not utilized as a source of food for the surrounding bear population.

Please be aware that if the site is to remain open as a landfill, the Ministry of Environment intends to issue an operational certificate for the landfill.

Please confirm with the Ministry of Environment whether the RDBN intends to operate the site as a landfill or a transfer station by January 31, 2014. Confirm with the Ministry of Environment by February 28, 2014 what steps, and the timeline for implementation of the proposed steps, the RDBN will take to ensure the safety of residents using the site.

INSPECTION CONDUCTED BY:

Signature

Brenda Black

Date Signed

2013-12-17

ENCLOSURE(S) TO REGULATED PARTY & DESCRIPTION:

inspection cover letter

CVIS Archives

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS:

Environmental Management Act
Permit PR-7912

Ministry of Environment	Omineca Region Environmental Protection Division	Mailing Address: 3rd Fl 1011-4th Ave Prince George, BC V2L 3H9	Phone: (250) 565-6135 Fax: (250) 565-6629 Website: http://www.gov.bc.ca/env
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