## ENVIRONMENT CANADA EMERGENCIES DIVISION PACIFIC YUKON REGION

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This database and report has been created as a resource tool to evaluate the shipment of dangerous goods on the Fraser River; feasibility of the proposal for a CP Dangerous Goods Terminal at Tilbury Island


Location of the proposed CP Rail dangerous goods terminal adjacent to Rivtow

## Memorandum

To: V. Niemela L. Nikl
C. Wykes B. Kelso
G. Colquoun F. Beech
D. Walton
cc. Ken Wile

From: David Chan and Rene Gregory-Eaves

## Status of Environmentally Sensitive Goods Database August 19, 1994

A meeting was held on Friday August 19 with Allen Domas, Ken Wile, Jenni Stroh, David Chan and Rene Gregory-Eaves to discuss the status of this project. This also marked the completion of the compilation of Dangerous Goods permits of 1993 from the Fraser Port and North Fraser Harbour Commission. These permits were integrated into a pilot database. A summary of this work was generated in a status report "Inventory of Environmentally Sensitive Goods being transported through the Fraser River Estuary." and in an outline of the database utility.

The database will standardize and monitor the shipment of Dangerous Goods. This was revealed as a problem when compiling the permit applications of 1993. Keen interest was expressed by Allen Domaas as to the usefulness and completeness of design of the database. Movement towards implementing this database into the office of the Fraser Port and potentially all Ports in Greater Vancouver is underway. Allen Domaas will speak on the development of the database program at the Canadian Ports and Harbour Association Meeting in Hamilton next month which may generate some interest on a national level.

Steps that should follow this work are; an evaluation of toxicity of the Dangerous Goods identified in the compilation of 1993, an evaluation of toxicity of the Dangerous Goods shipped by CP Rail System, and finalisation of fields in the database. With the database completed, entries into the computer at port offices will flag hazardous combinations of toxicity, quantity and packaging of goods. This will alert the port office that a closer examination of this shipment should be taken. Any new chemicals that are not part of the inventory in the database will also be flagged. This will allow the port office to ćonsult Environment Canada's staff as to the associated danger of the shipment.

## INTRODUCTION

The Fraser River Estuary is a home for extensive aquatic and migratory avian wildlife that makes it particularly environmentally sensitive. Many migratory birds are dependent on the estuary as a nesting ground or refuge while in transport. The Fraser serves to be one of the world's largest remaining salmon producing rivers.

This report focuses on summarizing the first stage of a two stage evaluation on the CP proposal for a Dangerous Goods Berth at Tilbury Island. The purpose of this stage is to design and compile a database of environmentally sensitive goods (ESG) being transported in 1993 on the South and North arms of the Fraser River Estuary. Potential ESG's will be identified from the inventory and an evaluation will be made to determine the environmental toxicity of those goods in the second stage of the project. Upon completion, of this project, a systems software will be provided to the ports for direct entry of the application forms into the computer. Identification of the ESG is intended to help determine the feasibility of a Canadian Pacific Railway (CP Rail) loading berth on Tilbury Island, Delta. Is the proposal for the CP Rail loading berth at Tilbury Island environmentally feasible?

The 1993 permit applications used in analysis were obtained from the Fraser Port (FP) and the North Fraser Harbour Commission (NFHC). The data entered from the application forms was limited to the information provided by the shipper. Each Port Commission had different application forms but the information was similar. Although the database intended for use is being designed, data was transcribed on to a spread sheet in Microsoft Excel.

Several complications were encountered during the transfer of the application forms to the database. An on sight evaluation of a shipping yard was also performed in order to clarify some information that pertained to the application forms and to oversee general shipping practices.

## OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the project are as follows:

1. compiling an inventory of dangerous goods shipped on the Fraser and design a database for the project.
2. identifying the potential ESG's and evaluating environmental toxicity of these goods.
3. provide systems software for the Fraser Port and the North Fraser Harbour Commission.

## INVENTORY OF DANGEROUS GOODS

This report focuses on the compilation of the data received from the two ports (FP and NFHC) and associated complications of the permit application forms. These complications are outlined below.

## FRASER PORT

The Fraser Harbour Commission is located at suite $505-713$ Columbia street, New Westminster, B.C. V3M 1B2. Carmen Germaine at (604) 5246655 was our established contact at Fraser Harbour Commission.

From the application forms, the information that was transferred to the spread sheet included: name of applicant, intended date of movement, vessel, details of consignment, quantity, correct technical name, gross weight, U.N. number, IMCO class, remarks, last port of call, berth requested, next port of call, port and date. See figure 1. There were three revisions of the application form submitted to the Fraser Port in 1993. The newest format of the application form is more organized; however, a few modifications would resolve some of the inconsistencies found during the data entry process.



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## INCONSISTENCIES

Standardization should be made so that all weights and volumes entered are consistent with metric units (i.e., Kg . and Lb.). The standardization of units is important because it reduces the possibility for errors when converting units. In addition, it is time saving when doing analyses.

Grouping several ESG from the same shipment under one gross weight was not uncommon. This data would be insufficient in the case of a spill during transport. It would be very important to determine the environmental impact of such an accident for which more exact measurement for each ESG would be required. Having a unit of mass affixed to each good transported will help to alleviate the ambiguities for this problem.

Applications in some instances were being filed with the ports after the intended date of movement. This could be a problem if an ESG was spilled and the authorities were not even informed of the shipment.

In addition, xeroxed originals had to be obtained from Rivtow Freight for the Fraser Harbour Commission because the copies received from the Fraser Harbour Commission were not legible. The quantities of ESG field had been cut off as a result of the fax transmission. This observation suggests that the applications received were not thoroughly looked over before being filed away.

For a summary of goods being transported from these port in 1993 please see figure 2.

## NORTH FRASER HARBOUR COMMISSION

The North Fraser Harbour Commission is located 220 Airport Road, Richmond, B.C. V7B 1C6. Reesa Stanfield was our established contact at the North Port and can be reached at (604) 2731866.


## FIGURE 2

| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | CHLORODIFLUOROMETHANE | 711.4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | COMPRESSED GAS | 1 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | DETONATORS | N/A |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | DICHLORODIFLUOROMETHANE | 282 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | DIPHENYL METHANE | 25.8 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | ENGINE STARTING FLUID | 147 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | ETCHING ACID | 159 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | ETHYL ALCOHOL SOLUTION | 36 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | FIRE EXTINGUISHERS | 396 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | FURFURYL ALCOHOL | 1230 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | HAY | 20907 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | HYDROCHLORIC ACID | 88.5 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | HYDROCHLORIC ACID MIXTURE | 345 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | HYDROCHLORIC ACID SOLUTION | 27 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | HYDROGEN PEROXIDE - WASTE | 363 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | HYPOCHLORITE SOLUTIONS | 435 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | ISOPROPANOL | 46 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | KEROSENE | $1398+1591.1 \mathrm{~L}$ |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | LAST CONTAINED CHLORINE RESIDUE | 128502 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | LAST CONTAINED CHLOROETHANE RESIDUE | 453 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | LAST CONTAINED COMPRESSED GAS \& FLAMMABLE N.O.S. | 118 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | LAST CONTAINED PROPANE RESIDUE | $9+80 \mathrm{FT}$ |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | LAST CONTAINED SODIUM HYDROXIDE OR CAUSTIC SODA | 3600 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | LIFE RAFT | 319 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | LIFE SAVING APPLIANCES | 144 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | LITHIUM ALUMINUM HYDRIDE | 549 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | METHANOL | 281 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | METHYL CYANIDE ACETONITRILE | 22.5 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | METHYL ETHYL KETONE | 120.5 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | METHYL ETHYL KETONE PEROXIDE | 22 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | METHYL ISOBUTYL KETONE | 4.5 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | METHYL METHACRYLATE | 1 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | MULTIPURPOSE OIL ; N/R | 195 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | N.O.S. TETRAFLUROETHANE REFRIGERANT GAS | $3044.3+* 37946+0.5 \mathrm{~L}$ |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | NAPHTHA PETROLEUM MIXTURE | 16 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | NITROCELLULOSE SOLUTION | 227 |



| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | NITROGEN | 571 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | OXALIC ACID (OXALATES) | , 50 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | OXYGEN | 1445 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | PAINT | 8375.2 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | PAINT RELATED | 4773 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | PAINT THINNER | 65 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | PETROSOL SOLVENT | 848 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | PHOSPHORIC ACID | 65 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | PHOSPHORIC ACID SOLUTION | 328 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | POLONIUM-210 | 0.5 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE | 585 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE | 2550 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | POWDER SMOKELESS | 25 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | POWERFRAC | 7500 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | PRIMERS, CAP TYPE | 25 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | PROPANE | 36 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | PROPANE TANK | 36 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | QUINOLINE. | 79 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | RESIN SOLUTION | 401 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | SIGNAL DISTRESS | 7 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | SODIUM CARBONATE | 35 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | SODIUM FLUORIDE | 1 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | SODIUM FLUOROSILICATE | 15500 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | SODIUM HYDROXIDE | 1639 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | SODIUM HYDROXIDE SOLUTION | 11248 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE | 3187 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE SOLUTION | 3428 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | SULPHURIC ACID | $6+* 30$ |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | TANKS-CARBON DIOXIDE | 431 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | TAR LIQUIDS | 575 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | TOLUENE | 21 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | TRICHLOROETHANE | 4325 |
| RIVTOW, TLLBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | TRICHLOROETHYLENE | 240 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | TRICHLOROMETHANE MIXTURE | 18 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | TRICHLOROTHENE (IN DRUMS) | 4082 |
| RIVTOW, TILBURY TERMINAL, DELTA | WASTE BATTERIES | 219165 |



FIGURE 2 cont..

The information that was transferred from the application to the spread sheet included the following: Permit number, applicant, vessel, berth request, transport date, class, U.N. number, quantity, description of goods, container dimensions, total explosive content, port and application date. See figure 3.

The only applications that were submitted to the North Fraser Harbour Commission were Class 1 explosives. The North Fraser Harbour Commission has been informed of this and is looking into the situation.

## INCONSISTENCIES

The North Fraser also has grouped ESGs from the same shipment under the same gross weight.

For a summary of goods being transported from these port in 1993 please see figure 4.

## CONCLUSION

Transport of regulated environmentally sensitive goods in any surroundings is dangerous. The general practices to monitor the transport of ESG's is in place but not enforced enough which has resulted in incompleteness in reporting. In the development of a risk assessment for the transport of dangerous goods, it would be useful to expand the permit application to have a chemical breakdown of the commercial ESG products. This would allow for reference to the related toxicity information. This could be achieved by taking chemical names off material safety data sheets and putting them into the database.

## AREAS THAT REQUIRE FURTHER STUDY

With the completion of the summary of dangerous goods shipments in the FP and NFHC for 1993, a toxicity analysis is required to determine the number of ESG that impose a threat to the Fraser River Estuary. Also examination of the dangerous goods shipped by CP Rail System in Burrard

## PERMIT TO MOVE EXPLOSIVES, DANGEROUS AND RADIOACTIVE GOODS

Subject to the regulations governing explosives and other dangerous goods, as embodied in the North Fraser Harbour Commission By-Laws 79-121, as well as to the special conditions set forth on the reverse side of this permit and imposed under various sections of such By-Laws, permission is granted as follows:

## PART

To:
For Vessel:
To Berth at:
Date:

| Arrow Transportation Systems |
| :--- |
| Barge: MLT 2 Tug: Mercury 12 |
| Arrow Yard \# 4 |
| July 7, 1993 |

To Load/Unload the following goods:


## IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCHEDULE "D" OF THE DANGEROUS GOODS SHIPPING REGULATIONS ALL DETONATOR PRODUCTS MUST BE STORED SEPARATELY.

## PART II

Being carriers) by railway or road of explosives or other dangerous goods:

1) To move by land (within the harbour boundaries, and including the unloading or loading of railway cars and/or other land vehicles) the goods contemplated by Part I above to or from the place authorized by Part I above for loading to or unloading from, the vessel, as the case may be.
i) (In case where Part $I$ is not applicable) To move by land (within the harbour boundaries and including the unloading or loading of railway cars and/or other land vehicles) the following goods:

## Quantity:

Description of Goods:

## PART III

Remarks pertinent to Part I and/or Part II:
$\qquad$

Port:
North Fraser
Date:
Harbour Master:


RECEIVED:


DATE:


| ARROW YARD \#4 | EZ DETS | N/A |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | FORCITE 75\% | *1334 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | GELATIN EXPLOSIVES | 681 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | GIANT GELATIN | $N / A$ |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | HELIX 75 | 17388 + *32784 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | HYDROMITE 650 | 42432 + *357354 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | IMPACT X | 89090 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | IREDYNE | 12485 + *18059 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | IREDYNE SPECIAL GEL | 30364 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | IREGEL | 4404354 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | IREMITE | 69916 + *18059 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | IRX 1000 | 9072 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | LITE LINE DETONATING CORD | 5370 + *178677 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | LOGGERS SPECIAL | 19348 + *14375 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | MAGNAFRAC R9205D | 32275 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | NILITE WR | 13500 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | NITROPAC | $16800{ }^{*} 19510$ |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | NITROPEL | * 18059 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | ORANGE CAP BOOSTERS | N/A |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | POURVEX EXTRA | 15617 + *31234 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | POWERFRAC | 1000 + *26872 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | POWERMAX | 8340 + *58349 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | PRILEX | * 32820 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | ROCKCRUSHERS - BOOSTERS | 321 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | RXL 718 | * 23145 |
| ARROW YARD \#4 | UNIMAX | 26899.5 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| COAST FERRY TERMINALS | AMEX II | 9000 |
| COAST FERRY TERMINALS | ECONAMEX | 5000 |
| COAST FERRY TERMINALS | EXTRA GELATIN | 385.9 |
| COAST FERRY TERMINALS | LOGGERS SPECIAL | 2625 |
| COAST FERRY TERMINALS | POWERFRAC | 2800 |
| COAST FERRY TERMINALS | POWERMAX | 13680 |

Inlet needs to be considered. CP Rail has compiled a list of the top 15 most commonly moved regulated commodities through their Coal Harbour terminal (see Appendix B). Those commodities represent 80 percent of the total regulated traffic.


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## APPENDIX A

CASE STUDY: Rivtow Freight, Tilbury Island

A half day visit was made to Rivtow Freight at Tilbury Island. The purpose of our visit was to clarify some annotations for containers, units of measure and general practices of the shipment of ESG found on the application forms. Several points of interest about the transport of the ESG were brought to our attention.

Rivtow voiced concerns that the smaller companies are less compliant with the regulations set forth in the Transport of Dangerous Goods Act. Often dangerous goods are packed or buried under non dangerous goods.

Rivtow draws up a map to indicate the location of the dangerous goods on the barge. Copies of the map are given to the captain of the tug boat. See figure 5. Rivtow are through in their documentation but does not have a listing of what is a marine pollutant and voiced concerns that a guide to marine pollutants was not available. Following up with Hugh McCash from Transport Canada, a guide is available: International Marine Dangerous Goods Code. However the responsibility to inform the shipper that the ESG is a marine pollutant is up to the consignor.

All Rivtow employees at the shipping yard are trained to handle and transport dangerous goods and possess a valid chlorine ticket. Transport of chlorine cylinders either empty or full requires an advance notification of 48 hours prior to receiving at the shipping yard. This procedure is followed as an added safety precaution. Due to the explosive and toxic nature of chlorine advance notification is given to the following organizations: local fire department, Port Commission, Coast guard and the tug boat company towing the barge. The local fire department is made aware of the location for the storage area. However, storage conditions for the chlorine tanks at the yard are inadequate for the prevention of any accidents. The tanks are held in cradles that have no containment. See figure 6. The potential for an accidental spill exists because the storage area for the tanks is not fenced off from the main traffic area of the yard.



Chlorine tanks saddled in cradles on Rivtow lot Note: The road way on either side of tanks without any containment.


A closer shot of the tanks with U.N. numbers posted

Appendix B. The top 15 most commonly moved regulated commodities through the Coal Harbour Terminal.

AVERAGE QUANTITY PER HIGHWAY TRAILER LOAD FOR
SELECTED REGULATED COMMODITIES

| Commodity | Typical Packaging | Average Monthly Quantity (tonnes) | Average Monthly No. of Loads | Average Quantity Per Load (tonnes) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Propane | cylinders to highway tank trailers | 1015 | 24 | 42.3 |
| 2. Sodium Chlorate | highway tank trailers | 838 | 21 | 39.9 |
| 3. Liquid Oxygen | cylinders to highway tank trailers | 632 | 16 | 39.5 |
| 4. Sulphuric Acid | large tanks on highway trailers | 573 | 21 | 27.3 |
| 5. Corrosive Liquids | 35 gallon barrels | 548 | 53 | 10.4 |
| 6. Waste Petroleum Oil | 35 gallon barrels, to highway tank trailers | 499 | 14 | 35.6 |
| 7. Methanol | boxes/cartons to highway tank trailers | 437 | 16 | 27.3 |
| 8. Hydrogen Peroxide | highway tank trailers | 335 | 18 | 18.6 |
| 9. Liquid Ammonia | bottles/cartons shrink wrapped | 260 | 12 | 21.7 |
| 10. Sodium Hydroxide | bottles, pails and drums | 254 | 22 | 11.5 |
| 11. Ammonium Nitrates | highway tank trailers | 200 | 7 | 28.6 |
| 12. Sulphur Dioxide | highway tank trailers | 185 | 5 | 37.0 |
| 13. Paint | pails to highway tank trailers | 175 | 60 | 2.9 |
| 14. Batteries | boxes on pallets | 127 | 35 | 3.6 |
| 15. Molten Sulphur | highway tank trailers | 82 | 2 | 41.0 |
| Ethanol | highway tank trailers | 52.8 | 2 | 26.4 |
| Chlorine | cylinders in specially designed trailers | 32 | 6 | 5.3 |

From: Reid Crowther \& Partners, Supplementary Report to FREMP Application CP Rail System Proposed Tilbury Island Relocation. March 1994.

## APPENDIX C

BERTHS IN THE F.P. FILING APPLICATIONS in 1993.
Rivtow FreightTilbury Terminals, DeltaContact: Jim Dickson7700 Hopcott Road, DeltaPh: (604) 9461206
Fraser Surrey Docks
11060 Elevator, Surrey B.C.
Ph: (604) 5812233
New Westminster Docks
This facility does not exist any more.
BERTHS IN THE NFHC FILING APPLICATIONS in 1993.
Arrow Transportation Systems Inc.
Arrow Yard \#4
11580 Mitchell Road, Richmond B.C.Ph: (604) 3241333
Coast Ferry
Coast Ferry Terminals
1400 E. Kent Avenue South
Ph: (604) 3216833
For a map outlining the locations, please see figure 7.

