

Reference: 283656

June 1, 2015

Andrew Weaver, MLA Oak Bay-Gordon Head Room 027, Parliament Buildings Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Dr. Weaver:

Thank you for your letter of April 23, 2015, addressed to my colleague, the Honourable Suzanne Anton, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, regarding a ticket issued to Fraser Surrey Docks for air contamination and the ensuing legal action related to this matter. As your enquiry falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment, I am pleased to respond on behalf of my colleague.

In order to provide clean, safe air for all British Columbians, sources of air pollution throughout the province, including on federal lands, must be managed to appropriate levels.

The Environmental Management Act has delegated authority and responsibility for air quality management and air pollution control for the Greater Vancouver area to Metro Vancouver. Metro Vancouver monitors air quality, controls industrial, commercial and some residential emissions, creates long-term plans and compiles emission inventories, and is responsible for issuing air permits.

As Metro Vancouver's authority comes from this delegation of powers, the Province has an interest in the outcome of the Fraser Surrey Docks case. We will await the court's decision before commenting further.

Where regulatory authority may be unclear with regard to managing a particular source of air pollution, the ministry is committed to finding appropriate solutions through collaborative action with other levels of government and other stakeholders.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Mary Polak Minister

cc: Honourable Suzanne Anton, Attorney General and Minister of Justice

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