

Mr. George Collins
Box 533
Hornepayne, ON
P0M 1Z0

February 10th, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my conjecture that by not responding to my emails since election night, June 12th, 2014, to my verifiable, legitimate concerns my M.P.P. Michael Mantha is protecting CN Rail, the polluter, local government and the Ministry of the Environment (M.O.E.), all of which is irresponsible and contrary to the well being of his constituents living on polluted land, the extent to which is undetermined.

Sincerely,



George Collins

Copy of letter sent to Integrity Commissioner of Ontario

Mr. George Collins
Box 533
Hornepayne, ON
P0M 1Z0

February 10th, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my conjecture that by allowing three (3) years to go by without a response or action to my verifiable, legitimate concerns, my M.P. Carol Hughes is protecting C.N. Rail, the polluter, local government and the Ministry of the Environment, all of which are irresponsible and contrary to the well being of her constituents living on polluted land, the extent to which is undetermined.

Sincerely,



George Collins

Copy of Letter sent to Integrity Commissioner Canada.

Included in letters to Integrity Commissioner for Canada

Box 533
Hornepayne, ON
P0M 1Z0

February 10th, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been born, raised and spent most of my adult life in this community. I can attest to the fact that the majority of the residents of Hornepayne have never received the representation they are entitled to on issues with regard to C.N. Rail. Common to most single (major) industry towns, fear of repercussions and the supporting activities of a small pro-company element has resulted in abominable treatment on pollution matters at the hands of the railway.

As enclosed information will substantiate I have been trying, for years, to establish the health risks involved for friends and family members living on, what I know to be, polluted ground.

Please find enclosed completed application letters condensed into pamphlet form and relevant emails supporting my complaint against M.P. Carol Hughes and M.P.P. Mike Mantha, for failing in their responsibility to address these serious concerns.

It is my intention to distribute the same information locally but, I delayed believing that M.P.P. Mike Mantha would follow through on his assurance to help obtain the results of soil samples which would prove and determine the extent of fuel oil and other pollutants on to private and public property, something the Ministry of the Environment (M.O.E.) should have done when they were made aware of the problem years ago.

I submit for your consideration the enclosed paper work, confident that the facts will speak for themselves with clarity and accusation.

Sincerely,



George Collins

would not print my material

#1

Letter to Editor

I humbly submit for your consideration and print in the Jack Fish Journal the following commentary and correspondence, which I believe will be of interest and concern to your readers.

You will undoubtedly notice the date on the first letter and that it had a c.c. to the then owner of the Journal who would not print, for reasons unknown.

Before I go any further, I declare that I have no axe to grind or honors to bestow, nor any obligation or intent to protect or protest any interest or office. We all have a fundamental right to the truth, the whole truth or as much as is ascertainable under the circumstances, *a concept I'd share with your readers. I do not doubt.*

To make dry reading more palatable I offer this challenge, you decide, "A Conspiracy of Silence comically hidden in plain view or ridiculous, unsubstantial, irrational assertion by an unassociated, profane, monger of doom and gloom."

Letter #1

NO RESPONSE

August 30, 2007
Mr George Collins
P.O. Box 553
Hornepayne, ON P0M 1Z0

Mr Mike Windstanley
Trainmaster
C.N. Rail
Hornepayne, ON
P0T 1Z0

Sir:

Over the last five (5) years approximately, I have heard rumours on different occasions of a large quantity or quantities of diesel fuel saturating various locations of your property in Hornepayne. Some of the rumors cite spillage from your refueling operations, other leakage, it is said, comes from your system as the source or sources. If these rumours are true, it is alarming to hear of the possible total accumulated amounts of oil spillage.

As a person who frequently comes to the community to access services and purchase necessities, who has relatives and friends that reside in the community, and as a person who still retains some social conscience, I am concerned about possible health risks regarding this problem.

Concerning this subject, would you please respond in writing to the following questions:

- a) Since the fueling operations began in Hornepayne, is there any record of a major fuel oil spill or leak?

- b) Since the refueling operations began in Hornepayne, is there any record of any minor fuel oil spills or leaks?
- c) Has your company ever obtained an estimate from an outside source of the amount of fuel spillage or potential amount on or under your property? If such an estimate exists, will you share it with me now?
- d) According to your information, has any of the fuel oil above ground or under the ground spread to any adjacent property or into water ways?
- e) If any of these questions in the past or present are answerable in the affirmative, did you or your predecessors notify the municipal or provincial authorities?

Thanking you in advance for your candid and timely response.

Concerned party,



George Collins

cc

Mr Mike Brown
MPP Algoma Manitoulin

Mr. Gene Belanger and Hornepayne Council

Mrs S. Chadwick
Jackfish Hournal
Hornepayne, ON

Mrs Laurel Broten
Minister of the Environment for Ontario

Letter #2

PETER G.F. YOUNG
LAW OFFICES

Gavin H Young, Q.C.
(1911-1983)
Peter G.F. Young, B.COMM., LL.B

244 Camelot Street
Thunder Bay, Ontario
P7A 4B1
Telephone: (807) 344-0881
Fax: (807) 345-9886

File # 12525

March 25, 2008

C.N. Rail
Hornepayne, Ontario
P0M 1Z0

ATTENTION : Mike Windstanley, Trainmaster

Dear Sir:

Re: Correspondence from George Collins re: Diesel Fuel Spillage

I have been retained by George Collins to request a reply to his correspondence to you of August 30, 2007, additional copy enclosed herewith.

Please provide your response directly to Mr. Collins at P.O. Box 533, Hornepayne within three weeks from the date of this letter.

Mr Collins has asked us to advise you that if no response is received within the time period set forth herein, he will have no alternative but to follow-up with the Ministry of Environment directly for answers to his concerns.

We trust you will have the courtesy to forward your response to him in a timely manner.

Yours truly,



Peter G.F. Young

PGFY/sy
Encl.

cc: George Collins

Letter #3

George Collins
Box 533
Hornepayne, ON
P0M 1Z0

May 24, 2011

Dear Ms. Hughes:

I would like to congratulate you on becoming the new Member of Parliament for Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing. I felt it really was time for a change. I also feel good about being one vote in that change process. Congratulations and good luck.

I have a second matter that I would like to bring to your attention and ask for any help you and your office may be able to render. It may also become necessary to explore legal avenues such as an application under the *Freedom of Information Act*, but I hope to be able to reach resolution with your assistance, making such action unnecessary. The particulars of the second matter are as follows with a brief personal introduction.

I was born in Hornepayne and have lived there for ninety nine (99%) of my fifty nine (59) years in this locale. I am a retired railway worker who was associated with CN Rail for thirty six (36) years, ninety nine percent of the time working out of Hornepayne.

Hornepayne, since the early 1950s until recently, was a major refueling terminal for all east and west bound traffic. I can only guess at the amount of diesel fuel and other carbon based products that over the five decades have been unloaded in our community for use in railway operations. Concerning diesel fuel alone, a conservative estimate on my part is that hundreds of millions of liters have been used. Diesel fuel arrives in tank cars and is off loaded through a pipe network to storage fuel tanks where it is stored for refuelling locomotives and other equipment. It was pumped through another system to three outlet points all within a central location with respect to the surrounding community.

I have witnesses over the years many spills and lots of leakages until automatic overflow shut off mechanisms were installed in the 1960s. Overflow events were a daily occurrence with the fuel and other oils gone or spread over the years.

Please find enclosed, copies of two letters; one written personally by myself and one written by the law offices of Peter G.F. Young. To date I have not received the common courtesy of a reply from CN Rail. I doubt if they would even acknowledge having received them.

I feel a request for information concerning:

- i. Amounts of fuel and other oils recovered.
- ii. Amounts of fuel and other oils unrecovered.

or estimates of the same from you and your office would be a request they would not, and could not be ignored.

To be frank, I suspect CN Rail has already removed an embarrassingly large amount of diesel fuel and other products out of the ground, and I believe they know that there is still a larger amount remaining. Also, because of the lack of conscientious intelligent containment and recovery policy, and the length of time some of the pollution has been left in the ground, I believe some has spread beyond their property boundary. A pertinent question at this time would be: "do residents and visitors to Hornepayne have the right to know the truth and the health risks, or is it none of their business?"

On behalf of others who wish to remain anonymous and myself, thank you in advance for any help or guidance you may offer or give on this matter.

Sincerely yours



George Collins

Letter #4

September 28, 2011

Mr George Collins
P.O. Box 533
Hornepayne, Ontario
P0M 1Z0
Re: Diesel fuel spillage

Dear Mr Collins

Thank you very much fro the letter regarding your concerns over diesel fuel spillage in your community. We greatly appreciate your assistance in looking into this serious environmental concern. To assist us in looking into this matter we would like to speak with you personally about this and would like you to contact our office by telephone if possible at your convenience. you can reach our constituency office toll free at 1-800-463-3335 during business hours Tuesday to Thursday and Fridays until noon.

Thank you again for contacting us. We look forward to speaking with you to help resolve this matter



Grant Buck
Office of Carol Hughes, M.P.
Algoma- Manitoulin- Kapuskasing
20 Prince Charles Walk
Elliot Lake Ontario
P5A 1Z7

Phone (705) 848-8080; 1800 463-3335
Fax (705) 848-1818

NOTE

After Letters from Grant Buck, office of Carol Hughes

When I first contacted Carol Hughes MPP for Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing thru her office I received the expected interest and concern a representative should have for a constituents problem, more so when it is a community problem.

I ask if she could start correspondence with C.N. by asking why they had not responded to my letter of August 30th, 2007. It is my understanding thru her office assistant Jamie Burgess, that she had agreed and a letter was sent out on or about October, 28th, 2011. I never did receive a copy of the letter I had requested.

I spoke with Jamie again on July 16th, 2012 to get an update at ph 1-613-996-5389, I provide the number for verification purposes if anyone wishes. I ask if her office had received any response from C.N.. Answer, No and nothing could be done until fall because of summer recess. I ask if a second letter, if only a copy of the first one could be send to push C.N. for a response. Jamie's reply was "I'll check with Carol and get back to you".

I am still waiting.

Sometime between my initial contact of May 24th, 2011 and July 16th, 2012, Mrs Hughes would seem to have done an about face.

What does it mean when we see lagoons built complete with liners, overflow banks, pump houses on site all surrounded by fencing, trucks taking soil samples both on and off C.N. property? Did diesel and or other containments spread in the water table beyond their property?

I waited and expected from somewhere some sort of information would be coming, but years have gone by and only silence.

What does it mean? To me the use of an old analogy is helpful "Tip of the Iceberg". What you see on the surface is removal of liquids only, how big and how dirty is the iceberg under ground. One of the possible contaminates I fear most is P.C.B.'s you can look them up on the internet, they are dangerous at a minimum. In the 60's and 70's some industries using P.C.B.'s had a solution to get rid of their waste, immoral as it was, in that the process was incomplete, but they made deals with oil refineries to mix their P.C.B. laden oil with large quantities of diesel fuel as a way of getting rid of their problem. Now anywhere where there are large polluted area from that era, present the possibility of P.C.B. exposure and that scares me. It also raises the problem to a whole different level.

Health concerns are the greatest worry but not the only one. Throw in some speculation, property value or loss of, then compensation matters, liability, breach of trust, collusion to with hold information from the public and one which is not speculation, "high water rates".

Why after so many years of good service was the town well no longer adequate to supply the town needs. Why was it necessary to go all the expensive way to Moon Light Lake for a new source of water. If the water quality was an issue, what specifically was the problem or pollutant of concern. Were the closer,

cheaper possible sources simply to close to the growing iceberg, if so who should be paying for the new system who's liability is it. This is jumping ahead in logic I admit, but try the shoe on and see how it fits.

At a minimum it would appear that relevant information has and is been withheld from the community. Perhaps its because these are difficult times both economically and socially and no one wants to add to the stress, or could it be to protect one of the wealthiest corporations in the country. The truth is usually the simplest explanation that agrees with and explains all the evidence.

Lets consider the long entangled relationship between C.N. and our municipal government thru another analogy. It is said that appearance is the first impression, consider a new comer visually surveying the number (one) employer in the community, the old dilapidated shops, The skeleton of the old coal chutes forming part of the skyline, the old station and dispatching office, never a blade of grass cut all summer long and on the main street the creme de la creme that tin can gypsy encampment called a bunkhouse. It is a sad pathetic picture with no justifiable excuse. If this is working together to build a better future it defies definition.

The wealthiest owner owns the most disgusting property right in the middle of town and barely a murmur of complaint is heard, the only noticeable additions are the lagoons with the quaint little pump houses and new fencing.

I don't hesitate to criticize their lack of action in taking reasonable care of their property or lack of commitment to the community money is not the problem so I wonder how and why they get away with it. I have no doubt if they could close the north line and go by Chicago they would already be gone bottom line and bonuses all the rest just a B.S. front.

There is no good time for bad news but God help any community in this day and age that does not aggressively come forward to protect its self and the truth even if it is ugly is better than looking the other way.

Any community trying to find a new direction and a hopeful future will have to start with or incorporate into its plans a clean foundation or its future will be precarious at best.

Circumstances have afforded one timely opportunity, in that the community is now involved with the NWMO learn more process. Idealistically how a community is treated seeking answers in a matter such as what I have outlined will be a mirror image of what it could expect, should it choose to go ahead and at some future date have problems with a depository.

Hydro carbon pollutants could be considered benign in comparison to nuclear fuel rods.

Interested in digging for facts or returning to the land of Oz's.

W.D.Y. Think
I am at grambug7@sympatico.ca

Letter 5

Ministry of the Environment
435 James Street South
Suite 331
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7
Tel (807) 475-1690
Fax (807) 475-1754

Log: ENV1283MC-2012-3022

October 31, 2012

Mr George Collins
Via email: grambug7@sympatico.ca

Dear Mr Collins:

Thank you for your email message of October 20, 2012 about the Canadian National Railway (CN) yard in Hornepayne. I have been asked to respond to your email on behalf of the Honourable Jim Bradley, Minister of the Environment.

Clean up activities with respect to historical diesel and oil contamination at the Hornpayne Yard have been ongoing since the 1990s, when the on site fuelling stands were decommissioned. The ministry of the Environment is aware of this contamination, and has issued Environmental Compliance Approvals for the treatment systems installed by CN (which are known as the East End Environmental Protection System and the West End Fuelling Stand System). These systems collect and treat contaminated groundwater and storm water prior to discharge to the Jackfish River. The original approval for part of this system was issued in 1998; the most recent approval, which consolidated the East and West end systems into one permit, was issued in April of 2010. For your further information, the approval is available online through the Access Environment website, or at this link: <http://www.environet.ene.gov.on.ca/instruments/4992-7UVKVT-14.pdf>.

The Environmental Compliance Approval for the treatment systems includes requirements for both ground and surface water monitoring, sets effluent limits for the discharge to the Jackfish River, requires notification if any discharge samples exceed limits and required the preparation and submission of an annual report to the ministry. CN has been in compliance with their discharge limits 2010, 2011, 2012 to date.

You asked in your email for information on the amount of contamination that has been pumped out of the ground. For the 2012 year to date, 6298 liters of hydrocarbon contamination have been recovered from the East and West End Treatment Systems.

I hope the above information has answered most of your questions about the Hornepayne Yard. If you have more questions or concerns, you can call Trisha Westman, Supervisor, at 705-942-6393, or toll free at 1-800-965-9990.

Thank you for bringing your comments and concerns to the Minister's attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Taylor".

John Taylor
Director,
Northern Region

Letter 6

From: Crosson, Kirk (ENE)
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 11:45 am
To: grambug7@sympatico.ca
cc: Westman, trisha (ENE)
Subject: Follow-up to question on recovery at the Hornepayne CN yard

Here is a web link to the sire approval <http://www.environet.gov.on.ca/instruments/4992-7UVKVT14.pdf>

Based on the 2010 annual report for this site the follow recovery information was provided.

For the West end recovery system for the period from 1998 to 2010 a total of 168,314 L was recovered of which 3,007 L was recovered in 2010.

For the East End Lagoon Recovery System for the period from 1998 to 2010 a total of 19,124 L had been recovered of which 1,182 L was recovered in 2010.

From the former shop track fueling area system was not operated in 2010, but material from various other operations was placed within site's holding tank (1,469 L in 2010). Since 2004 this system has recovered 10,110 L of material.

Note 2

0950- November 23rd, 2012 Called K.G.S. Engineering, Thunder Bay

Spoke with a Tony at 807-623-2195 was told all information must come from C.N. also that they do not do analysis they send samples to a certified lab, but P.C.B.'s were not identified as a possible contaminate to test for. Is this good or is this bad?

Would you consider a donation to have a lawyer file under the Freedom of Information Act to obtain the results of the soil samples taken.