

## PDF #61

To Interested Parties.  
Update, June 28th, 2023.

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Respectfully I submit:

Currently, Mr. Hunter and our counsel at CELA are both requesting additional material.

The significance of the matter is worth the wait.

### Conversely.

I regret to inform you that the mayor and council have refuse to ask CN Rail the primary question, or "CN Rail concerning your pollution is there any associated health risks for residents living on or near the polluted areas of concern".

In their decision letter dated March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 they also state "the Township has done all we can reasonably do", which is preciously nothing, "we will not be responding to any further inquiries on this topic".

The attached decision letter from the CAO/clerk, on behalf of the Lord Mayor and Council, also states that they did "bring my concerns to CN Rail", (they offer no verification). One is left to wonder why; they did not put my pertinent question to CN Rail when they brought my concerns to them, the opportunity was there.

I conclude, they do convenience the Polluter.

II

I also attached copies of letters send to Carol Hughes and Mike Mantha requesting their help. To date there has not been any response from either party, nor do I expect any.

I will keep you informed.

Please see the attached emails for details.

George C.

Re: Request for Update.

George J Collins <grampabug7@hotmail.com>

Thu 16/02/2023 06:16 PM

To: Aileen Singh <aileen.singh@hornepayne.ca>

I thank you for this update, have a good weekend. Geo.

George J. Collins

**From:** Aileen Singh <aileen.singh@hornepayne.ca>

**Sent:** February 16, 2023 05:11 PM

**To:** 'George J Collins' <grampabug7@hotmail.com>

**Subject:** RE: Request for Update.

Good afternoon George,

Just wanted to provide an update in that Council is continuing to look into your request. I will keep you informed and hope to provide an update soon.

Thank you.



**Aileen Singh**

**CAO/Clerk**

Township of Hornepayne

68 Front St. P.O. Box 370

Hornepayne, ON PoM 1Z0

Ph: 807-868-2020 x205

Fax: 807-868-2787

Email:

Web:

*~ We are a municipality focused on providing value-added experiences to our citizens, visitors, and investors. ~*

*~ Our quest for continual improvement and quality of life will make us the Township where people want to live, work, visit and invest. ~*

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**From:** Aileen Singh

**Sent:** Thursday, January 26, 2023 5:50 PM

**To:** 'George J Collins' <grampabug7@hotmail.com>

**Subject:** RE: Request for Update.

Good morning George,

Township of Hornepayne  
68 Front Street  
P.O. Box 370  
Hornepayne, ON P0M 1Z0



Tel: (807) 868-2020  
Fax: (807) 868-2787  
www.townshipofhornepayne.ca  
info@hornepayne.ca

*The Geographic Centre of Ontario*

March 29, 2023

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

[grampabug7@hotmail.com](mailto:grampabug7@hotmail.com)

GEORGE COLLINS  
121 FOURTH STREET  
NIPIGON, ON P0T 2J0

Dear George:

Re: Concerns raised regarding CN's Pollution & Moonlight Lake

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The Township of Hornepayne acknowledges that you have made several requests through MFIPPA, email, and letter to the Township and Council requesting information regarding environmental issues arising from the CN Rail property, including any impact on Moonlight Lake and Hornepayne's Drinking Water System.

To date, the Township has advised you of the following:

- The Township's drinking water system is tested to provincial requirements on a regular basis and testing results comply with regulatory requirements.
- Environmental issues relating to CN property are regulated federally by Environment and Climate Change Canada (the "ECCC") and provincially by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (the "MOECP").
- The Township has minimal jurisdiction over environmental matters and given that CN is a federally regulated company, it is required to report to both agencies named above, on an ongoing basis, the status of any remediation measures that are in place.

In addition to the above, the Township has taken the following steps in an effort to assist you with your concerns:

- Brought your concerns forward to CN;
- Requested that CN provide the Township the most recent reports regarding any remediation measures in place and that these reports be provided to the Township on an annual basis;
- Requested that the most recent reports regarding any remediation measures in place be provided to the Township by the ECCC and MOECP.

The requested reports have not been provided to the Township so at this time we are recommending that you contact the ECCC and the MOECP directly.

Township of Hornepayne  
68 Front Street  
P.O. Box 370  
Hornepayne, ON P0M 1Z0



*The Geographic Centre of Ontario*

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[info@hornepayne.ca](mailto:info@hornepayne.ca)

At this point, the Township has completed what we committed to do, as outlined in the December 5, 2022 letter to you.

Based on advice received and given that the Township has done all we can reasonably do, we will not be responding to any further inquiries on this topic. Furthermore, you have been advised to contact the appropriate ministries who have jurisdiction in this matter.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A. Singh'.

Aileen Singh  
CAO/Clerk  
Township of Hornepayne

c.c.: Mayor & Council  
Township of Hornepayne

March 24<sup>th</sup> 2023,  
Mrs. Carol Hughes  
NDP MP for Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing.

Dear Mrs. Hughes.

I write this letter out of concern for the residents of Hornepayne.

Your constituents in that community are in need of your representation and support.

The cause of my concern is the reluctance of the mayor and council to put before CN Rail the following QUESTION.

“CN Rail, concerning your pollution, are there any associated health risks for residents living on or near the polluted areas of concern”.

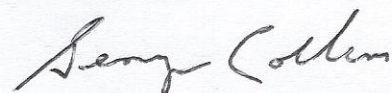
I include current emails, exchanged between myself and the township that detail this matter.

The mayor and council’s protective position of CN Rail, puts aside their primary responsibility, which is to protect the community and in this matter more precisely those living on or near CN’s polluted land.

I respectfully request your support, in having this question put before CN Rail and

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,  
George Collins.



Carol.

FOR your convenience, I include a copy of my May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011 letter and the response I received from Mr. Buck, concerning this matter.

If you should require more info please do not hesitate to call me at 807 889 1497 or email me at [grampabug7hotmail.com](mailto:grampabug7hotmail.com).

Geo.

## Letter #3

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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:

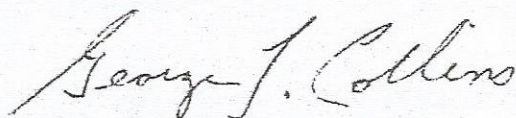
- i. Amounts of fuel and other oils recovered.
- ii. Amounts of fuel and other oils unrecovered.

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

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

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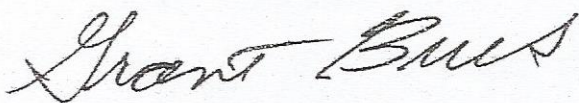
September 28, 2011

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

March 24<sup>th</sup> 2023,  
Mr. Mike Mantha,  
NDP MPP for Algoma-Manitoulin.

Dear Mr. Mantha

I write this letter out of concern for the residents of Hornepayne.

Your constituents in that community are in need of your representation and support.

The cause of my concern is the reluctance of the mayor and council to put before CN Rail the following QUESTION.

“CN Rail, concerning your pollution, are there any associated health risks for residents living on or near the polluted areas of concern”.

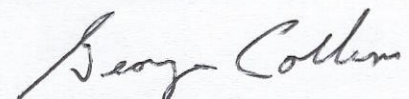
I include current emails, exchanged between myself and the township that detail this matter.

The mayor and council’s protective position of CN Rail, puts aside their primary responsibility, which is to protect the community and in this matter more precisely those living on or near CN’s polluted land.

I respectfully request your support, in having this question put before CN Rail and

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,  
George Collins.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Collins".

Mike.

FOR your convenience, I include a copy of my March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 email to you and your response, concerning this matter.

If you should require more info please do not hesitate to call me at 807 889 1497 or email me at [grampabug7hotmail.com](mailto:grampabug7hotmail.com).

Geo.

RE: CN Hornepayne fUEL Cont.

MMantha-QP@ndp.on.ca <MMantha-QP@ndp.on.ca>

Thu 27/03/2014 04:33 PM

To: grampabug7@hotmail.com <grampabug7@hotmail.com>

Thanks George,

Yes we would be interested in any info you have so we can go to the Minister with it.

Send anything to

Michael Mantha, MPP  
Room 160, Main Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
111 Wellesley st. w  
Toronto Ontario  
M7A 1A5

**Claire Prashaw**

Executive Assistant/Ajointe Exécutive  
Office of Michael Mantha MPP/ député  
Algoma-Manitoulin

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<https://www.facebook.com/MichaelMantha>  
<https://twitter.com/ManthaNDP>  
OPSEU 578

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**From:** George Collins [mailto:grampabug7@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 26, 2014 6:23 PM  
**To:** Mantha - QP, Michael  
**Subject:** CN Hornepayne fUEL Cont.

Claire Prashaw. Thank you for your response. I have very little in my comp. to send you . But to morrow I will send you enough info. to give you a very good picture by Canada Post if you send me an add. where it would reach you as directly as possible. The info. I propose to send to you is in the form of a pamphlet that I intended to distribute locally because the local paper did not wish to publish it. I did not distribute it yet anticipating more info to add, however all info. contained is actual as you will be able to conclude when it is in your possession. AS SOON AS YOU SEND AN ADD. I will get it going at you. Thanking you in advance for any help you may be able to provide . George Collins .