

Aerial view of Burrard Inlet

### Metro Vancouver Air Quality Permitting Process

#### Kathy Preston

Director, Environmental Regulation & Enforcement

Semiahmoo RNG GP Corp. Public Meeting 63417056



23 Member Jurisdictions

2.8 Million Residents

53% of BC population



#### METRO VANCOUVER LEGAL ENTITIES AND SERVICES



#### REGULATORY AUTHORITY

- Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) has delegated authority from the province to manage and regulate air quality in the region
- The MVRD Board is required to appoint a District Director, who is authorized to issue air permits



#### **AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT BYLAW 1082, 2008**

Prohibition & exemptions

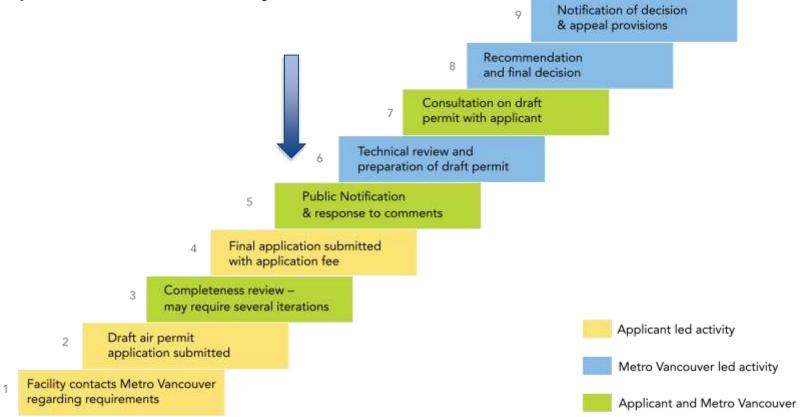
- Prohibits the discharge of air contaminants from an industry, trade or business <u>unless</u> the discharge is conducted strictly in accordance with the terms and conditions of a:
  - Permit or
  - Emission regulation

#### POSSIBLE PERMIT CONDITIONS

That are Advisable for the Protection of the Environment

- A term for the authorized discharge
- Limits on the quantity, frequency and nature of air contaminants permitted to be discharged
- Requirements to:
  - improve or add works
  - monitor the discharge and its potential effects
  - conduct studies, develop plans, keep records and report information

#### Steps to Obtain an Air Quality Permit



#### PROCEDURAL FAIRNESS & NATURAL JUSTICE

- Both the Applicant and Concerned Persons are given the opportunity to be "heard"
  - Public Notification Regulation
  - All comments are sent to applicant for a response
- The decision maker must be:
  - Unbiased
  - Impartial
  - Not have any personal stake in the matter

## THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR CAN CONSIDER

- Relevant information provided by:
  - Applicant
  - Concerned persons
  - Government or private agencies
  - MVRD staff
  - Others



# THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR CANNOT CONSIDER

- Matters outside jurisdiction such as:
  - Zoning
  - Land use
  - Noise
  - Aesthetics
  - Traffic
  - Social licence





#### **EXERCISE OF DISCRETION**

- The person who has "heard" the matter must decide the issue – no one else
- The district director:
  - must be independent in the permit decision-making process
  - may consider government policy but cannot apply that policy inflexibly
  - cannot be fettered or directed by others in exercising discretion

#### **HOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS**

Comments must be in writing to be considered

Form available at <a href="https://www.metrovancouver.org">www.metrovancouver.org</a> Search "air quality notification"

**Email** 

AndionComments@metrovancouver.org

Write to
Air Quality District Director
4515 Central Boulevard
Burnaby, BC, V5H 0C6





Questions?

#### **metro**vancouver

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