

FACT SHEET

Environment and Safety

The Vancouver Airport Fuel Delivery Project is a culmination of years of research, review and consultation.

- It will replace the current fuel delivery system with a more efficient configuration having a smaller physical and environmental footprint that better aligns with the current fuel supply logistics.
- It is an upgrade, not a new use.
- On a stand-alone basis, the risks of this project are few and will be managed to insignificant levels with well understood and proven risk management methods and best practices. On a comparative basis, the risks of this project are far less than the current fuel delivery infrastructure.
- Navigation of deep sea vessels on the Fraser River is a routine activity that has occurred for decades with an extremely low rate of incidents.
- The size of vessel proposed for this project is similar in size or smaller than vessels already routinely transiting the river safely on a daily basis. The number of vessel visits that will be required to serve the project is minor at approximately one visit a week, or less if larger vessels are used.
- All vessels carrying aviation fuel will be under the control of certified river pilots, all of whom have many years of training and experience on the river and know the conditions affecting the navigation of deep sea vessels on the river.
- All vessels calling at the terminal will be double-hulled, and pre-screened and vetted through a comprehensive tanker acceptance program.
- These vessels will also be required to carry pollution liability insurance at the prevailing industry standards.
- Escort tugs, automated monitoring and emergency shutdown capability during unloading, and the strategic pre-deployment of a response vessel and booming will all contribute to safe operations.
- The location of the terminal is ideally placed, located in an area that is naturally wide and deep.
- The project's spill prevention and response strategies for the Fraser River are robust and go well beyond industry standards and best practices.
- The spill assessment work was recognized as being current with industry and academic best-practices for spill fate and behaviour models. It was described by Environment Canada as the current state-of-the-art for spill modelling and potential incident preparation.
- The risk of a spill is low and the response presence designed for this project will benefit all other users on the river and in the Strait of Georgia.
- An independent Fraser River Tanker Traffic Study commissioned by Port Metro Vancouver and released in 2012 made recommendations and concluded that aviation fuel can be transported safely on the river.