

For Immediate Release | May 30, 2019

## New water advisory for North Thompson after diesel spill

VAVENBY – A motor vehicle incident involving a transport truck on Highway 5 on Thursday May 30, 2019 has resulted in diesel contamination in the North Thompson River. The vehicle cargo also included containers of resin and resin hardener, with possible loss of containers into the river.

Residents who draw their water from the river between the crash site (12 km north of Vavenby near Mad Creek) south to the confluence of the North Thompson with Clearwater River are advised to be alert and check their water for any signs of diesel fuel including sheen or fuel odour.

All residents in the affected area should **not use** the river water if it smells or tastes like fuel. This means no drinking, showering/bathing or brushing teeth if a fuel odour is detected. Diesel fuel can pose a health risk following ingestion, inhalation or skin absorption.

**There has been no impact from the diesel spill to the Vavenby community water system.** As a precaution, the Vavenby intake was shut off temporarily but has since been restarted and the water is being monitored to ensure that no fuel has been taken into the system.

Due to the individual packaging and low likelihood of a large release, health risk presented by resin material is low. The Ministry of Environment is monitoring the situation and further information will be provided as necessary.

**Note:** the previous Boil Water notification issued for Vavenby remains in place.

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