From: ***PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED***
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 6:23:25 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: WAM comment submission

Hi There,

Here are my concerns regarding water laws ...

IMPORTANT POINTS

• water recognized as a human right
and part of the commons
— owned
collectively by all and held in trust by government to
manage in the public interest

• a broadened scope of discussion for
true water protection
— include land use
(like resource extraction activities) since you can't
protect the water without considering the land

• Water Act would not devolve some
uses and protections to other acts
—Section 9 of the
Water Act devolves water protection to various other
Ministries Acts (Forestry, Mining, Gas & Oil)

• Watershed Reserves re-established
for source protection from forestry and other resource
extraction activities
— watershed
reserves would protect our drinking water supplies

• Collaborative science, traditional
knowledge and local history would inform all allocation
decisions
— precautionary
principle functioning at all times (no harm proof prior to
new uses, not mitigation after damage)

• Governence model: FULLY FUNDED local
government model with local decision-making power
—my caveat on this
is that since there is no funding and they will never grant
local decision making powers, it would be best to go with
the
STATUS QUO (no change model) until broader scope, full
funding and full public consultation is part of the process

• FITFIR(First in time, First in
right) remain unchanged since it is a self-regulating system
for over-allocation problems
— "if it's not
broke, don't fix it" . Modifying FITFIR could allow
government to remove water rights from established farms,

water systems,
and other uses

• Domestic Use licensed use should NOT
be changed to a "permitted" use in order to retain legal
rights

• Public involvement enlarged to cover
further steps in the process
—the government
decision making model shows the workshop/comments as our one
kick at the can.

-First Nations social and cultural practices associated with water are respected
and accomodated

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns on this vital issue.

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