From: ***PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED***
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2010 3:56:27 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Water Act Review

April 27, 2010

Re: Water Act Review

To whom it may concern,

Water should be a right, not a commodity. DROP this principle of "predictable investment climate across the province" from Water Act Modernization (WAM). OUR COMMON WATER RIGHTS ARE NOT FOR SALE!!

To “commercialize” water is abominable. The importance of this issue makes it critical that there be an exhaustive comprehensive review, reaching all communities in British Columbia, no matter how small or large. I do not think there has been enough public information or consultation.

We currently have COMMON LAW Riparian Water Rights, which is part of our public trust. I demand that water be recognized as a human right and part of the commons owned collectively by all and held in trust by government to be managed in the public interest, not corporate interest!

As for allocating or dispensing water based on "a higher economic purpose", there is no higher purpose for water than domestic needs. PEOPLE FIRST!!

Your committee should look at water conservancy by uniting the water policies of various government Ministries and working together toward this goal. Water conservancy starts right at the source, at the watershed. Your review needs to start there also. WATERSHEDS SHOULD BE LEGISLATED AS RESERVES AND SOURCE WATER PROTECTED! Surface and Ground Water protection from all water quality impacting activities should be the focus of water management, and the availability of clean, potable water FREE to all. Do NOT devolve water protection to various other Ministries (Acts).

I strongly feel that we need a broader public input of this process instead of this unannounced 10 day review process.

Respectfully,

PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED