From: ***PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED***
Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2010 4:04:27 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Water Act Modernization

Dear Sir/Madam,

I submit the following comments on this exercise for consideration.

I am generally very pleased with the scope and process laid out in the principles, goals, objectives and possible measures. Comments:

Principles D.1 and D.5

'Sustainable limits' needs to be much more explicit. Like the exisiting Act many old school water management
paradigms prevail and need to change. Suggest inclusion of wording:

Sustainable, environmentally-safe limits of supply for surface water sources shall be established and
implemented by Water and Land Use planners. Limits will be based on the capacity of existing natural systems to continue supplying into the (drier) future. Total demand from human and natural communities must not exceed this threshold.

This is a supply-based down approach to demand management, not the old demand-based up mindset. Respecting limits, users determine their priorities and regulate themselves accordingly.

Goal Three: ie. 'Introduce more flexibility and efficiency in the water allocation system.'

If I understand this as the appropriate place for the following recommendation:

Private/Public Partnerships are inefficient. Private investment requires profit, public investment does not.
It has been well demonstrated in Canada and abroad that the first responsibility of private enterprise is to its shareholders. The well-being of the people they serve is not their mandate, is not always well known to private enterprise, understood or possibly even a priority. With publicly owned/operated utilities these are foremost considerations. It has been well demonstrated that publically operated water utilities are more cost effective.

Thank you very much. Sincerely,

PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED

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