From: ***PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED***
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2010 5:18:25 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Re: Water Act Modernization- Discussion Paper Feedback

Submitted on 04/28/2010 - 18:18
Submitted by anonymous user: [75.157.122.127]

Submitted values are:

Postal Code: ***PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED***
Comments:
Dear Minister Penner,

I support these changes to the Water Act.

- Water license applications need to have an EXPIRY date, so that private industry can't hold onto water rights.

- Groundwater extraction and use must be REGULATED for all large withdrawals and the word 'large' must be clearly defined.

- We must have a licensing/permitting system that prioritizes water uses—such as ecosystem and domestic uses—above irrigation uses for golf courses and lawns.

- The Water Act must be the MASTER legislation that determines what is able to occur in watersheds.

- Riparian Area Regulation (RAR) assessments must be conducted under regional or municipal legislation. There should be a penalty for regional districts/municipalities that don't comply with RAR legislation.

- The Water Act needs to recognize WETLANDS and their critical processes.

- Oil and Gas exploration companies must have to PAY for all water uses and must be responsible for tracking how much groundwater they extract and use.

- The Water Act must take a holistic approach to ecosystem management.

- The Act needs to be built around logical WATERSHED BOUNDARIES, not political boundaries.

- Community relationships that have already been established around water issues need to be consulted for water allocation decisions.

- Bill 30 rulings need to be REVERSED, allowing local governmental bodies to have meaningful input.

- The impacts of CLIMATE CHANGE must be taken into consideration, including an assessment of how it will impact the ability to meet ecosystem and domestic needs.

In Closing:
Thank you very, very much for considering these items as you make your

decision. Our future is in your hands.

Your loyal citizen,
PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED