From: nobody@scribe.env.gov.bc.ca
Sent: Sunday, April 25, 2010 8:31:13 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Water Act Modernization Discussion Paper Feedback

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by
() on 2010 04 25, at 20:31:13

PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED

ContactMethod: Email

Principles_Support: Strongly Support

Goal1_Support: Strongly Support

EnviroFlow: Standards

DumpingProhibition: Amend

Goal2_Support: Strongly Support

Goal2_Options: Centralized

GovernanceFundingSolutions: Higher water license fees, particularly to new or large volume industrial users might be one option. It should be understood that the important administrative, assessment, and planning initiatives outlined in this proposed new legislative process will require considerable resources â both staff and funding. The provincial civil service has seen a considerable (~20%) downsizing in the last 10-15 years, and their ability to adequately protect and monitor environmental issues is already stretched. Budget projections in environmental Ministries are for further reductions in the next several years, including staff reductions through either retirements or firings. Adding additional duties will require additional funds and manpower. There is no free lunch.

Accountability: Transparency and the opportunity for balanced input from all stakeholders is critical. This means that there should be clear guidelines for stakeholder (including public) membership on boards and committees, and there should be a prominent role of independent scientists in reviewing technical issues to ensure that technical assessment are sound and not biased by stakeholder interest. This would include adequate resources for planning staff to review all technical planning and assessment documents that may be produced by contractors hired by proponents, and adequate resources for public review and stakeholder input through consultations.

BenefitsOfSharedRoles: Shared roles could be beneficial if it gives local communities and stakeholders more input into local resource management issues. However, there could be serious funding issues if responsibilities are downloaded to municipalities.

Goal3_Support: Strongly Support

WaterUseEfficiency_1: Government determines actual needs

WaterUseEfficiency_2: Use of incentives and economic instruments

AdminEfficiencyOptions_SelfReg: Required self-registration

AdminEfficiencyOptions_WaterUse: Combine admin and efficiency

Flexibility_Support: Strongly Support

WaterAllocationSystem_Options: Priority use

WaterScarcityPermanent_Options: Through a mandatory Water Management Planning process

Goal4_Support: Strongly Support

Thresholds_Options: 500+100

PriorityAreas_Options: Combine priority areas