

From: Ken Hatt [kenhatt@uvic.ca]
Sent: April-30-10 9:34 AM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Water Act Modernization

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to support the view that the protection of water is of utmost importance and has to include questions and concerns of the way land is used, as in resource extraction. The protection of water should not be subsumed under other acts, but should make the protection of watershed reserves that protect the sources of water.

It has become clear in the past decade that simplistic, linear models of "management by objectives" is outdated and not sufficient, especially in a period of significant climate change.

It is also becoming clear that water is more than a commodity, but has a close relation to human rights. It appears that a governance model which fully funds local government and decision-making is a move in the right direction. That is, self-regulating systems for over-allocation such as FITFIR and continued domestic use of water through licenses has proved to be a workable form of governance. In my view, top-down, cybercratic systems will prove and are proving to be disastrously inadequate.

I support the use of the precautionary principle rather than currently fashionable notions of substantive risk. In addition, the broadest most collaborative approach to evidence and knowledge should be used.

The significance of this problem calls for a very broad form of consultation.

Yours truly,

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