

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 9:59 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Ministry of Environment,

I am excited that BC is renewing it's 104 year old water act and that water conservation is an important theme in the proposed legislation. However, it would be better if legal enforceable regulations were included to keep enough water in streams to sustain ecosystems, rather than guidelines. Also, included should be strong language to ensure water remains protected as a public good and water markets will not be possible. Also, I hope there will be opportunity for meaningful public participation in decisions on water governance. In conclusion, the new legislation should ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent very high value of freshwater that the citizens of British Columbia hold.

Thank you,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Burnaby, BC

Personal Identifiers Removed

Burnaby, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 9:41 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use,” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Revelstoke, British Columbia
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 8:52 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I am buoyed by the decision of this government to address the inadequacy of the 104 year old Water Act. It is my hope that the new Water Sustainability Act takes into account the real value of BC's water resources, provides for clear legal parameters and monitoring to ensure the proper use of this valuable resource, and that it prioritizes the health of this resource today and in the future primarily for public consumption and secondarily for industrial activities.

I hope that this government takes the opportunity to enact legislation that prioritizes and incorporates ecological economics into this new Water Sustainability Act.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

West Vancouver, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: ***Personal Identifiers Removed*** [mailto:***Personal Identifiers Removed***]

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 8:20 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act

Dear Premier Clark, Minister Polak and the Living Water Smart Team,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft proposal for the Water Sustainability Act.

The draft proposal is a good start, but our water deserves the best possible protection. I urge you to include more protections, clarity and commitments to protect water for the future and for nature.

Binding standards need to be included in the WSA to protect water for fish, wildlife and stream health. Guidelines are not good enough. We need a scientific definition and commitment to ensuring the protection of water flows for fish and other environmental values.

Our water objectives must prioritize water for fish, wildlife and essential human uses. These objectives must apply to all industries, including forestry, oil and gas and other industries. We need an explicit statement that any private right to use water cannot harm the public's interest in water resources.

Watershed governance is increasingly important for water management in the 21st century. Please provide a clear mandate and resources for local watershed groups to engage in this important process.

Water Licenses need to be reviewed regularly - not every 30 years. We must have the flexibility to adapt to our changing climate.

We need appropriate fee schedules for groundwater and surface water that supports responsible water management.

Increased public participation in the granting of water licenses is critical to monitoring the impact on environmental flows. Please revise the process to enable increased public participation. The public deserves the right to review water licenses and monitor the impact on environmental flows.

Thank you for protecting water for nature.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Halfmoon Bay

Personal Identifiers Removed

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 8:14 AM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Premier Clark,

Please use your position as Premier of our beautiful, wholesome province to ensure that our water is protected. People and all creatures of the wild as well need your support in keeping our most important resource safe and available for our good health.

Industry is always there, looking for profit. This is often only a short term gain. Their focus is legitimate but short sighted. Government is there to ensure that broader interests and our future are considered even more important than the quick economic gains.

The Water Sustainability Act is an opportunity for your government, our government, to manage our water resources wisely. Please ensure that BC's water is protected for us and future generations.

Sincerely,
Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed
Salt Spring Island, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 7:08 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Please look after our water, it is so precious. The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Ladysmith, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 6:05 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To all concerned:

First of all, I commend BC for updating its century-old water act. As this issue is so central to our collective well-being, I would urge the government to extend its short deadline for public comment to March 1, 2014. Meaningful public participation is essential in decisions regarding water governance; the very short time frame offered does not lend itself to the full public participation the issue deserves.

The goals of the new act are laudable. However, it is questionable whether the language of the new act will be adequate to achieve them. Voluntary guidelines do not offer meaningful protection; legal standards - if they are enforced - are the only means to guarantee industry recognition and compliance.

Our water is far too precious to entrust its care and conservation to industry. That is what a government should be providing through meaningful regulation and enforcement. No industry should be exempt from the provisions of the WSA.

Further, the WSA would be strengthened if the following were to apply:

- Strong legal protection of environmental flows must be contained in the act, to protect the healthy functioning of rivers and waters in perpetuity.
- Water must remain protected as a public good.
- Environmental flows and essential household needs must be defined as a beneficial use rather than the more narrow, private-use definition currently on the table.
- Water pricing for commercial use must reflect the inherent value of freshwater to the people of BC, with fees that provide for a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in the province.
- A public trust principle must be central to the act to ensure that any private rights granted under water licenses will be managed in the interest of present and future generations.
- The WSA and its environmental flow provisions must be applied to existing as well as to new water licences.

Thank you for noting these comments.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Quadra Island, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 6:05 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To all concerned:

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Our water is far too precious to entrust its care and conservation to industry. That is what a government should be providing through meaningful regulation and enforcement. No industry should be exempt from the provisions of the WSA.

Further, the WSA would be strengthened if the following were to apply:

- Strong legal protection of environmental flows must be contained in the act, to protect the healthy functioning of rivers and waters in perpetuity.
- Water must remain protected as a public good.
- Environmental flows and essential household needs must be defined as a beneficial use rather than the more narrow, private-use definition currently on the table.
- Water pricing for commercial use must reflect the inherent value of freshwater to the people of BC, with fees that provide for a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in the province.
- A public trust principle must be central to the act to ensure that any private rights granted under water licenses will be managed in the interest of present and future generations.
- The WSA and its environmental flow provisions must be applied to existing as well as to new water licences.

Thank you for noting these comments.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Quadra Island, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 5:53 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Sir

I am writing in reference to the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal. The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

- ensure water remains protected as a public good,

- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,

- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,

- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,

- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Yours sincerely

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers RemovedGolden, BC
V0A 1H0

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 5:38 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To whom it may concert:

Please ensure the new WSA includes clear enforceable standards not just guidelines which can be misinterpreted and/or ignored. Water Must remain protected as a "public good". Enacting strong legal protection of environmental flows, the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies is imperative.

Please ensure that No industries are exempt from WSA, particularly with regard to oil,gas and timber and the act Must, Must apply to existing licences, not just new ones.

Respectfully yours and trusting you will honour our water waters for the benefit of British Columbians for many generations to come.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Langley, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 11:28 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Keep the water system save

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Omer, none

Israel

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 10:59 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To Whom it May Concern

I am very concerned that the proposed Water Sustainability Act, scheduled for introduction in the Legislature in 2014 meet a number of critical criteria. There needs to e clear language around what is meant by "environmental flows", and this language needs to be enshrined in law. Water needs to be protected as a public trust; it must not sold for profit be private corporations. No industry must be exempt from the provisions of the new WSA.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vancouver, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 9:56 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The ownership of water must remain within the public realm, and be protected with regards to quality and it's availability to provide sustainable and healthy environments for all. Removing significant quantities of water from an ecosystem or watershed will have an impact that must be understood and seriously considered when any extraction is being sought. Without informed and legislated protocols, the resource most essential to our survival may be compromised or lost to short-sighted commercial gain. This concern arises as a result of the controversial management of our fisheries, our forests, natural gas resources and our inability to date to find common ground with First Nations regarding land use and conservation.

How we manage our water is a matter of the utmost importance because every living being depends on its availability. Water cannot be privately owned or transported from the living ecosystem it serves. The desire to establish private control of water as a commodity for short term profit will cause tremendous harm and it is for this reason that powerful protection be enacted by the province now.

The act created should have a strong non-political and public overseer of the act's implementation and application with regards to all licenses and to every use, including natural resource extraction.

There needs to be accommodation and respect for local perspectives regarding regional use of water resources as was agreed with other land use proposals such as gravel extraction or shell fish farming.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Quathiaski Cove, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 9:42 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear B.C. Government,

I need you to take into account, today and future generations and protect our water. We need water to be maintained as a public good and to include the inherent value of fresh water in any pricing of water use. Furthermore, no industry should be except from the WSA (Water Sustainability Act) and this act needs to allow public participation and a public trust doctrine, and must apply to all existing water licenses, not just new ones.

Thank you for taking care of the water in our province for today and out future!

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 9:28 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA – particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences – not just new licences.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Sointula, ***Personal Identifiers Removed***
Canada

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-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 9:20 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

It is time that the basic human right to clean drinking water be protected
and seen as a resource for which this Province/Country can be proud. YES,
THAT MEANS SUCH IS A 'PUBLIC GOOD'.

The bottled water industry (PARTICULARLY when packaged in plastic for retail
sale) is a marketing strategy that fuels ignorance over protection of surface
water - that is potable when safeguarded from over-industrialization of
naturally healthy watershed terrain and habitat.

Yes, there does need to be enforcement protocol and staffing by Public Ministries
of the BC Crown TO ENSURE THAT WATER IS NOT TRADED AWAY TO FOREIGN INTERESTS.

Please stay clear of any ambiguities that leave LOOPHOLES for the water resource
to become a commodity.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Kaslo, British Columbia
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 9:11 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Those points express my opinion of water management for the province, so I took the liberty of copying.

respectfuklly, ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Personal Identifiers Removed

Invermere, B.C

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 9:07 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I laud the government in taking measures to update The Water Sustainability Act (WSA) in the spring of 2014. We are very much needing strong legislation that will regulate our groundwater, and, as proposed, deal with water scarcity, and provide for environmental flows and increased public participation.

Unfortunately it seems that instead of clear and enforceable standards, in many cases the WSA contains weak language and voluntary "guidelines" instead of enforceable legal "standards." I believe the citizens of British Columbia value their precious resource far more than this proposed legislation would indicate, and that you need to ensure that through this Act:

- there is strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- there is a clear and mandated role for public participation in making decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- water remains protected as a public good,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- water pricing for commercial use has fees set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations.

The public expects that you will create legislation that ensures this primary public resource be protected through the Water Sustainability Act for current citizens and future generations.

Thank you

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

North Vancouver, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 9:03 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

A few points to consider , I took the liberty and copied the suggestions, I do agree with them The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Invermere, B.C

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 9:00 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

We all know that water, like air, is essential to all life on earth.
Keep it clean and accessible to all living now and in future generations.
Safeguard it from predators looking to commercialize it.
Do not muddle with it!

Personal Identifiers Removed

West Vancouver, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 9:00 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

A few points to consider , I took the liberty and copied the suggestions, I do agree with them The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Invermere, B.C

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 8:53 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

there is much i could say about a new water sustainability act for b.c., but i will limit my comment to the effect that i feel that if the province is going to allow the sale of water for commercial use , the price set should reflect the value of fresh water to the residents of B.C.. we can not afford to give away one of our most precious resources.

Personal Identifiers Removed

victoria, B.C.

canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 8:49 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To the Ministry of Environment:

The most important things the BC government must do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act are:

- to enact a strong and binding legal protection of “environmental flows,” which are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies,
- to ensure that water remains protected as a public good,
- to allow meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- to define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use,” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition in the current proposal,
- to ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees must be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- to include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licenses are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- to ensure that NO industry is exempt from the WSA - especially with regard to oil and gas extraction, and timber industries, and
- to ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, will apply to existing water licenses, not just new licenses.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over the sustainable management of this public resource.

Thank you for hearing the concerns of BC residents.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Argenta, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 8:32 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Premier Clark
Minister of the Environment

I am very distressed with what I have seen as a growing trend of what I would characterize as a wholesale of our natural resources. I believe these shortsighted actions have negative impacts not only on the environment, the cities of BC health but also our economic stability both in short and long term.

It is my hope that in the coming term of the government will take a vigorous role in improving the practices of conservation with respect to our natural resources.

The Water Sustainability Act is a good first step. Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over the sustainable management of this public resource.

Issues of importance to me are also

- enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,

- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Yours Sincerely

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

WEST VANCOUVER, BC
CANADA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 8:31 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I hope that the new Act provides for an improved collection of data and comprehensive monitoring of ground water and aquifers, and close regulation to ensure that current levels are preserved. This will be difficult and costly, and should be financed by fees imposed upon all ground water users.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Coldstream, British Columbia
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 8:28 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To the Government of BC

I feel so very fortunate to live in our wonderful country of Canada, and in one of the most amazing places in Canada...BC. I believe that water is one of our greatest resources. So many places in the world, clean water is scarce and becoming scarcer all the time. We need to have strong legislation to protect this precious gift.

Therefore I urge you, the Ministry of Environment and the members of our current government to protect our water supply by enacting legal protection of ALL water, ground water, lakes, streams, rivers, glaciers etc. (See below)

Water Sustainability Act should:

- enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows" (the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies),
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions on water governance, and
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Powell River, British Columbia
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 8:00 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

It's about time. Since I have been concerned about BC's lack of groundwater legislation for over 30 years, I am delighted that the BC Government has finally released the legislative proposal for the Water Sustainability Act for BC. However, I am concerned that while the new Act contains the goals of addressing water scarcity, providing for environmental flows, and increasing public participation, as it stands now it does not contain the tools or language required to meet these goals.

Please ensure that the new water Act:

- ~ contains strong legal protection of environmental flows, which are critical to healthy lakes, rivers, and ecosystem functioning;
- ~ ensures that water is fully protected as a public good;
- ~ defines environmental flows and essential household needs as a 'beneficial use', rather than the narrow narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed;
- ~ ensures that water fees for commercial use reflect water's inherent value and are high enough to fund comprehensive water management in BC;
- ~ ensures that all industries, including timber, oil and gas, and mining, are subject to the WSA;
- ~ ensures that the WSA applies to existing as well as new water licences, especially regarding environmental flow provisions;
- ~ provides for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches;
- ~ includes a public trust doctrine that ensures that private rights granted under water licences are subject to management in the interest of the public good, including present and future generations.

In summary, the WSA must ensure the sustainable management of what is arguably our most important public resource. Please include in the new WSA the tools to accomplish this goal.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Gabriola Island, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 7:52 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

BC GOVERNMENT

WATER, a universal need, a part of our planet. It is not a commodity and it is not to be fooled with.

Please understand, water is a universal common good. No one has the 'right' to alter, degrade, or otherwise destroy the water courses, aquifer, etc. It is astounding how far astray our ideas of 'dominion over' have taken us.

My recommendation is to protect our water, forests, soil and air quality with every regulation possible. To do otherwise is at our own peril. 'Private' rights simply are not acceptable.

Our province must do all it can to ensure our rivers, lakes and oceans are not degraded. The extraction industries (oil, gas, forest, mining, etc.) do not enhance the sustainable practices required to preserve healthy environments. There are other endeavours which do little damage and we must invest in those.

Thank you,
Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed
SAANICHTON, BC
CANADA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 6:42 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Sirs: I am writing to you today about the new water regulations act which will come into effect soon. It becomes more and more serious that BC government must take action to protect our very precious waterways that we have in this province. Water should not be given away to wealthy company who simply want and need large amounts for their refineries etc. They should be charged for it's great value and the amount taken should be recorded for all to check. Our small rivers and streams need to be protected against any companies that want to divert the streams etc. which will greatly affect it's flow etc. We have a good deal of water but it is not that abundant that it should be given away cheaply to foreigners etc. Fracking is a method of acquiring oil from small pockets. Dangerous chemicals and lots of water are needed to flush these materials out. It creates deadly pollutants in the area and is a wasteful use of water. PLEASE discuss these matters before you make any decisions that will impact our future waterways. Thank you
Personal Identifiers Removed13/11/13

Personal Identifiers Removed

Windermere, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 6:36 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Clean local water is a right not a privilege, and BC water should be for the people of BC as well as all the creatures and plant life we share it with -- not Neslte or Coca Cola or any other giant mega corporation. We need to protect BC water, water of all kinds: salt, fresh, aquifers, wells, rivers, ocean, stream, lakes, ground, for generations to come. It shouldn't be sold to anyone, and to sell it for such a pittance only makes clear how little the environment truly is of concern. Save our water, save our watersheds, save our lakes and streams, save our oceans, keep everything as nature intended, free of toxic chemicals and depletion. No water for fracking or any other drilling. I am not alone in this, there are millions of people including folks in BC, also Washington State and the US, across Canada, and around the world. Honour the Indigenous Treaties, it was their water first. Cheers, Helene Harrison, Victoria, BC

Personal Identifiers Removed

Victoria, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 6:30 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

It has come to my attention that the BC Water Sustainability Act needs further review. The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Revelstoke, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 6:02 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter as a concerned resident of BC regarding the proposed
Water Sustainability Act.

It is my hope that the Ministry Of Environment will consider doing the
following:

1. Enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies.
2. Ensure water remains protected as a public good.
3. Provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches.
4. Define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed.
5. Ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC.
6. Include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
7. Ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
8. Ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. I believe that a new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Yours Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vancouver, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 5:33 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I write with deep concern regards the enactment of the new Water Sustainability Act. It is my opinion that the new act should be worded in such a way to provide strong legal protection to protect the inherent value of fresh water in British Columbia.

The WSA should contain a public trust doctrine managed by a Water Board of members independent from the industry to ensure that water licenses are issued in the best interests of future generations. We have such an abundance of water and we have squandered the supply , practically giving it away to industry and business. Ontario now has a law which protects their water table/supply. British Columbia should have one as well.

No Industry, particularly the oil, gas, and timber industries should not be exempt from the WSA and environmental flow provisions should apply to all licences - not just new licences.

I close by stating that I do not support private water licences but if they are to continue to be issued there should be a meaningful public forum upon which these decisions are made. At present British Columbian's have no laws to protect this important natural resource. The WSA must be worded in such a way to safe guard our water supply for future generations.

Yours sincerely;

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Victoria, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 5:33 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The new Water Sustainability Act needs to be inclusive of the following:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use,” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Port Alberni, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 5:14 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Re: The Water Sustainability Act

While pleased that the Provincial Government is attempting to establish guidelines over water use which will protect B.C.'s water in the future I am concerned that some factors may not be included.

1. Water prices for private use of water must reflect the fact that water is going to be, in the future with rising populations and climate change, our most valued commodity. No industry should be exempt from the WSA especially oil, gas and timber industries.
2. Water management policies must reflect that private rights granted are, above all, subject to and sensitive to the interests of present and future generations of "commons" use - i.e. that of households and sustainable food production.
3. Strong legal protection must be put in place to ensure "environmental flows" sufficient for healthy rivers/streams/wetlands and with maintenance of wildlife systems are retained.
4. No licenses should be "grandfathered" - all currently granted rights should be subject to newly enacted WSA regulations.

I appreciate this opportunity for input and hope that more public consultation will occur before passing this Act.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Saltspring Island, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 5:05 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Sir/Madam, let's no longer assume clean water is unlimited and free! We have a water meter at our residence so why shouldn't corporations pay their share ! Are we going to be the last area in the country to care, and protect such a wonderful and vital resource? Let's act now to preserve all our fresh water sources and salmon streams, with no more destructive, un-needed power dams !
Thankyou.

Personal Identifiers Removed

WEST VANCOUVER, BC

CANADA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of *****Personal Identifiers
Removed*****

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 4:58 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The Clean Energy Act by Gordon Campbell and his gang gave us Independent Power Projects (IPPs) that have devastated the fishery habitat and BC's Environment. And obligated BC Hydro rate payers to long-term debts of almost three times that of bankrupt Detroit. It appears we have the same word smiths working on the Water Sustainability Act to promote fracking and other excessive use of water in the Oil and Gas industries.

The new edict describes, " In consultations leading to the new legislation, British Columbians expressed strong support for measures to protect the health of streams - which include lakes, rivers, creeks and all other bodies of fresh surface water."

If you had listened to the British Columbians, which includes environmental scientists, before Victoria scribbled down the Clean Energy Act, all the health-of-stream issues would have already been addressed. What confidence do British Columbians have with the next kick-at-the-can, regarding this newly minted Water Sustainability Act?

All the platitudes written about the importance of water are not profound nor fresh ideas. It begs the question, whether the pretty graphics in your Overview and content, were meant to impress people in grade school. "Written submissions Received" as a percentage in each category are not credible, as we don't know the actual numbers (i.e. 8 submissions from 10 people, still = 80%) Or, who they came from (i.e. employees).

The note below can be found in amongst the colourful graphics and other platitudes. One submission is placed in large bold and coloured text, as shown below. I'm guessing that this insertion is supposed to be representative of the feeling of all BC Citizens or just the 85% of the Consulted number, in your graph on Page 6, of the WSA Overview.

"I am pleased with the recommendations for the revised Water Act. I would encourage a strong implementation plan to be in place as soon as possible. Implementation is the most important consideration when developing policies."

Citizen Submission

If British Columbians' are counting on Legislation or some esoteric Water Sustainability Act to protect their water resources, they must face reality that no polluting Industry can be controlled. The article in the Edmonton Journal of November 12, 2013 (virtually yesterday): "Massive coal mine leak damaged fisheries, habitat" provides enough evidence to suggest that no one was smart enough to predict this outcome, nobody made any risk assessment to mitigate such a disaster, the Company's response time was no better than the BP's oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the Citizen's of Alberta and First Nations will never see there lands or watershed return to their prior state. But again, even going through the rules and regulations imposed on the Company, I'm guessing it will be Albertians who will be footing the clean-up bill. ...before the inaction/idleness of the Company causes any more damage to the environment.

November 12, 2013 EDMONTON - Likely the largest spill of its kind in Canadian history, the massive leak of coal slurry into the Athabasca River near Hinton has caused damage to habitat and poses a risk to certain fish species. Alberta Environment Thursday acknowledged the one-billion-litre spill has affected fish habitat. Meanwhile, Fisheries and Oceans Canada biologists and conservation staff are inspecting a 25-kilometre stretch from the point of the release into Apetowun Creek to the Athabasca River, a breeding area for Alberta's only strain of native rainbow trout

If British Columbians are to mitigate risk, fracking should be band. And before entertaining the Oil giants at the table, pay very close attention to the Trans-Pacific Partnership Free Trade Agreement, written primarily by Corporate America. If you think your good at writing in Gordon Cambellesque "weasel clauses" into the Water Sustainability Act, you better prepare yourself for issues similar to what Ecuador is facing by trying to chase down Chevron for a \$19 Billion bill, for polluting their environment - for more than 10 years. Chevron has taken up hiding under US Law ...kind of a home-free position, where they can thumb their nose at other Country's Laws.

As climate change seems to be impacting our snow melt run-off, rivers, lakes and health-of-stream issues, the Water Sustainability Act might be only regulating what's left underground (Illustartion shown on Page 9 of 28 of the WSA Overview). If it's possible, I would like to know the authours of the Act. Once, we know the actors, we can assess whether there are enough representatives from the stakeholders, which includes environmental assessors, unbiased litigators, risk and liability assessors and possibly fewer under qualified politicians. Maybe writers/evaluators to the Act might come from Alberta and beyond, as experience might yet be the best direction to take (i.e. In spite of its importance, B.C. is the only province in Canada that does not currently regulate groundwater use).

And we certainly don't want future British Columbians left holding the bag, based on short-sighted and short-term political representative's opinions (i.e. BC Hydro's Independent no-water-left-behind Power Projects)

Regards,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vancouver, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 4:57 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Thank you for the opportunity for input on the Water Sustainability Act. I have some concerns:

1. Do not allow water to be privatized. Keep it as a public good. The water in our province belongs to all British Columbians, not just the entities that want to profit from its use.
2. Price water high enough to reflect its true value and ensure adequate funding for tracking and regulating water use. No more giveaways such the water we gave for free to the Nestle Corporation in the Fraser Valley.
3. Define adequate flows to ensure healthy and thriving watersheds, forests and fish populations. The health of watersheds in the end is our public health, too.
4. Do not exempt any industry--especially not oil and gas--from the provisions of this act. This should not be a backdoor subsidy to the LNG industry, for example, in order to be "competitive."
5. Ensure that the provisions of the Water Sustainability Act apply to current water licenses as well as new ones. No "grandfathering" of water giveaways.
6. Ensure meaningful public participation in water governance decisions. By "meaningful" I mean that public participation could actually make a difference in a government decision, not just steps we go through to comply with the law when the decision is already made.

Thank you.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Nelson, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 4:42 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable and in the public interest.

That means water, surface and ground needs legislative protection first and use second.

The proposed Water Sustainability Act should:

- enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are critical to healthy functioning river ecosystems, fish and water bodies
- define environmental flows (fish, ecosystem) and essential household needs as a "beneficial use, " rather than the private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- price water for private (commercial) use indicative of its value and the cost of managing it's sustainability for ecosystems and public benefit:
pricing for public use (municipal/domestic drinking water) should be separate, less and priority.
- any private rights granted under water licences are time limited and subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industrial use is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- set up a process to have that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, apply over time to existing water licences - not just new licences

I commend the Government of British Columbia for taking action for Sustainable use of water.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Creston, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 4:37 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water is necessary to ALL life on earth. It is BC's most important natural resource. Laws must be enforced and steps taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable, never allow corporations to make thier own rules or be thier own watchdog, this isnt working.

Water must be protected and remain a public good, and not controlled by the criminal element that has already done so much damage to it and to people, animals and all life forms worldwide.

Public opinion is very important and NO industry should be exempt from the strict laws that need to be enacted.

Too many corporations already have too much control of our resources, this must stop!

Please ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences and not only new ones.

We must also ensure that water pricing for commercial use ,if at all, reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC.

We have to take this seriously and protect all water.

Personal Identifiers Removed

port alberni, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 4:08 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Regarding the update of the Water Act:

I believe it is important that water remains a public good; That industries pay their fair share, no public tax payer subsidies to big industries/ any industry's use of water.

I believe that it is important for the health of the environment that standards are applied regarding flow provisions; power is NOT green power when it damages the streams and fish in it. These provisions need to apply to past and future licenses -- ALL licenses.

Water right should be granted only with the understanding that these licenses are to be managed in the interest of present and future generations.

Water fees need to be high enough to fund the monitoring and management and ENFORCEMENT OF REGULATIONS.

There is also a need for meaningful public participation regarding water governance.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Gibsons, BC

V0N1V0

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 4:06 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water is an essential component of everything we eat, there is no substitute or
replacement !!!

Protection is essential !!

Citizens are completely dependent on our government to protect the water, both
surface and underground, in our province!!

Do not fail us !!!!!

Personal Identifiers Removed

Surrey, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 4:04 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

We cannot sacrifice our fresh water,our environment and fishlife for corporate profit.We need government that acts for the Canadian taxpayers and in the best interest of our environment and not in the best interests of corporations who will gladly pillage and plunder our country for their own profit.

Personal Identifiers Removed

nanoose bay, bc
canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 4:02 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The intent and tenor of the proposed WSA are good. You're making many of the right sounds.

While water licences will be granted with guidelines for water use, efficiency, monitoring, etc., I don't see where there'll be regular audits to ensure that agreements are being respected, with penalties or revocation for failures to fully comply.

I don't see where existing water licences will be updated to supplant the old, patchwork give-aways that were lucky for those who had them while they lasted, but those days must be gone.

I don't see anything about charging fair prices for large-scale water use, matching market value in comparable jurisdictions (i.e. developed-world states and countries). This is vital!

B.C.'s water resources are our money in the bank. The WSA, well done, will keep it that way. Poorly done, will make light and too little of this particular B.C. advantage. Regular audits, clear compliance standards, and fair fees for industrial use are key.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Salt Spring Island, BC
V8K 1W5

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 4:00 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Re Water Sustainability

The most important concept is that clean water is a personal right and that our
County's water be considered a public trust.
Environmental sustainability of fresh, clean, healthy water is THE TOP PRIORITY.

We are so blessed that Canada still has healthy and clean water to enjoy and
protect. Let's be smart and continue to protect that special status. So
many countries do not have such a benefit.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Nelson, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 3:57 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I think this list relates my thoughts very well, and concisely:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Victoria, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 3:49 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Hello,

It seems the most important thing to consider with this act is to prioritize
water sustainability for environmental and public use and not allow it to become
privatized for profit.

Thanks

Personal Identifiers Removed

Nanaimo, B.C

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 3:45 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Like many Canadians, I was naive about our resources and believed they would last forever. Now, as a wiser and experienced adult, I am aware that our resources can be destroyed and dissipated by inappropriate use and removal.

I am only in favour of the proposed legislation for the Water Sustainability Act if it protects our resource and ensures that any proceeds from its exploitation be shared by the people of BC. I have worked with Nestle for many years and, although I found them responsible to their shareholders, decisions were usually made from a selfish perspective. It is not their job to protect the interests of BC. That job belongs to you, our government, and us, the electorate.

With this new legislation, we have the opportunity to clarify and strengthen the public's role in deciding what to do with our water and the licences for it. Please consider this legislation carefully before passing it.

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

- ensure water remains protected as a public good,

- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,

- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use, " rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,

- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,

- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Powell River, BC

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Powell River, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 3:42 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water is free and clean and if it is not so then it will be made so. All government interference to make laws to turn water and waterways into cash generators for their pals will be met with stanch disapproval and possible fines and imprisonment. You will not be getting away with your dirty oil schemes either little Ms. perky.

Yours Truly,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

White Rock, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 2:54 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

- ensure water remains protected as a public good,

- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,

- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,

- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,

- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Burnaby, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 2:48 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To The Minister of the Environment, Dear Sir:
I am pleased to note that finally the Water Act is to be updated. I am concerned however that the wording, and possibly the intent are not as direct and comprehensive as is required to truly protect this vital resource. Water is so abundant in our province that we perhaps fail to appreciate the importance of proper stringent management. Our first priority must be to ensure that there is and always will be a clean, plentiful supply for the basic needs to support life and health of all of the ecosystems of our province, as well of its human population. For this, we must protect flows, entire natural watersheds, aquifers, and of course, combat climate change. Large scale industrial use must be very carefully scrutinized and monitored at all levels, and stringent guidelines and penalties be in place to safeguard resulting water quality and the quantity removed from source. It is vital to involve the public in all levels of decision-making in the changes to the act, and in subsequent allotments of large scale usages. I urge you to enshrine this public involvement in the act itself. Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Nelson, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 2:28 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To the Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability, I am very concerned that the proposed Water Sustainability Act is not written to cover the needed protection for BC residents. If we are going to really protect our fresh water for future generations, we need clear laws that will do so.

Please ensure that this Act includes the following important points:

- a) make it clear that our fresh water is a public good and the environmental flows are legally protected,
- b) make sure no industry is exempt from the provisions, including the oil, gas and timber industries,
- c) any sale of public water for commercial use should reflect pricing that shows how valuable this water is to the BC public,
- d) always there should be provisions for true input from the BC public concerning decisions made around their fresh water.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Egmont, British Columbia
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 2:22 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Minister,

I am an avid outdoorsman and value our natural British Columbia as the best resource we have. At the heart of this is our water resources. You have the power to put into law the tools to keep that resource pure and sustainable into the future.

Some of the most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act are to:

enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," (the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies), ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions on water governance, and ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians.

Thank you

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Surrey, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 2:14 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: the Water Sustainability Act (WSA)

I am writing to urge you to include in the WSA the following
guidelines/policies:

Most important is the amount of flow required to keep streams and rivers healthy. Water is the basis of a healthy ecology. Just because we have lots of ground water does not mean we can ignore that it is needed by our environment. Healthy water flow would mean that fish continue to thrive in our streams and rivers as well as the micro-creatures that fish need to grow and survive to adulthood. These flow amounts need to apply to hydro projects now in place.

A public trust doctrine is important to seeing that water conservation and preservation is in place for future generations who will require water. It's amazing to me that water is used for fracking because it becomes untreatable after being used. This practice needs to be stopped. Future generations will look at this practice and be astounded at the waste of this resource that is needed for life.

And so, water must be protected as a public good with meaningful public input in future proposals for its use. All uses need to be considered for sustainability. If we are going to allow companies to use water as a product, then they need to pay enough money to support a comprehensive water management program.

And no industry can be exempt from the WSA, especially oil, gas, mining and timber industries. We need the government to be proactive and set boundaries on water and water use.

Thank you for your attention to caring for our water resource.

Sincerely,
Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Burton, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 2:06 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

As a citizen of this province for 63 years, I am concerned that we in the province of BC as well as many other jurisdictions do not have the respect for water that we should. Water is seen as a commodity to be used to create growth and wealth for whoever wishes to exploit it. It is most often used without regard to the quantity or the effects on the unused water. Because water has been seen to be plentiful in BC we have over the decades become careless with its use and have failed to protect this element. Water should no longer be viewed as a commodity to be used for free to make a profit. It must be viewed as an element that is essential to the survival of all citizens. Too often rivers are damned, people displaced, agricultural land destroyed and animals killed. Ecosystems are damaged beyond repair. In the end if we do not have clean, available water we will not survive. Many bodies of water in parts of the world are so damaged by such things as oil pollution, they may never be reclaimed. The government of BC must act to protect water for the common use of the citizens. It must stop allowing industry to access limitless water for such processes as fracking for gas. Where careful consideration has been given to a particular use of water and deemed important to the benefit of all, the users must pay appropriately to provide revenue to the government. Allowing users to access water for free must come to an end. The water in BC must at all costs remain under the control of the province of BC. It cannot be allowed to come under the control of any corporation or foreign entity. Wherever rights to use water are granted, there must be stringent guidelines for its use in order to protect this precious element for all future generations. Do the right thing and create legislation that will ensure water is safe, protected and available to all citizens now and in the future.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Campbell River, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 2:05 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To whom it concerns:

Water is precious.

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Please: I beg you to:

enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed Salt Spring Agricultural Alliance

Personal Identifiers Removed

SSI, BC

V8K1T4

Personal Identifiers Removed

ssi, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 2:00 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am urging the BC government to do some specific things with the proposed Water Sustainability Act. Please: enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies.

-Ensure water remains protected as a public good, -Please provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, -Define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, -Ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, -Include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, -Ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Our water is too important--water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

North Vancouver, BC

V7K2T8

Personal Identifiers RemovedNorth Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:54 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I applaud the B.C. government for the long overdue plan to update of the Water Act to regulate ground water. While I agree with the goals of the proposed Water Sustainability Act, I feel that protection of this public good, including environmental flows, can only be ensured with clear, legally enforced standards, rather than voluntary guidelines. Water must be defined as a beneficial use, rather than a private use. The WSA must include a public trust doctrine to ensure that any private rights granted under both existing and new water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations. Water pricing for commercial use must reflect the inherent value of fresh water and fees should be high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in the province. Mechanisms must be provided for meaningful public participation in water governance decisions. NO industry, particularly the resource extraction industries, must be exempt. Thank you for this opportunity to provide input.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vancouver, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:52 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use,” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Mill Bay, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:52 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To Whom It Should Concern:

I am in agreement with the Wilderness Committee on the following summary points:

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

I would urge the Environment minister and all MLAs to examine the full set of suggestions to be found on the Western Wilderness website and do everything

possible to make the changes that will benefit the people of British Columbia now and for future generations.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Invermere, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:38 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Folks,

I am a "young senior" and have dearly enjoyed clean water all of my life in the Bulkley Valley. I am very concerned about water health and availability for the needs of all the people and animals and fish in BC. It's scary to hear about corporate bullying actions in our country because of socially unfriendly trade agreements. Life and life-supporting requirements must take precedence over companies and profits! Come on - you have to admit that this is true!

The WSA does not protect our rich water resource well enough and must be changed.

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- 1) enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- 2) ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- 3) define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- 4) ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- 5) include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- 6) ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- 7) ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure

that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Thanks for attending to the changes that need to happen in this legislation!
Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers RemovedSmithers,
BC

Personal Identifiers Removed
Smithers, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:36 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Victoria, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:35 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear people responsible for our precious water:

I have lived next to a river for 35 years And enjoyed fresh clean water to drink,
Bathe in and cook with all that time.

I have "water rights" that I pay for
And I have a profound appreciation for
This gift.

This letter is to ask that you use your power, Mandate and practical common sense
to help Us in Canada and BC especially to keep the High quality of the water we
have and not risk This for money or short term gain but ensure That this
necessary and always valuable water resource be protected and fully revered And
given undefiled to future generations.

Thank you for your time and efforts

To ensure the high value of our water is Kept that way and remains accessible to
residents who live On this largely unspoiled land.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Gibsons, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:19 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Premier, With regard to the proposed WSA, we are in complete agreement with the comments made by the Wilderness Committee and ask that you give them your full consideration. Our particular concern relates to salmon. As long time members of a salmon enhancement society, we notice year on year, lower water levels in our local rivers and creeks and higher water temperatures. This year was the warmest temp on record for our local river, threatening egg and fry survival. Water flow must be protected for our salmon resources. We should consider the salmon as our canary in the coal mine. Low ground water levels in our area mean that some people are having to truck in water in the summer. Meanwhile, logging continues in the headwaters of our watershed and proposed development has been given the go ahead, without any attention paid to the flowdown effect on present users or the environment. As climate change continues unabated, the situation will only become worse. It is vital that careful consideration be given to new legislation to ensure sustainable management of water, a public resource, over the difficult years to come. Yours sincerely, ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

PS A large section of the local population has been on water meters for many years.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Black Creek, British Columbia
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:11 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Here are the most important things that need to be considered in the Fresh Water
legislation that desperately needs up-dating:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” (the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies), ensure water remains
protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in
decisions on water governance, and ensure that water pricing for commercial use
reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians.

Thank you for your attention,

sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vancouver, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:07 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I'm writing today to help ensure that the Water Sustainability Act will provide real protection and oversight for freshwater in BC.

I'm proposing that you modernize the Act to recognize freshwater as a public good and that it provides for real protection of this precious resource. For example how could it be that Nestlé, one of the largest corporations in the world, can extract 265 million litres of ground water annually from an aquifer in the Fraser Valley for free. Astoundingly, Nestlé was not even required to measure or report the amount of water it used. How is this possible? OUR water needs to be protected as a public good.

So in order for us to protect our water we will need meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches. We need to include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations. We need to define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," not the current narrow and private use oriented definition currently proposed.

Please ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries. And ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

This is the time to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. Growing population, changing climate and expanding development, put extreme pressure on B.C.'s most important natural resource, water. Please guarantee that private rights to water do not over ride the sustainable management of our public resource, water.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Courtenay, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:02 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Persons of Government,

It is not often that one gets a chance to protect our environment , and make changes to protect our future. A new and improved Water Sustainability Act can do just that , if you get it right. All of us are in agreement about the importance of clean , fresh water to our future as a province and as a country. Areas of the world which have not protected their fresh water supplies already suffer the consequences of drought, disease, and death. It is of utmost importance that an act be written that is truly sustainable, that allows for growing populations, that protects people from the greed of corporations who act as if there is an unlimited supply of water for their use. Oil extraction methods and fracking are but two examples of corporate misuse of water supplies which must be changed by a new approach ,such as increased user fees and government oversight. We are lucky as a nation to be one of the " have" countries when it comes to fresh water, but it is not unlimited.

Protection of rivers and lakes and potable water supplies should be priority. Peoples rights to clean drinking water should be ingrained in this act, as should environmental flow provisions.

Get it right and you will receive the thanks of current and future populations. Allow much needed public input because this effects all of us.

Respectfully yours

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Courtenay, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:00 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Please take the following into consideration when working on the new Water
Act

Some of the most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act are to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” (the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies), ensure water remains
protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in
decisions on water governance, and ensure that water pricing for commercial use
reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Cherryville, B C
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12:58 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Hello

Let's make everyone responsible by keeping our rivers and lakes safe from toxins oils and gas . Let's start thinking about the future our children need us to keep protecting our rivers and lakes for them to enjoy for years to come . If we do not keep protecting our resources we could lose them forever !!! We need fresh water forever . Industry needs to remember we need to always protect our valuable resources for many years to come.

Sincerely

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

bby, bc
canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12:58 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water, like the air we breathe, is inherently a Human Right. It must be guarded with great care, protected for the good of the people.

I have learned that the Nestle Corporation extracts vast amounts of water, for free, to SELL back to the people!? We have a government that actually allows that? And the whole business of "fracking" is perilous.

So I am glad to know that the government is proposing to bring into effect a new Act for the protection of our water - the Water Sustainability Act.

Please ensure that the new Act protects water as a public good, that no corporations have any right to tamper in any way with our water. "No" to Nestles and any other such corporation. There must be a requirement that any business or industry that wants to tamper in any way with our water must apply to the government and there must be public participation in any decision-making relating to governance of our water.

I am deeply concerned about this issue and ask that the new Act include very precise wording that fully protects our precious water.

I look forward to being kept informed.

Thank you.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12:54 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I am concerned about some things seemingly missing from the WSA, I want the
Government of BC to

ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public
participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define
environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use, " rather
than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure
that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater
to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive
approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which
ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be
managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no
industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas,
and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow
provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licenses.

Thank you for your time and consideration with this issue.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Salt Spring Island, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12:37 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Re: The Proposed Water Sustainability Act to be introduced in the Spring of 2014,
the most important things the BC Government can do would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows”, the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies;
- ensure water remains protected as a public good;
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches;
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed;
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC;
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations;
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries; and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over the sustainable management of this public resource.

Thank you.

Personal Identifiers Removed

North Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12:36 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Hi.

Please enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” (the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies), Ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions on water governance, and ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians.

Include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations.

Ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Please stop fracking. B.C. should be the first province to ban fracking.

Vermont was the first state in the USA to ban fracking.

Thank you for your time and efforts.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Ymir, British Columbia

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12:24 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To Whom It May Concern,

It is so important to have strong language with regards to our B.C. waters. I have been made aware of the weak Water Sustainability Act currently in place and was really unaware of the way big business's have been taking advantage of our water.

I would ask that no business be exempt from scrutiny and that fines should be applied to them if the Act is violated. The commercial use of B.C.'s fresh water must have a high dollar value applied for it's use by commercial ventures and that all available studies be applied to ensure that the use of the water should not be detrimental to British Columbians, wildlife and environment.

Thank you for considering my remarks.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Duncan, B.C.

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12:12 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

While passing the Water Sustainability Act please consider these points:
Ensure water remains protected as a public good Enact strong legal protection of
'environmental flows, that are critical to healthy rivers and lakes Provide for
meaningful public participation Ensure that water pricing for commercial use
reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians Include a public
trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences
are subject to be managed in the interest and present and future generations
Ensure that NO INDUSTRY IS EXEMPT from the WSA particularly with regard to oil,
gas and timber Water is BC's most important natural resource and remember YOU
need water to live, you can't drink \$\$\$.

Personal Identifiers RemovedVictoria, B.C.
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12:11 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Premier Clark:

I am very concerned about protecting BC's water supply and the ecological integrity of our lakes and rivers. This must take priority over development and private interests. I understand you are updating BC's water act and urge you to consider the following. This is our legacy for our children:

1. Enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good.
2. Provide opportunities for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed.
3. Ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC.
4. Include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations.
5. Ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vancouver, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12:10 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Sir or Madame,

I am writing this letter to you because I feel the most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Golden, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12:08 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

This is a critical opportunity for BC to ensure that we have the tools to secure
protect our most valuable resource; our abundance of fresh water.

Please let's make sure that we keep our water in public hands, that we control
access to it, and that corporations pay their way to use our water.

Thank you

Personal Identifiers Removed

Gibsons, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 10:23 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains
protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in
decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and
essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and
private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for
commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians;
fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water
management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private
rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of
present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA -
particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure
that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water
licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing
population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be
taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure
that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable
management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

FONTANA, CA

United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 8:49 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Sir/Madam

I urge you to ensure that water in BC remains a public good and moreover that when water is extracted for commercial purposes it is well monitored and measured and that industry is charged a price for water that generated adequate government revenues to both cover public water management expenses but also to contribute to government programs that will reduce poverty and socio-economic inequities and improve the health of the population. All industrial/commercial uses of water should be included: liquid natural gas extraction, mining, preparation of alcoholic and sugar sweetened beverages and bottled water and all other commercial uses.

Personal Identifiers Removed

West Vancouver, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 6:13 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn. Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Good Morning: I believe an update to the water sustainability is order and I hope the revisions won't be yet another putting lipstick on a pig exercise.

It is necessary to ensure that water remains a public good and that humans and all of our other fellow creatures have first priority on water use and not corporations who's only interest is making money.

It should be obvious that no industry present or future should be exempt from the W.S.Act and that they should be paying fair market value which should be high because it is of course one of our most precious resources. No water. No life.

Any changes in the W.S.Act should include strong legislative protection by including a public trust doctrine and a meaningful public participation clause.

The climate is changing, think Philippines, huge forest fires in Colorado, Hurricane Sandy, droughts in the breadbasket of the Midwest of the U.S. Think, think, think of what is coming down the pike for B.C. and act with wisdom, compassion and use the precautionary principle Thank you for time if someone reads this. Sincerely, ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Personal Identifiers Removed

Ucluelet, B.C.

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 4:23 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

- ensure water remains protected as a public good,

- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,

- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,

- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,

- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

bennington, vt

usa

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 5:04 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Sustainable water belongs to the actual citizens living in the province. It is not to be sold, diverted, or anything except managed for cleanliness and sustainability.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Qualicum Beach, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 3:18 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

Enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good.

Provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches.

Define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed.

Ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC.

Include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations.

Ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries.

Ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Boulder, Colorado

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 11:59 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The public needs to be engage. No industry should be exempted. Environmental
water flow provisions need to be paramount and apply to existing licenses as
well as new ones. Water is the blood of the Land and must be cherished.
Without, clean, fresh water we are no longer.

Personal Identifiers Removed

LA, Ca

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 11:25 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

mabelvale, arkansas
United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 10:21 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Do what is right

Personal Identifiers Removed

Varenes, State *

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 9:24 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Stop

Personal Identifiers Removed

putten, State

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 9:15 AM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Minister Polak and Premier Clark,

I write today as a citizen of British Columbia to urge you to ensure that the Water Sustainability Act lives up to its name by enshrining real protections and active oversight for freshwater in BC. Freshwater is not an unlimited resource, and the Act must ensure that private rights to our water do not take precedence over the sustainable management of our public treasure.

I urge you to make the necessary changes to the draft Act in order to enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows" critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies; to protect water as a public good; to provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance and its approaches; define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed; to price commercial use to reflect the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians and, concomitantly, that fees to corporate interests should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC; to include a public trust doctrine guaranteeing that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations; to ensure that no industry is exempt from the Act, with particular regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries; and to follow through to ensure that the Act and particularly its environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences and not just to new licences.

As a homeowner and taxpayer I find it shameful that commercial water extractors, domestic and foreign-owned, are currently charged only token fees for the removal of vast sums of BC's water at rates far less than the average BC homeowner like myself pays for far smaller portions of water for personal consumption. But this is not just about fees returned to BC taxpayers; this is also about the safe and healthy future of my children, and everyone's.

Thank you for time, and I look forward to your response to these concerns shared by a majority of British Columbians.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed
Vancouver, BC

Personal Identifiers Removed
Vancouver, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 5:56 AM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water ensure that no industry is
exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber
industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions,
applies to existing water licences - not just new licences

Personal Identifiers Removed

Overland Park, KS
United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 2:49 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Personal Identifiers Removed

vico canavese, NY
Italia

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 1:32 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Lindenhurst, illinois

usa

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 1:12 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Please enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Pereyaslav-Khmel'nitskii, Kiev region
Ukraine

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 3:43 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

All fresh waters should be protected. Water should be free and made available for all household use. Corporations should not be allowed to take our water for free or for a pittance (Nestle for eg.) and then use it for their own profit. There should be a phasing out of bottled water for personal use...instead there should be stations where people can fill their own reusable bottles. It takes too much water to produce a plastic bottle and it supports the petrochemical industry. Fracking should NEVER be allowed. It uses up way too much water and turns it toxic forever. We must wait until better, more sustainable methods are found to mine LNG before continuing down this ridiculous and dangerous course. Pipelines should be used to transport water from really wet ares to drought prone ares to help farmers. Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource. It's time to think of the future of our lands for all people, not for the enrichment of a few corporate interests. from ***Personal Identifiers Removed***, Gabriola BC
Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Gabriola, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 12:22 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To Whom It may concern in the Ministry of Environment and Water Protection and Sustainability Branch, I would like to start off by saying that i am very relieved that the water act is finally being updated! That said i've briefly looked over the Water Sustainability Act that has been proposed and i have a few comments i would like to share.

I feel the most important point that needs to be included is the WSA would be to ensure that all water remains a protected public resource and to provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches. This is all of our land and so simply everyone should have the ability to be involved in something as important as this. I feel the BC government should enact strong legal protection of environmental flows, the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies as well as define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed in the WSA. I would like to ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC. I feel very strongly that the WSA should include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations. No industry should be exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries. The WSA should, especially to environmental flow provisions, apply to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my input and concerns.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Victoria, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 11:18 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

In respect to the proposed Act, I am very concerned that the practice of "fracking", uses large quantities of water from various sources, which may or may not be contaminated, and which may result in permanent or long term contamination of potable water sources, both above and below ground. There seems to be various ways in which contaminated water can be hidden from scrutiny. Therefore, before activities commence, full disclosure of water use intentions should be made to the Provincial Water Authority, for approval, followed by the inspection of actual operations.

The Act should provide for appropriate fines for contamination of ground and surface water, especially in the above instance.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Courtenay, British Columbia
Canada

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wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 11:13 AM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The WSA should ensure that water licences are reviewed in a shorter timeframe than currently proposed. A tiered process should be used: within the next five years, licences 50 years and older should be reviewed; within the next 10 years water licences 30 years and older should be reviewed, and all other existing and new licences should be reviewed 20 years from their priority or issuance date.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Barcelona, Barcelona
Spain

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 11:05 AM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear sir,

We urge you to please conserve our water resources! We all need to protect and
conserve our water, it is a very precious natural resource!!

We must think of our children and grandchildren who must inherit this resource in
pristine condition.

Thank you for your attention

Sincerely

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

courtenay, B.C.
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 9:49 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The environment is not and should never be an after-thought. It is a necessary, critical component of any plans we make, not just a nice thing we give lip-service to after we think about business.

As a businessman, I find it objectionable when others of my ilk think business is done by adults and the environment is dealt with by children and those not mature or grown-up enough to deal in the "real world." It is they who live in a fantasy world, in a world where their actions have no consequences and they bear no responsibilities for the harm they cause and the malicious self-interest with which they operate.

This is the background that colours and taints every decision concerning the world we live in, the very environment that sustains us. We cannot continue to allow voluntary guidelines in protection acts – not without tangible tax encouragements for following guidelines, and stringent tax punishments for not.

Updating the WSA is a very good thing, but in updating it we must:

1. Enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies;
2. Ensure water remains protected as a public good;
3. Provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches;
4. Define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed;
5. Ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians – fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC;
6. Include a public trust doctrine that ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations;
7. Ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA – particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries; AND

8. Ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Guelph, Ontario
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 9:31 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA – particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences – not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Sincerely,

Dr. ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Austria

Personal Identifiers Removed

Austria

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 9:27 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Madam or Sir,
enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains
protected as a public good,provide for meaningful public participation in
decisions regarding water governance approaches,define environmental flows and
essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ”
rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently
proposed,ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value
of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a
comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,include a public trust
doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are
subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,ensure
that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and
gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental
flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.
Yours sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Stuttgart, Bavaria
Germany

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 7:57 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains
protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in
decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and
essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and
private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for
commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians;
fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water
management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private
rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of
present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA -
particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure
that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water
licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing
population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be
taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure
that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable
management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

The Hague, ZH
Netherlands

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 7:40 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

ensure water remains protected as a public good,

provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water
governance approaches,

define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial
use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently
proposed,

ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of
freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a
comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights
granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present
and future generations,

ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to
the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to
existing water licences - not just new licences.

Personal Identifiers Removed

austin, texas

usa

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 7:35 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

without water: no life !

Personal Identifiers Removed

Geneva, Geneva

Switzerland

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 6:39 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Please :

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

ensure water remains protected as a public good,

provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water
governance approaches,

define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial
use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently
proposed,

ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of
freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a
comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights
granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present
and future generations,

ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to
the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to
existing water licences - not just new licences.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Bangor, Maine

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 5:58 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Please protect the water.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Weyerhaeuser, WI

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 4:29 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Hello,

a new Water Sustainability Act must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Either, it should provides:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
 - ensure water remains protected as a public good,
 - provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
 - define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use,” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
 - ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
 - include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
 - ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
 - ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

regards

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Hohenwart, BA

Ger

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 3:49 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The BC government has just announced it is updating its antiquated 104-year-old
Water Act – this is good news, but we need to make sure we get it right.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Moscow, sa

Russia

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 3:43 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Please don't destroy the little that is left.....

Personal Identifiers Removed

Eidsvoll, None

Norway

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 3:23 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies. Thank you

Personal Identifiers Removed

Alameda del Valle, Madrid, España, Europa, Ninguno España

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 2:17 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

NOTE: Because the legislative proposal for the Water Sustainability Act is quite nuanced, we have selected these few key points to focus on. For a more detailed assessment of the proposal and additional suggestions for improvement, click here to view our complete list of comments.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Lindenhurst, illinois

usa

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 1:50 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

ensure water remains protected as a public good,

provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,

define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,

ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,

ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

catanzaro, cz

Italy

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 1:16 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Sir,

in effort of providing clean waters I ask You to consider following means to ensure that the Water Sustainability Act (WSA) will provide real protection and oversight for freshwater in BC.

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Kind regards

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Berlin, Berlin
Germany

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 1:00 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Mariannelund, Sweden, None

Sverige

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 12:13 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

- ensure water remains protected as a public good,

- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,

- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,

- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,

- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Subotica, None

Serbia

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2013 12:05 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies.

Ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA – particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences – not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Hendersonville, North Carolina
United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 11:26 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Updating the antiquated 104-year-old Water Act - is good, but we need to make sure we get it right.

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Phoenix, AZ

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 11:12 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Ms Polak,

I would like to make a few suggestions regarding the B.C. government's proposed Water Sustainability Act (WSA).

The new act must ensure that water remains a public good. It must include strong legal protection of "environmental flows" to maintain healthy functioning rivers and water bodies.

Environmental flows and essential household needs should be defined as a "beneficial use" instead of the currently proposed narrow and private use oriented definition.

The WSA must ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater. Water fees should be set high enough to fund comprehensive water management in the province. Companies such as Nestle should not be allowed to extract 265 million litres of Fraser Valley ground water for free. Oil and gas companies should not be allowed to pay a mere \$2.20 to extract the equivalent of 132 truckloads of fresh water for fracking.

The WSA must provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance.

The WSA needs to include a public trust doctrine to ensure that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interests of present and future generations.

The WSA must ensure that no industry is exempt from the Water Sustainability Act. This applies in particular to the oil and gas, and timber industries. The WSA must apply to both existing water licences as well as to new licences.

Fresh water is a precious, finite resource. In the face of climate change and population growth, we must ensure that B.C.'s use of fresh water is sustainable. The new Water Sustainability Act must ensure that sustainable management of this public resource trumps private water rights.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vancouver, B.C.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vancouver, B.C.
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 10:47 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Waters must be protected.

Personal Identifiers Removed

North Port, FL

US

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 8:33 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear minister.

Here are some points i would like to be addressed in the new water sustainability act.

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA – particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences – not just new licences. Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

nelson, bc
canada

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wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 8:30 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water is a public good, & no industry is exempt from the WSA.

Personal Identifiers Removed

NYC, NY

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 7:49 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Please protect natural underground water, without the threat of additional
pollutants which may contaminate & pollute it. A natural resource, such as
water, is worth it's priceless value to the public. Not to be mismanaged or
controlled without public opinion.

Thank you

Personal Identifiers Removed

Tyngsboro, Massachusetts

United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 7:10 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dom't know that much about the specifics, but if you aren't very careful, someone
like Nestle' will come in and ruin the whole situation. We, even here, in little
'ol Yelm have a Mayor who is trying to take over the world...
One set of water rights at a time.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Yelm, WA

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 6:57 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

- ensure water remains protected as a public good,

- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water
governance approaches,

- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial
use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently
proposed,

- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of
freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a
comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights
granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present
and future generations,

- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to
the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to
existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing
population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be
taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure
that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable
management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Jersey City, NJ

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 6:51 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Sedona, AZ

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 6:24 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

With current issues such as fracking and the current pollution of waters, it is more vital than ever that we update legislation to protect waterways worldwide, for the good of the public, and that of the environment--because the public does, after all, benefit from an improved environment! Fossil fuel industries cannot continue to be allowed to run wild, polluting wherever they want to with no or minimal oversight. Finally, household uses must be designated as essential, because such aspects of water use are far more important than agriculture or other big industry uses.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Columbus, GA
United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 5:24 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

In the proposed Water Sustainability Act, I ask the government to enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies and to ensure water remains protected as a public good. It is crucial to provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches and define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed. You have to ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC.

It is also important that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations and to ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and finally to ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Thanks to do all you can to preserve the beauty of nature for the future generations.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Lantier, Quebec

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 5:04 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

winnipeg, mb
canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 4:44 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains
protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in
decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and
essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and
private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for
commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians;
fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water
management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private
rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of
present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA -
particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure
that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water
licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing
population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be
taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure
that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable
management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Mexico City, State

México

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 4:41 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

hello,

I wanted to comment of fresh water in Canada. As you know the Great Lakes represent the 4th largest industrial area in the world and 95% of North America's freshwater, yet climate change is evaporating the lakes and causing major expense because 1) ships no longer can transit fully loaded, ballast water release invasive species, and dock infrastructure and lake shore locations are now inadequate. Now let's fly over to the glaciers of the Rocky Mountains that are fast melting and with it Alberta fresh water security. In the future, the long term future and the point of this email, we need to consider many consequences of the water system. For example, Alberta needs a pipeline, but not oil going west, but water going east. What do these references have to do with BC? Everything, everything is connected and important - or it would not be here.

The most important thing I wish to contribute is time, and these times are a'changing. We now have to think in terms of 100 - 500 years, not quarterly returns or the next election cycle. Beyond this, I wish to contribute these additional points:

- enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
 - ensure water remains protected as a public good,
 - provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
 - define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
 - ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
 - include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
 - ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
 - ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Thank you,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Roberts Creek, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 4:15 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I believe that they should adopt from any city or country that has a proven water sustainability as long as the key points are addressed.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Victoria, British Columbia

Cochrane

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 3:58 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Toronto, ON

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 3:53 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Please save the water.

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains
protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in
decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and
essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and
private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for
commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians;
fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water
management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private
rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of
present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA -
particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure
that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water
licences - not just new licences.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Holter, None

Norge

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 3:45 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Sun City, CA
United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 3:10 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Protect safe water.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Burlington, VT

05408

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 3:09 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I am writing to you regarding the proposed Water Sustainability Act. Please take into consideration the need for clear, enforceable legal standards within the Act. Voluntary "guidelines" are not enough to ensure that our water remains protected as a public good, to protect environmental flows and ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA (e.g. oil, gas, timber industries, etc.). Private rights must not take precedence. Please ensure the Act is not a weak one and contains strong legal language protecting BC's precious public resource. Water must remain protected as a public good.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Port Coquitlam, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 2:57 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Christy Clark

I am writing to you about your civic attitude relative to your environmental policies. The most important things that your BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to these fundamental points:

- enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows", those flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies;
- ensure water remains protected as a public good;
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches;
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use", rather than the narrow and private use oriented definition currently proposed;
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC;
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licenses are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations;
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries and;
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licenses - not just new licenses.

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and also expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is very sustainable. A new WSA organization must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Thank you for your time and patience to ask yourself that you, myself and billions of people around the world would can respond face the climate changes together.

Yours Faithfully

Personal Identifiers Removed

Castelo Branco (Portugal)

Personal Identifiers Removed

Castelo Branco, Beira Interior
Portugal

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 2:57 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Ensure water remains for public good

Thank you

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Holiday, FL

US

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 2:39 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

ensure water remains protected as a public good,

provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,

define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,

ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,

ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Adelaide, S.A.

Australia

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***, M.Ed.

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 2:18 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Premier Clark and Minister of Environment, I am writing to ask you to put meaningful wording into the Water Sustainability Act.

Specifically, to protect BC's precious water (the world's next oil), I ask you to:

- * enact strong legal protection of environmental flows
- * ensure water remains protected as a public good
- * ensure public participation for water governance
- * ensure water pricing represents its immense and inherent value to British Columbians
- * ensure no industry is exempt from the Water Sustainability Act.

Water is our most important natural resource. We must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over the sustainable management of this precious PUBLIC resource.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed, M.Ed.

Whistler, bc

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 1:46 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Sacramento, Ca.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Sacramento, Ca.

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 1:36 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

- ensure water remains protected as a public good,

- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water
governance approaches,

- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial
use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently
proposed,

- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of
freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a
comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights
granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present
and future generations,

- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to
the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to
existing water licences - not just new licences.

Sincerely,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vineland, Ontario

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 1:33 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water next to oxygen is the most precious commodity on this planet - not oil, not
LNG and certainly not gold. Get your priorities straight please.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Toronto, State

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 1:32 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

lewiston, me

usa

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 1:26 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

As water is the most precious resource we have on this planet we must do all we can to protect it. It must be clean so that we can drink it and it must provide an environment for vulnerable species such as the many salmonids that currently flourish in BC waters. I urge you to do all you can to write an act that ensures public input and that no industry shall be exempt from the WSA.

Thank you,

Personal Identifiers Removed, Ph.D.
Portland Oregon

Personal Identifiers Removed

Portland, Oregon
United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 1:18 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Staten Island, New York
USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 1:11 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

What is more important for all life on this planet than water. Pkease protect
it.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Mill Valley, Ca

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 1:00 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Remember, all water is connected and what happens there affects the rest fo the
world.

Personal Identifiers Removed

crystal lake, IL

US

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 12:51 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I am very pleased to hear that you are updating your water protection laws but would respectfully ask that when updating these regulations you are mindful of the fact that the water quality in your state can help or hinder all life in your state and not only human life, and as water eventually evaporates and falls as rain that it may potentially affect all life on this planet and therefore ask that you make this legislation as stringent as possible.

Yours Sincerely

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Swansea, State

United Kingdom

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 12:49 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water is life ... for all. Let's protect it by all means!

Personal Identifiers Removed

Hollywood, FL

United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 12:43 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Please ensure that water remains protected.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Dayton, Oh

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 12:43 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Premier Clark,

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Thanks,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Pompton Lakes, NJ

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 12:39 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains
protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in
decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and
essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and
private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for
commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians;
fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water
management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private
rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of
present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA -
particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure
that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water
licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing
population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be
taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure
that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable
management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Los Angeles, California

United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 12:32 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The fact that water sustainability is under consideration is a wonderful sign of enlightened thinking, a respect for science, and a recognition of the moral obligation to provide for the future of humans and the environment.

This endeavor is grounds for optimism.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Columbia Station, Ohio

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 12:21 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

please use this opportunity to get the act correct for years to come thank you

Personal Identifiers Removed

turriff, None

United Kingdom

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 12:15 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

he most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

- ensure water remains protected as a public good,

- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water
governance approaches,

- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial
use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently
proposed,

- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of
freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a
comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights
granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present
and future generations,

- ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to
the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to
existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing
population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be
taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure
that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable
management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Eugene, Oregon

United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 11:58 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for taking action to update British Columbia's antiquated Water Act.

Water is the life-blood of the planet.

British Columbia needs robust, enforceable, legal protection of our most precious public resource. The following are my suggestions of principles the proposed Water Sustainability Act should include:

1. Ensure water is protected as a public good, not a commodity
2. Strong legal protection for "environmental flows" that are critical for to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
3. Define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use"
4. Include a public trust doctrine ensuring any private rights granted under water licenses are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations
5. Meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches
6. Ensure that no industry is exempt, and that the WSA applies to all existing and new water licenses

Most importantly, the WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedent over the sustainable management of this critical public resource.

Respectfully,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Shawnigan Lake, BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 11:52 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback into this important new law.

I urge all those involved to ensure that public interest is protected in the new Water Sustainability Act (WSA) before any other interest, and that any licences for private water use provide only temporary rights rather than enshrining permanent or property rights.

I also urge the government to ensure that the WSA apply to ALL users of water, with no exceptions or exemptions for the oil and gas, mining, and/or timber industries in the province.

I also urge the government to ensure that the WSA set aside an "ecological reserve" of water that is not available for any other use than the conservation and maintenance of fish habitat and the preservation of the natural ecosystem, and that this reserve be based on scientifically defensible measures.

Best,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Personal Identifiers Removed

Victoria, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 11:24 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Dear Minister,

It seems that when creating a water sustainability act it should be straight
forward and easy -- sustain water....water must be protected as clean, safe,
supplies for life as water is a necessity for life.....

There must not be loopholes or exemptions which will allow companies to
pollute/poison water that is necessary for life....

Personal Identifiers Removed

Minneapolis, MN

United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 11:10 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

ensure water remains protected as a public good,

provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water
governance approaches,

define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial
use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently
proposed,

ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of
freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a
comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights
granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present
and future generations,

ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to
the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to
existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing
population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be
taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure
that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable
management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

bastrop, tx

united states

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 11:01 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

- enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies
- ensure water remains protected as a public good
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use,” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Sacramento, CA

United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 10:52 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Union Dale, PA

United States

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 10:46 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Please save the environment

Personal Identifiers Removed

heraklion, crete

greece

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 9:49 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies

ensure water remains protected as a public good,
provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water
governance approaches,

define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial
use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently
proposed,

ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of
freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a
comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights
granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present
and future generations,

ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to
the oil and gas, and timber industries, and

ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to
existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing
population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be
taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure
that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable
management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Brooklyn, NY

USA

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 7:53 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains
protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in
decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and
essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and
private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for
commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians;
fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water
management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private
rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of
present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA -
particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure
that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water
licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing
population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be
taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure
that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable
management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Manado, None

Indonesia

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wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 6:08 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

To whom it may concern:

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new water sustainability act must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over the sustainable management of this public resource. This implies that the act should:

- enact strong legal protection of all BC water to preserve the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies,
- ensure that water remains protected as a public good,
- provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches,
- define environmental flows and essential household needs as a "beneficial use," rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed,
- ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,
- include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations,
- ensure that all industries follow the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and
- ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

This is critical for our future, the one of our children and simply the well-being of the population and the planet in general.

Sincerely

Personal Identifiers Removed

Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2013 5:48 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

Conwy, None

United Kingdom

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Friday, November 8, 2013 7:51 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

enact strong legal protection of “environmental flows,” the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains
protected as a public good, provide for meaningful public participation in
decisions regarding water governance approaches, define environmental flows and
essential household needs as a “beneficial use, ” rather than the narrow and
private-use oriented definition currently proposed, ensure that water pricing for
commercial use reflects the inherent value of freshwater to British Columbians;
fees should be set high enough to fund a comprehensive approach to fresh water
management in BC, include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private
rights granted under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of
present and future generations, ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA -
particularly with regard to the oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure
that the WSA, especially environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water
licences - not just new licences.

Water is BC’s most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing
population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be
taken to ensure that BC’s use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure
that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable
management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

UCLUELET, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Friday, November 8, 2013 7:21 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

When you look at water resources around the world it makes one realize we are so fortunate to have fresh clean water here. It only makes sense to protect this life giving essential resource for now and our planet's future inhabitants.

Thank you,

Personal Identifiers Removed

Nanoose Bay, BC

Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at
wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org
[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Friday, November 8, 2013 6:01 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark
BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Please protect our future water supplies. The water sold for commercial use should have a price tag that reflects the fact that our precious resource is not be taken for granted.

Water in Canada should be protected for Canadians by Canadians. It's our recourse, let's keep it for our future!

Personal Identifiers Removed

Surrey, Bc
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org

-----Original Message-----

From: webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org

[mailto:webmaster@wildernesscommittee.org] On Behalf Of ***Personal Identifiers
Removed***

Sent: Friday, November 8, 2013 5:48 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Comments on the Water Sustainability Act Proposal

Water Sustainability Act

Ministry of Environment, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch PO Box 9362
Stn Prov Gov Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

CC: BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Minister of Environment Mary Polak

RE: Comments on the BC Water Sustainability Act Proposal

I am sending this letter on behalf of myself and all residents of BC and the
Wilderness Committee.

Many things are happening in the environment these days and we are lucky to be
almost on top of the world as it would seem, in regards to fresh water supplies,
vast amounts of ecologically sensitive forests and the minerals and natural gas
beneath it all. With proper planning and control through our fresh water
management programs we will have plenty for ourselves and for the future (our
kids).

I believe all of the following points are crucial to future water concerns of
residents of BC.

The most important things the BC government can do in the proposed Water
Sustainability Act would be to:

-enact strong legal protection of "environmental flows," the flows that are
critical to healthy functioning rivers and water bodies ensure water remains
protected as a public good,

-provide for meaningful public participation in decisions regarding water
governance approaches, define environmental flows and essential household needs
as a "beneficial use, " rather than the narrow and private-use oriented
definition currently proposed,

-ensure that water pricing for commercial use reflects the inherent value of
freshwater to British Columbians; fees should be set high enough to fund a
comprehensive approach to fresh water management in BC,

-include a public trust doctrine which ensures that any private rights granted
under water licences are subject to be managed in the interest of present and
future generations,

-ensure that no industry is exempt from the WSA - particularly with regard to the
oil and gas, and timber industries, and ensure that the WSA, especially

environmental flow provisions, applies to existing water licences – not just new licences.

Water is BC's most important natural resource. Given the pressures of a growing population, changing climate and expanding development pressures, steps must be taken to ensure that BC's use of freshwater is sustainable. A new WSA must ensure that private rights to water do not take precedence over this the sustainable management of this public resource.

Personal Identifiers Removed

White Rock , BC
Canada

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at wildernesscommittee.org