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From: ks@glasswaters.ca [mailto:ks@glasswaters.ca]

Sent: Friday, November 15, 2013 3:22 PM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Input on the proposed Water Sustainability Act

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of my organization, the following input to the Legislative proposal, A Water Sustainability Act for BC, is to stress the importance that the proposed water act be based on ideals that protect, strengthen and nurture our water resources in perpetuity.

- 1) Water must be managed on the public's behalf in such a manner that protects water sources, including ground water, and gives priority to the health of the land and aquatic ecosystems within a watershed. This means that industry and private rights to water must be subordinate to overall public interest. For example, in times of drought, environmental needs and public needs must supersede those of industry.
- 2) There must be comprehensive and genuine public participation in water management and land use decision making processes. This must include full participation of all local governments and affected communities.
- 3) There needs to be fair return on water. Specifically, industrial water use fees must be increased to capture the real costs of water supply (including extraction, delivery and end of service remediation), watershed monitoring, governance and administration.

Thank you,
Katherine Smail
Executive Director

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