



November 13, 2013

File:

5500-22-01

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

Dear Sir/Madam;

Re Water Sustainability Act Legislative Proposal Submission

Please be advised that at the Special Board Meeting held on November 12th, 2013, the following resolutions regarding the Water Sustainability Act Legislative Proposal submission were approved.

1. That the Board approve the following recommendations be submitted by November 15, 2013 to the Ministry of Environment in response to their call for submissions on the development of the Water Sustainability Act.
2. That the Board support the Water Sustainability Act Legislative Proposal recommendations under "Protect Stream Health and Aquatic Environments".
3. That the Board support the Water Sustainability Act Legislative Proposal recommendations under "Consider Water In Land Use Decisions".
4. That the Board support the Water Sustainability Act Legislative Proposal recommendations under "Regulate and Protect Groundwater".
5. That the Board support the Water Sustainability Act Legislative Proposal recommendations under "Regulate During Scarcity".
6. That the Board support the Water Sustainability Act Legislative Proposal recommendations under "Improve Security, Water Use Efficiency and Conservation".
7. That the Board support the Water Sustainability Act Legislative Proposal recommendations under "Measure and Report".
8. That the Board support the Water Sustainability Act Legislative Proposal recommendations under "Enable a Range of Governance Approaches".
9. That inclusion of the Aquifer Storage and Recovery as a component of a Community Water Supply System be recognized in the future Water Sustainability Act and related regulations.
10. That further development of the legislative language and supporting regulatory framework for the Water Sustainability Act include key stakeholders in a collaborative process.
11. That the Province be requested to consider extending the deadline for comments so the community can have more time to provide input.

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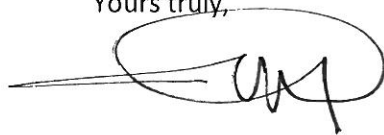
RDN Website: www.rdn.bc.ca

The Board is in support of the Province's direction towards the new Water Sustainability Act however, there were general concerns regarding possible downloading of responsibilities and additional costs for community water system providers for access to water resources. There was also a general concern expressed with regard to the short period of time provided for responses to this detailed and complex Legislative proposal.

In addition, the Board was interested in ensuring Aquifer Storage and Recovery be included in the Act to provide support for this beneficial water supply approach.

Thank you for considering the Board's position in this matter. Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions regarding this submission.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MD', enclosed within a large, hand-drawn oval. A horizontal line extends from the left side of the oval.

Mike Donnelly
Manager of Water & Utility Services

cc: *Joe Stanhope, Chair, RDN*
Paul Thorkelsson, CAO, RDN
Randy Alexander, General Manager, Regional & Community Utilities, RDN
Jacquie Hill, Manager, Administrative Services, RDN
Dawn Keim, DWWP Coordinator, RDN