

**Union Bay  
Improvement  
District**

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November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Water Sustainability Act  
Water Protection and Sustainability Branch  
BC Ministry of Environment  
PO Box 9362 Stn Prov Gov't  
Victoria BC, V8W 9M2

**VIA E-MAIL: [livingwatersmart@gov.bc.ca](mailto:livingwatersmart@gov.bc.ca)**

The Union Bay Improvement District (UBID) has the mandate to ensure the acquisition, maintenance and operation of water works for the district which is located in the mid-Vancouver Island region. As such, UBID owns Langley Lake as its surface water source and provides potable water to approximately 675 properties. The Langley Lake Watershed is fully within lands privately held by Island Timberlands. We appreciate this limited opportunity to respond to the provincial government's direction.

The one month time period for response to the materials recently published regarding the new Water Sustainability Act legislative proposal is inadequate for meaningful input and therefore an extension of a few months is requested. It is understood that these materials are intended to provide general direction, however this issue is of importance to our community and we are also interested in responding to detailed proposals before they are enshrined in legislation. UBID urges the government to consult once again very broadly with all stakeholders prior to approval of the legislation and regulations.

Within the limited time frame and a cursory review, Union Bay Improvement District supports the following directions being taken in this legislative review:

- Support enhanced environment flow need regulation in new legislation;
- Private owners of watersheds should be subject to the same rules as Crown land watersheds;
- Local governance of watersheds with clear requirements and appropriate allocation of resources;
- Give the 'Water Sustainability Act' precedence over other legislation; and
- Require accurate, comprehensive aquifer mapping in the province.

We look forward to further opportunities to provide meaningful input.

Yours Truly,  
On behalf of the UBID Board of Trustees,



Kevin Douville  
Administrator  
Union Bay Improvement District