



Date August 9, 2016

Graham Lake Improvement District  
3567 East Road  
Denman Island, BC V0R 1T0

Attn: Simon Palmer, Grant Cyz

Dear Graham Lake Improvement District:

**RE: Follow-up to Surface Water Treatment Objectives Meeting**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for meeting with myself and Gary Anderson on July 27, 2016, to discuss the surface water treatment objectives. I hope you found the meeting informative. I also hope that we were able to explain to you the reasons why this policy is being implemented and the process that you as a water supplier are being expected to follow in order to achieve the treatment objectives.

In the following points I have summarized both the reasons for the surface water treatment objective and the process for meeting these objectives. These are:

Rationale

- Single barrier is not adequate to provide protection against all pathogens.
- Large water systems and new water systems have already been required to meet the surface water treatment objectives.
- The surface water treatment objectives are being applied throughout BC, Canada, USA and other developed countries around the world.
- Within Island Health the small water systems are the last water systems being asked to meet these surface water treatment objectives.
- It is a requirement when specified under terms and conditions that will be attached to your permit to operate a water supply system.

Process

- Your water system is required to submit an implementation plan to this office no later than January 31st, 2017.
- The implementation plan can be developed by you or by an agent designated to do so under the authority of your water system.
- The implementation plan must include specific and key steps in the implementation process and completion dates corresponding to those steps. As a minimum your implementation plan should include:

- Time frames to complete source water quality testing in order to determine treatment options.
  - Identify potential treatment options.
  - Select a final treatment technology.
  - Obtain a permit to construct or waiver from the Public Health Engineer.
  - Dates regarding construction and commissioning of works.
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- Key steps in your implementation plan will be attached in the form of permit terms and conditions on your water system operating permit.
  - If your water system does not provide an implementation plan an implementation plan will be imposed on your water system by the Drinking Water Officer (DWO) in the form of terms and conditions on your operating permit.
  - Even though an implementation plan may be imposed in default of a water supplier developed plan the DWO will still seek comments from the water supplier on the imposed plan. Typically the water supplier will have 30 days to provide comment on any proposed operating permit terms and conditions.
  - It is expected that the water system Implementation plans will be based on a self-funded model and not rely on grant money. If grant money or any other source of external funding becomes available it can be used to re-evaluate the timeframes established in the operating permit terms and conditions.
  - You may likely require the services of water specialist and/or engineer to determine what if any upgrades to your water system are needed in order to meet the surface water treatment objectives. The specialist and/or engineer may also be needed to assist you in the selection of the most appropriate water treatment option.
  - As a water supplier you will need to apply for a construction permit or waiver respecting any and all works associated with upgrades needed to meet these treatment objectives.

Thank you again for meeting with myself (Paul Cseke) and Gary Anderson on July 27th, 2016. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if you need any further assistance in understanding either the rationale or process for meeting the water quality treatment objectives.

Respectfully,



Paul Cseke, CPHI(C)  
Environmental Health Officer  
PC/jr