

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2012

7:00 PM

(RDN Board Chambers)

A D D E N D U M

PAGES

LATE DELEGATIONS

2-3 **Duane Round**, re proposed new water intake on the Englishman River.

CORRESPONDENCE

4-7 **Mike Squire, Arrowsmith Water Service / Englishman River Water Service**, re
Concerns about the Proposed Englishman River Water Intake.

O'Halloran, Matt

From: Duane Round <duaneround@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 08, 2012 12:24 PM
To: O'Halloran, Matt
Subject: Re: appear as delegate
Attachments: water intake purveyor letter.docx

Hi Matt: Would i be able to attach this letter to the agenda as part of my presentation?
Thanks,Duane

On Fri, Jun 8, 2012 at 10:47 AM, O'Halloran, Matt <MOhalloran@rdn.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Duane,

I will add your delegation to the June 12 meeting addendum for a 5 minute presentation at 7pm. Please let me know if you require a laptop/projector for the presentation.

Regards

Matt O'Halloran

Legislative Coordinator
Regional District of Nanaimo

[250-390-6569](tel:250-390-6569)

www.rdn.bc.ca

From: Hewitt, Nicole
Sent: Friday, June 08, 2012 10:44 AM
To: O'Halloran, Matt
Subject: FW: appear as delegate

Nicole Hewitt

May 22,2012

Duane Round
543 Wain Road,
PO Box 887, V9P 2G9
Parksville, B.C.
250-954-7737

Assistant Regional Water Manager
Ministry of Forests,Lands and Natural Resources Operations
2080A Labieux Road,
Nanaimo ,B.C. ,V9T 6J9

Dear Sir/Madam:

In regards to the Arrowsmith Water Service request to locate a water intake and divert water from the Englishman River 50 meters upstream from the Highway 19 bridge.

I live a few hundred meters below (north) of the proposed intake and have concerns that I and others in the Martindale Road Area and the San Paniel subdivision have not been adequately consulted or included in the discussion of this proposal and the possible risks to our water supply.

Most of us have our own wells that also receive water from the Englishman River aquifer as our only means to obtain water for our homes.

Having attended public meetings of the Arrowsmith Water Service and the newly formed Englishman River Water Service my concerns were not addressed on the possibility of reduced water flow or contamination to our wells and who would help us if a problem did arise.

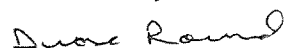
With the City of Parksville and Nanosse Bay getting most of the use of this water and their current well systems under duress I am concerned that in the future they will want to take more of the water than is currently being taken leaving less for the rest of us that also depend on the aquifer.

Their plan to possibly store water from the winter run off in an Aquifer Storage & Recovery System also poses a risk that the water supply will be contaminated or cause water to pour out of places on our properties where they have not before. This is an experimental proposal that has not been tested in British Columbia before and may cause environmental damage that cannot easily be fixed.

I believe that the water in the Englishman River Aquifer belongs to all of us and therefore everyone dependant on its use needs to be included in any plans for its use.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Yours truly,



Duane Round
cc: Arrowsmith Water Service(Mike Squire)
cc.Atreia G Director (Joe Stanhope)

Finnie, John

From: Mike Squire <MSquire@parksville.ca>
Sent: Friday, June 08, 2012 1:55 PM
To: 'Parkwest Construction'; 'jstanhope@shaw.ca'
Cc: 'FrontCounterBC@gov.bc.ca'; 'Marquis, Paul J FLNR:EX' (Paul.Marquis@gov.bc.ca); Finnie, John; 'Bob Weir'; Fred Manson; Mason, Carol; Chris Burger; Councillor Marc Lefebvre
Subject: RE: Englishman River proposed new water intake
Attachments: Reply Letter D. Round.pdf

Dear Mr. Round,

Please see the attached letter in response to your letter dated May 22, 2012 and your e-mail on June 6, 2012.

Regards,

Mike Squire, ASCT
Program Manager – Englishman River Water Service
Ph. 250-951-2480
Fax. 250-248-6140

From: Parkwest Construction [<mailto:parkwestconstruction@shaw.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 06, 2012 11:34 AM
To: jstanhope@shaw.ca
Cc: Mike Squire; FrontCounterBC@gov.bc.ca
Subject: Englishman River proposed new water intake

Dear Mr. Stanhope : I am attaching a letter of objection to the new proposed water intake for the Englishman River file #1001868.

As the letter states i have concerns that this project will have a detrimental effect on the quantity and quality of my well system at 543 Wain Road.

I would be pleased to meet with you as Director of Area “G” , Chair of the Regional District of Nanaimo , as Chair of the Arrowsmith Water Service or as Chair of the Englishman River Water Service to address my concerns.

Please let me know when would be an appropriate time of convenience.

Yours sincerely,
Duane Round
250-954-7737
543 Wain Road ,Parksville ,B.C., V9P 2G9
duaneround@shaw.ca

Englishman River
&
Arrowsmith Lake

File: 5600-15-WAT-LIC-AWS

June 8, 2012

Forwarded by E-Mail to: parkwestconstruction@shaw.ca
Followed by Regular Mail

Mr. Duane Round
543 Wain Road
Parksville, BC V9P 2G9

Dear Mr. Round,

Reference: Concerns about the Proposed Englishman River Water Intake

Thank you for your letter dated June 5, 2012 to Mr. Joe Stanhope, RDN Director, Electoral Area G, and Chair of the Arrowsmith Water Service. As the Arrowsmith Water Service Program Manager, I will formally reply to your letter.

As I advised in our previous conversation, you should not be concerned about a potential decline in your residential well as a result of the plan to install a new intake above the Highway 19 bridge. Due to the AWS capital venture, the projected summer base flows in the Englishman River after full licensed extraction (full build out to year 2040) are far greater than existing historic Englishman River flows.

The construction of the Arrowsmith Dam and Arrowsmith Lake storage reservoir resulted from direction from the Province of British Columbia to the Town of Qualicum Beach, City of Parksville and the Regional District of Nanaimo to look towards the Englishman River as a single source of future surface water supply for the region. This was to help augment and stabilize river summer base flows that support aquatic life, and to reduce impacts on groundwater. The Englishman River Water Allocation Plan, prepared by the Province in 1993, indicated that all the licensed water allocations were utilized and any further extraction would require storage. As a result, the Arrowsmith Dam was designed and constructed to store water for the benefit of future water supply needs, for fishery benefits, and to ensure groundwater and existing water licence users are not negatively impacted. The Englishman River conveys water from the Arrowsmith Reservoir to the licenced point of extraction from the river. Not all water released from the Arrowsmith Reservoir reaches the extraction point. Depending on the time of year, approximately 30 % of this water is lost to evaporation or enters the ground, which helps recharge the Englishman River aquifer. Without the dam and reservoir, the flows in the Englishman River would at times return to critical historic levels and reduce the benefit to groundwater recharge from the river that may now be occurring during the summer and fall low flow period.

You also mentioned your concern with the proposed Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) project. This project will have no effect on your well or the surrounding aquifer. The proposed ASR system is an initiative to secure and provide safe drinking water while reducing our withdrawal from the Englishman River during peak summer demands. If the ASR program is successful in finding a confined aquifer suitable for this application, there will be additional water available in the Englishman River during low summer flows. ASR has been in practice throughout North America for over 20 years. There are over 200 active applications supplying thousands of consumers. As a water purveyor with the responsibility of supplying safe, clean drinking water to the region, the Arrowsmith and Englishman River Water Services are practicing due diligence on this important project. It is not an experiment that would put the general public at risk.


With regards to your concerns for water quality, the installation of the new intake will employ construction practices and standards to minimize any potential disruption to the surface water flow and water quality and minimize and mitigate any potential sedimentation from entering the Englishman River.

If you feel that your residential well supply currently benefits from a direct connection to the Englishman River surface water, I recommend that you contact the Vancouver Island Health Authority for advice on addressing any health risks associated with untreated surface water entering your well. Typically surface water supplies or groundwater under the direct influence of surface water (known as GUDI wells) should be treated to reduce any potential health risk associated with the surface water source.

Should you have any further concerns or comments, please feel free to contact me. I have enclosed our Public Information Report and our Water System Brochure for your reference and to assist with understanding our water supply system. For further details of the AWS and ERWS Board meetings, future plans, operations and general benefits and operating structure of the Arrowsmith Dam, please refer to our Web Site (see link below). Our web site is the main central repository of up to date information and current studies.

www.arrowsmithwaterservice.ca

Regards,


Mike Squire, AScT

Program Manager – Arrowsmith Water Service / Englishman River Water Service

JF/MS/re

C: Joe Stanhope, RDN

AWS/ERWS Management Committees

May 22,2012

Duane Round
543 Wain Road,
PO Box 887, V9P 2G9
Parksville, B.C.
250-954-7737

Assistant Regional Water Manager
Ministry of Forests,Lands and Natural Resources Operations
2080A Labieux Road,
Nanaimo ,B.C. ,V9T 6J9

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Yours truly,

Duane Round
cc: Arrowsmith Water Service