



South East Kelowna Irrigation District

WATER QUALITY

Water Quality Improvement Plan Update (WQIP)

The water quality improvements for SEKID's service area within the Kelowna Integrated Water Supply Plan (KIWSP – see story page 3) remain largely unchanged from our original 2007 plan. That report reviewed the options available to the District to provide an affordable domestic water supply and concluded the most viable option is to provide a separate domestic water supply using groundwater and to deliver that water to the rural area of the District using a separate domestic distribution system.

This approach includes developing two new wells in addition to the existing wells in the District and distributing the water through a combination of existing infrastructure in the higher density areas of the District and constructing a separate domestic system in the rural areas. The preliminary estimate on the costs of this option is about \$17.5 million.

Board of Trustees

The Trustees would like to take this opportunity to invite the landowners to call us with your comments and concerns regarding the District's operations and policies. We are:

Christine Dendy	250 860-3537
Lorne Lacroix	250 763-0510
Dan Newbold	250 862-5245
Dominic Rampone	250 764-8564
Brian Wright	250 860-8576

Or, call or stop by our office and talk to the staff at 3235 Gulley Road, ph. 250 861-4200, fax 861-4213.



Season's Greetings from all of us at the South East Kelowna Irrigation District!

Holiday Office Hours:

Closed 12:00 PM, Friday
December 23, 2011 until 8:30 AM
Monday January 2, 2012

After evaluating several proposals, the District gave consulting engineering firm CTQ Consultants the go-ahead to proceed with the pre-design for the domestic groundwater system. When complete, this work will identify the layout of the new domestic water system and provide more accurate information about the costs and rate impacts of the project. While the well water supply is among the least expensive of the options assessed, there will be a

significant impact on rates if the improvements are fully funded by SEKID. In fact rates have already been impacted by the \$200,000 annual contribution to the Water Quality Improvement Fund that was established by the Board of trustees in 2009 to help pay for system upgrades. The Board of Trustees has been actively pursuing provincial infrastructure grant money for the past several years and is optimistic the Kelowna Integrated Water Supply Plan will convince Victoria to provide much needed grant funding.

HALL ROAD

O'Reilly Road Well Renewal

Longtime residents of the Hall Road area will know the O'Reilly Road Well has been operating since the spring of 2000. Typically wells that run 24/7 require maintenance much more frequently than the over ten years that it has been for O'reilly and the time had come to inspect, service and re-habilitate the well.

This work involves removing the pump, motor and piping from the well.

A video camera was lowered some 165 feet down the well casing to assess the condition of the casing and screen. The

cameras used for the inspection are precision crafted instruments that provide excellent resolution and both a vertical and horizontal perspective of the well casing and screens.

The inspection clearly showed excessive mineral deposits extending over most of the screen area with little to no bio-fouling. The mineral deposits were cleared from the screens using a hydro-pulse method.

This involves lowering a stainless steel cylinder into the casing that releases a high pressure nitrogen blast. The concussion clears deposits away from the screens which effectively restores the original flow characteristics. The hydro-pulse method is preferable to using chemicals to clear the screens because it leaves no chemical residues.

While this work was being done the pump was inspected and serviced. The well was “re-developed” using the standard method for developing wells: surging sections of the screening works to flush out fine particles in the surrounding substrate. When this was complete the pump and motor were re-installed.

Unfortunately, the motor failed after only about four hours of operation. These submersible motors are sealed units with no serviceable parts and the unit needed to be replaced.

The motor failure extended the

down-time for the well longer than expected. The Board of Trustees and staff apologize for the inconvenience the shut-down caused our customers and your cooperation and patience are much appreciated.

We expect the next major servicing and maintenance of the O'Reilly Road Well will be in another five to seven years.

RATES

2012 Domestic Tolls

Effective January 1, 2012 toll rates for domestic and commercial connections will increase from \$37.25 to \$38.00 per month.

The rate for commercial users will increase from \$2.44 per 1,000 US gallons to \$2.49 per 1,000 US Gallons with a minimum monthly rate of \$38.00.

Domestic services are billed quarterly and the new rate will amount to a billing of \$114.00 for each three month period.

Domestic accounts pre-paid for the year on or before February 29, 2012 are entitled to a \$9.00 discount. The annual toll amounts

to \$456.00. When the discount is applied to the annual toll, the total payable is reduced to \$447.00

Residents of the Hall Road area receive a full time interruptible supply of well water from a well located on O'Reilly Road.

The term “interruptible supply” is used because if maintenance is needed (see previous story) or there is a power failure, main break or increased demand from an event such as a fire, then the well water will be replaced or supplemented with the same surface water supply as the rest of the district.

A special charge is levied on Hall Road residents to cover the additional cost of supplying well water to the area.

That charge will increase in 2012 to \$12.50 per month. This charge covers the operating costs of the well, the capital cost of upgrading the well with an energy efficient drive and provides a contribution to an equipment replacement reserve which is used to maintain and upgrade the well as required.

For more information on the background behind the water supply to the area, go to News and Reports/Public Participation at SEKID: The Concerned Citizens of the Hall Road Area.

Domestic Toll and Special Charge Discount for 2012
(For annual charges paid on or before February 29, 2012)

	<u>Annual Toll</u>	<u>Special Charge</u>	<u>Sub-total</u>	<u>Discount</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Savings</u>
Non-Hall Road	\$456.00	0	\$456.00	-\$9.00	\$447.00	\$9.00
Hall Road Area	\$456.00	\$150.00	\$606.00	-\$9.00	\$597.00	\$9.00

CITY-WIDE WATER SUPPLY PLAN

Kelowna Integrated Water Supply Plan (KIWSP)

On September 15, 2010 the five major Kelowna water purveyors who make up the Kelowna Joint Water Committee (KJWC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to develop the Kelowna Integrated Water Supply Plan (KIWSP). Kelowna City Council along with the four elected Boards of Trustees from the Black Mountain Irrigation District, Glenmore-Ellison Improvement District, Rutland Waterworks and the South East Kelowna Irrigation District, unanimously ratified the agreement. Now, after fourteen months in development, the final draft of the KIWSP has been submitted to the Boards of Trustee and Council for review and comment.

The water needs of Kelowna are unique in BC and Canada. Agricultural water use in the City boosts water demand to a volume typical of an urban centre with three or four times the population of Kelowna. The combined water use of all five suppliers puts Kelowna in the top three water demand centres in B.C. (the others are Metro-Vancouver and the Capital Regional District).

Each of the Kelowna water suppliers has unique water sources, distribution systems and community service requirements. Each system is responsive to the needs of the community it serves and service levels are tailored to meet those needs. Customer

surveys in each service area show very high levels of customer satisfaction. Each of the Improvement Districts have five elected trustees who are members of the community and responsive to that community. The annual cost of each five member board is about the same as one municipal council member.

A primary reason for the creation of the Memorandum of Understanding to develop the Kelowna Integrated Water Supply Plan is to address provincial concerns regarding Kelowna's long term water servicing needs. In his letter of January 12, 2010, then Minister of Community and Rural Development, Bill Bennett, indicated the following criteria must be met prior to provincial consideration for infrastructure grant funding for Kelowna's water systems:

- A. Best-Lowest Cost Solutions (physical infrastructure efficiency and effectiveness)
- B. Flexibility (operational and administrative efficiency and effectiveness)
- C. Achievement of Public Health Outcomes
- D. Agricultural Interests Maintained

In developing a comprehensive water quality improvement plan for water use as varied as Kelowna's, it is important to keep the approach simple, direct and in-line with the long-term strategy for water supply for the City. The agreed upon approach to determine project ranking of some 48 water quality improvement projects is based first on the highest risk areas and second on funding projects that benefit the greatest number of people. Project priority will be determined using the following criteria:

1. **Eliminate all Boil Water Notices (BWNs):** The

reduction of Boil Water Notices can be realized through system separation and the use of higher quality raw water sources;

2. **Eliminate all Water Quality Advisories (WQAs):** Water Quality Advisories would be reduced through accessing the best quality raw water sources and upgrading water treatment barriers;
3. **Meet the Interior Health (IH) Regulatory Requirements:** This would be accomplished through use of high quality water and cost effective water treatment technologies such as UV disinfection followed by chlorination;
4. **Meet MACs and AO Criteria:** The plan will then ensure that all water quality parameters are below the Maximum Acceptable Concentrations (MACs) set out within the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality (GCDWQ). Improvements would then ensure water will meet the aesthetic objectives (AOs) within the GCDWQ;
5. **Filter all Drinking Water:** This objective is more costly and will result in substantial rate increases for most of the water service areas. Protecting the raw water sources and meeting the IH deferral requirements are steps to be taken to reduce risks and costs so that filtration is not required in the near future.

The approach developed by the technical committee to implement water quality improvements is intended to provide a safe, affordable and reliable supply of water to the community. The plan is technically defensible, simple to implement and laid out in eight stages:

1. **Use High Quality Water Sources:** Access water from the highest quality water source, appropriate for the intended use (domestic, industrial or agricultural);
2. **UV disinfection:** Maximize the use of Ultra-violet disinfection throughout the region as it is proven to be the Best Available Technology and a cost effective barrier that is applicable for use on the high quality primary domestic sources;
3. **Primary Separation:** These are the agricultural areas that require separation immediately. They include Scotty Ck. (BMID-completed), Ellison area (GEID) and most of the SEKID service area;
4. **Phase 1 Interconnections:** Interconnect the existing water distribution system grids in order to improve the interconnection capacity and emergency supply capacity;
5. **Ancillary Works / Reassessment of Status:** These projects improve water quality, redundancy, protect source water quality and/or assist in overall water management;
6. **Secondary Separation:** These secondary areas include the Scenic area in GEID and the Morrison, McKenzie, Gallagher's Road and Belgo areas within BMID;
7. **Filtration of Primary Sources:** If any of the four primary water sources experiences significant deviations in raw water quality, filtration and/or additional treatment would be added;
8. **Phase 2 Interconnections:** The second stage of interconnections is to provide substantial capacity between

utilities through the construction of high capacity transmission mains.

The Final Draft of the KIWSP has been received by Council and the four Boards of Trustees. Copies have also been provided to Provincial representatives from Health, Agriculture and Community Development and copies have been provided to the Interior Health. Once comments have been received back from these referrals the final report will be prepared for adoption by each of the signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding.

RATES

Taxes due December 31, 2011

A basic residential water tax is levied against all residential properties in the district with domestic water service.

Larger properties with water rights are assessed on the basis of the number of acres of water rights the property has. Assessment notices were mailed to all properties in October. Taxes were

billed in mid-November.

The tax rate was increased to \$71.05 per acre for 2011, with the same base rate for properties less than one acre in area. Taxes unpaid after February 29, 2012 will be assessed a ten percent penalty.

We urge everyone to avoid the penalty by making your payments before the due date.

TRUSTEES

New Board Members

Two nominations were put forward for the position of Trustee prior to the May 19, 2011 filing deadline.

Brian Wright of 2543 Packers Road and Dominic Rampone of 2825 Balldock Road were duly nominated and acclaimed for the two available positions.

Thanks and congratulations go out to both candidates for letting their names stand for public office in service to the community.

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