

NNRA WATER REPORT DEC. 2012

WATER TREATMENT PLANT (wtp)

The wtp is now in service as of Oct.29 and is servicing all four red gap wells. The wtp removes 98% of all iron and manganese and ammonia. In the future this plant will be able to treat the Claudet well and in particular remove the ammonia in the water. At the moment the Claudet well is not connected to the system and would require substantial piping to do so. There is no plan to make this connection at the moment. The Madronna area does not receive water from the wtp as the water goes to the Fairwinds area.

Englishman River Water System (erws)

French Creek residents have chosen to bow out of the project. That would leave RDN Nanoose with 26% of the project and estimated costs of about \$11 million as things stand now. As pointed out in the previous report this is a substantial oversupply at the moment and for quite some time. Engineering work by the RDN indicates that by 2035 the demand will come up to the 26% figure assuming a full buildout within the entire Nanoose region. The issue is paying for the project as it comes into service until all the water is needed if in fact it is needed. All of which is really difficult to predict.

The aquifer storage system report is now due next year and a decision on aquifer storage would follow. Injection and removal tests are underway and a monitoring well is underway as part of the assessment. The site is Kay Road by the weigh scales.

The Department of Fisheries are still considering the input site on the Englishman River and much effort is underway to inform the DFO and the Environment and Health. Health require a system by 2016 (as does Parksville) but the current delays have put that date in jeopardy. So the project is in a squeeze at the moment and something will have to change here.

A decision to use membrane filtration has been made. The design rates remain as approx. 30 MI/day in the first phase (2035) and 50 MI/day in the second phase (2050).

I spoke recently with George Holme on these issues. He is very much in the loop. His perspective is that the government agencies will have to sort out the intake location amongst themselves to come to a final determination. The current planned location is the most likely one. Also he feels substantial government assistance would be necessary now to see the project go ahead as the costs are substantial. The Board will make the final determination for the RDN on the basis of presentations made to it and George's recommendation. Joe Stanhope represents French Creek and has advised George that he will bow out of the review board.

MISCELLANEOUS

The RDN advise that water demand is decreasing over the region. The last 5 year avg is 295 l/day/person. In 2012 it was 270 l/day. This is a long term trend and partly due to more water efficient appliances and toilets.

The long term water action program that we are funding will produce a water in and water out (water balance) report for the region early in 2013 in computerized format using google earth. Also a detailed stream health monitoring program is underway in cooperation with the Environment. The objective is an understanding of the water resource. A new program manager will be installed as current one is leaving. Also both John Finnie and Carol Mason have retired from the RDN.

John Hardman