



December 17, 2021

File: 20012988
vFCBC Tracking #: 100292061

Attention: Remko Rosenboom
Sunshine Coast Regional District
1975 Field Road
Sechelt, BC V0N 3A1

Dear Remko Rosenboom:

Re: Water Licence Application 112988

The investigation of the above application has been completed. Enclosed is a copy of your Conditional Water Licence (502568).

Please read the documents carefully. Any error(s) in these documents should be brought to the attention of this office as soon as possible.

This licence has been issued based on an understanding that water will normally be available for this licence in the authorized quantity. However, in the event of a water shortage the quantity of water allocated by the licence may not be available. During such an event you may be instructed to cease diverting water.

You are required to develop an Adaptive Management Plan and submit the Adaptive Management Plan to the satisfaction of, and for acceptance by, the Water Manager under the *Water Sustainability Act*, prior to commencing the diversion of groundwater. Please contact WaterActReferrals.LowerMainland@gov.bc.ca for more information about this requirement.

The quantity of water approved has been reduced from the amount applied for following discussion with our representatives regarding uncertainty about the availability of groundwater in Aquifer 560. This licence has been issued in order to allocate an initial portion of the volume for which you applied. Upon assessment of monitoring and other data collected under the Adaptive Management Plan that is conditional to this licence, one of our representatives will continue with the review of Water Licence Application 117862 to determine whether some or all of the remaining volume for which you applied may be allocated within a supplemental or substitute licence. This does not ensure that water will be allocated beyond that which is allocated within the present licence.

Monitoring data for Soames Creek will be collected at one or more hydrometric station, the location of which shall be determined through the Adaptive Management Plan. The

1

hydrometric station(s) shall be constructed and managed according to *The Manual of British Columbia Hydrometric Standards, version 2.0* (2018), prepared by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Knowledge Management Branch for the Resources Information Standards Committee. The accuracy of hydrometric data collected at this station should be in the Grade A standard referenced in the above-mentioned manual.

You are required to satisfy the Environmental Flow Needs threshold values for Soames Creek, as identified in the accepted Adaptive Management Plan that is conditional to this licence. Upon commencement of groundwater diversion, you are also committed to implementing the mitigation strategies specified in the Adaptive Management Plan any time that Soames Creek flows fall below the identified Environmental Flow Needs threshold values.

Please note that your water licence requires you to install flow measuring devices to record the rate and volume of water diverted under this licence. You should ensure that your works can accommodate this request.

You are advised that the *Drinking Water Protection Act* and the Drinking Water Protection Regulation under that Act govern the construction, installation, alteration, extension and operation of joint works that form part of a domestic water system supplying more than one single-family residence or any facility or establishment where the public consumes water. It is the responsibility of the licensee to comply with the Act and Regulations noted above. Your local Regional Health Authority will be able to assist you.

You should be aware all archaeological sites are protected under the *Heritage Conservation Act*. Archaeological sites may exist that have not been identified or documented. Please note it is an offence to alter, damage, dig in or excavate an archaeological site, except if authorized by a permit issued under the *Heritage Conservation Act*. If an archaeological site or potential archaeological material is encountered at any time, all activities must cease and you must contact the Archaeology Branch at (250) 953-3334 for direction.

This licence is being issued for a maximum groundwater withdrawal rate of 70.4 L/s. The applicant is expected to meet the requirements of the Reviewable Projects Regulation of the *Environmental Assessment Act*, specifically for groundwater extraction projects (please see the criteria outlined in Table 9 [Water Management Projects] under Part 5 [Water Management Projects] of the Reviewable Projects Regulation). An *Environmental Assessment Act* certificate or exemption is required prior to operating a groundwater extraction system designed to pump at rates exceeding 75 L/s. In addition, Section 5 (1) (b) (iv) of the Reviewable Projects Regulation requires that a project notification be submitted to the Environmental Assessment Office prior to operating a groundwater extraction system designed to pump at rates exceeding 63.75 L/s (the project notification threshold rate is set at 15% below the Reviewable Project rate of 75 L/s).

To protect the quality and safety of our groundwater resources all wells and associated works related to a groundwater diversion, storage and use must comply with the *Water Sustainability Act* and Groundwater Protection Regulation which requires water wells in British Columbia to

be properly constructed, maintained, and, at the end of their service, deactivated and decommissioned. For more information on well owner requirements under the Groundwater Protection Regulation please visit <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/groundwater-wells-aquifers/groundwater-wells>.

Please note Section 58 of the *Water Sustainability Act*, which requires that your well(s) must be not operated in a way that is likely to cause a significant adverse impact to an aquifer or a hydraulically connected stream from the intrusion of saline groundwater, seawater or contaminated water.

Section 29 of the *Water Sustainability Act* outlines the rights and responsibilities of water licence applicants and holders, including the maintenance of works. Information on these responsibilities is enclosed and may be found at https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/water-rights/rights_and_obligations_sept_2016_final.pdf.

Any person authorized to divert water is required to make beneficial use of water. Beneficial use means that the water is used for the purpose and in the quantity described in the licence or approval, and that the water is used as efficiently as practicable. Failure to make beneficial use of water under an authorization may lead to the licence or approval being suspended or cancelled. Authorizations may be cancelled when the approval holder or licensee has not beneficially used the water for a period of more than three years.

Please note the following:

- 1) Water licences do not authorize entry on privately owned land for the construction of works, or flooding. Permission of the affected landowner must be obtained or an easement expropriated. For your protection, permission should be in writing and registered with the appropriate Land Title Office.
- 2) Permission for installing works on lands or roadways which are under the jurisdiction of any government agency, must be obtained from the agency concerned.

Please contact FrontCounter BC to assist you with notifications and any applications required if:

- a) there is any change in your mailing address; or
- b) you sell the land to which the licence is appurtenant; or
- c) you propose to subdivide the land to which the licence is appurtenant; or
- d) you propose to alter the works authorized under the licence.

In order for you to keep your water licence in good standing, the following must be observed:

- a) continued beneficial use of water, as authorized under your licence; and
- b) payment of annual rentals; and
- c) compliance with the terms of your licence; and
- d) compliance with the terms of the *Water Sustainability Act*.

One of the obligations of a water licence is the payment of annual rentals and fees to the Crown for the authorization to exercise the rights granted under the licence. Failure to pay water rental invoices by a specified date may result in late-payment penalties, collection action or cancellation of the licence. Any questions in regards to invoices, statements or billing procedures should be directed to the Water Revenue Unit at 1 (800) 361-8866. Callers from the Victoria area should dial (250) 387-9445.

The *Water Sustainability Act* gives the recipient of this notice the right to appeal my decision. Information on filing an appeal can be found on the Environmental Appeal Board Website at: <http://www.eab.gov.bc.ca/>. A right of appeal from my decision lies to the Environmental Appeal Board. Notice of any appeal must (1) be in writing; (2) include grounds for the appeal; (3) be directed by registered mail to the Chair, Environmental Appeal Board, PO Box 9425 Stn Prov Govt., V8W 9V1 or personally delivered to the office of the Board at 4th Floor, 747 Fort Street in Victoria, BC V8W 3E9, eabinfo@gov.bc.ca; (4) be delivered within 30 days of receiving this letter, and (5) be accompanied by a fee of \$25.00, payable to the Minister of Finance.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact this office.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Lepitre', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michele Lepitre, M.Sc., P.Geo.

Assistant Water Manager

pc: Steven Colebrook, Associated Environmental Consultants Inc.
Squamish Nation

Enclosures



Province of British Columbia

Water Sustainability Act

CONDITIONAL WATER LICENCE

The Sunshine Coast Regional District is hereby authorized to divert and use water as follows:

- a) The aquifer on which the rights are granted is 560, which is comprised of unconsolidated materials within the following watershed at a depth below surface: JERV - WSD000468 (190 ft, 188 ft, 121 ft).
- b) The points of well diversion (WTN 118049, WTN 121457, WTN 65967) are located as shown on the attached plan.
- c) The date from which this licence shall have precedence is December 4, 2019.
- d) The purposes for which this licence is issued are Waterworks (Local Provider) and Conservation (Use of Water).
- e) The maximum quantity of water which may be diverted for Waterworks (Local Provider) and Conservation (Use of Water) is 1,250,000 cubic metres per year, provided the rate of diversion does not exceed 70.4 litres per second, subject to modifications under, and in accordance with, the Adaptive Management Plan outlined required in clause (k).
- f) The period of the year during which the water may be used is January 1 to December 31.
- g) The land upon which the water is to be used and to which this licence is appurtenant is all the lands within the service boundaries of the Sunshine Coast Regional District's Regional Water Service as defined in Bylaw No. 1002.
- h) The authorized works are three wells, three pumps, flow measuring devices, treatment facility/system, reservoirs, meters, pipes, and pumphouses, which shall be located approximately as shown on the attached plan.
- i) The construction of the said works shall be completed, and the water shall be beneficially used prior to December 17, 2024. Thereafter, the licensee shall continue to make regular beneficial use of the water in the manner authorized herein.
- j) The licensee must:
 - (1) Prepare a monitoring program suitable to determine the nature of any impacts to Soames Creek or Aquifer 560, to the satisfaction of an Engineer under the *Water Sustainability Act*;

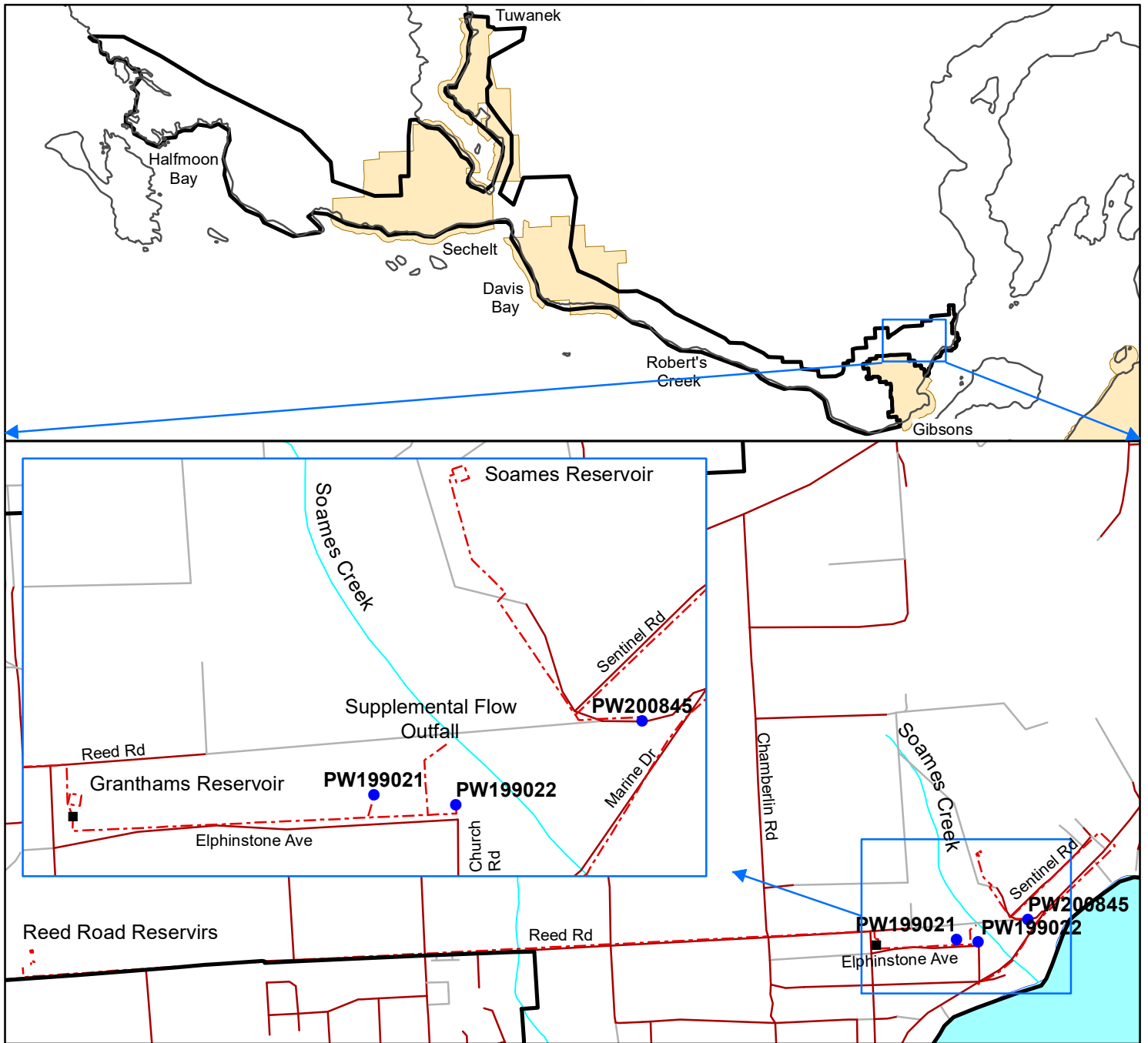
- (2) Identify one or more suitable monitoring sites on Soames Creek for flow monitoring;
 - (3) Identify a suitable monitoring site to detect potential intrusion of saline groundwater;
 - (4) Implement the monitoring program to the satisfaction of an Engineer under the *Water Sustainability Act*;
 - (5) Continue the program for two years following the commencement of operation of the works or to the satisfaction of an Engineer under the *Water Sustainability Act*; and
 - (6) At the completion of the monitoring program, prepare a report that identifies the nature of any impacts to Soames Creek, aquifer 560, or users thereof and implement the appropriate mitigation and/or compensation to an Engineer under the *Water Sustainability Act*.
- k) Before commencing operation of the works authorized under clause (h), the licensee must:
 - (1) Develop an Adaptive Management Plan that identifies Environmental Flow Needs threshold values, provides mitigation and/or compensation strategies, and outlines reporting and re-evaluation processes and timings to the satisfaction of an Engineer under the *Water Sustainability Act*; and
 - (2) Submit the Adaptive Management Plan for acceptance by, and to the satisfaction of, the Water Manager;
 - l) Operation of the works authorized in clause (h) shall not begin until receiving a leave to commence the diversion and use of water in writing by the Water Manager under the *Water Sustainability Act*.
 - m) Upon commencing operation of the works authorized under clause (h), the licensee must implement the accepted Adaptive Management Plan set out in clause (k) to the satisfaction of an Engineer under the *Water Sustainability Act* for the duration of the licence term.
 - n) The diversion of water authorized under this licence may be restricted or prohibited at any time by an Order in writing under the *Water Sustainability Act*, in order to maintain a minimum flow in a stream for the preservation of fish or for maintaining the health of aquatic ecosystems.
 - o) This licence does not authorize the diversion of water for Waterworks (Local Provider) when the flow rate of Soames Creek at monitoring point(s), identified in clause (j), falls below the Environmental Flow Needs threshold values identified in the accepted Adaptive Management Plan required under clause (k).
 - p) The licensee shall install a flow measuring device at each point of well diversion licensed herein and at monitoring point(s) on Soames Creek, identified in clause (j), to the satisfaction of an Engineer under the *Water Sustainability Act*.
 - q) The licensee shall retain flow records from each point of well diversion licensed herein and from monitoring point(s) on Soames Creek, identified in clause (j), for inspection

upon request by an Engineer under the *Water Sustainability Act*.

- r) The wells are to be operated in accordance with Section 58 of the *Water Sustainability Act*, so as not to incur intrusion of saline groundwater or sea water.
- s) Water quality reports that are required for your Vancouver Coastal Health Permit to Operate a Water Supply System are to be retained for 6 years and made available for inspection upon request by an Engineer under the *Water Sustainability Act*. The licensee must inform our office immediately should exceedances in saltwater intrusion indicator parameters be observed, in accordance with the British Columbia Best Practices for Prevention of Saltwater Intrusion, as follows:
 - (1) Specific conductivity > 1000 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$
 - (2) Chloride concentration > 150 mg/L
 - (3) Total Dissolved Solids > 700 mg/L
- t) This licence is issued under the *Water Sustainability Act* (the Act). The exercise of rights under the licence is subject to the Act and its regulations, the terms and conditions of the licence, orders under the Act and the rights of licensees whose rights have precedence on the stream or on an aquifer. The licensee must comply with all such requirements, as well as the provisions of all other applicable enactments. In exercising rights under the licence, the licensee must exercise reasonable care to avoid damaging land, works, trees or other property, and must make full compensation to the owners for damage or loss resulting from construction, maintenance, use, operation or failure of the works.



Michele Lepitre, M.Sc., P.Geo.
Assistant Water Manager

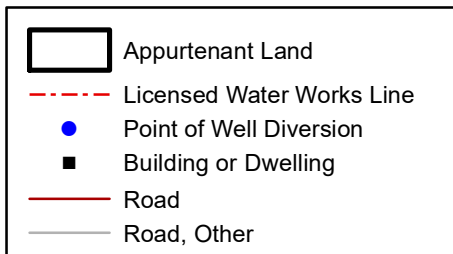



Water District: Vancouver
 Precinct: Howe Sound
 Land District: New Westminster
 Aquifer Number: 560
 Well Tag Number: 65967, 118049, 121457

0 0.35 0.7 1.05 1.4
 Kilometers

Scale: 1:15,000
 Map Number: 92G.043

LEGEND



Signature: 
 Date: December 17, 2021

Conditional Licence: 502568
 Ground Water File: 20012988