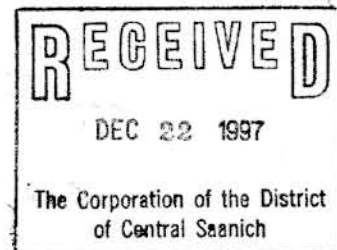


Frank Towler
630 Senanus Drive
Saanichton, BC
V8M 1S6

December 21, 1997



Mayor and Council
District of Central Saanich
1903 Mt. Newton X Road
Saanichton, BC
V8M 2A9

Dear Mayor Hunter and Members of Council:

RE: Watermain Extension – Mount Newton X Road/Senanus Drive

The letter from Mr. Andrew Yeoman came up at the last council meeting, but no reference was made to answering any of his questions. As a number of these questions have been researched by staff and residents over the past months I have prepared these answers:

DEMAND

Question 1.

How much water is needed on Senanus and Mt. Newton?

Answer.

6,767,100 litres/year minimum.

This is based on the Capital Region average of 309 litres/home/day.

With the large properties and many small farms our requirements would be higher.

Question 2.

Where exactly are the problems of water quality and quantity?

Answer.

The problems occur all along the proposed extension but increase in severity as you go West. Many homes, including along Mt. Newton, have wells that frequently run dry, particularly in the summer months. The Capital Health Region has been testing water along Senanus Drive for the past 2 years. Many severe problems have surfaced. A full report is expected to be delivered to the Municipality, by the CHR, in January. The types of problem CHR has been finding:

- in the last batch of tests all 11 homes tested had high bacterial counts. One also had a high coliform count and the resident was immediately requested to boil their water. This is consistent with previous tests. The high bacterial counts are an indication that the water has a high propensity for the support of bugs that are dangerous to peoples health. The most recent batch of tests is to determine the Nitrate level in the water, which would be an indication that the aquifer itself is a problem
- both in the last batch of tests and in previous tests the water has proven to have very high chemical levels, many significantly beyond CHR permissible levels for home water supply.

The bacterial problems are in all of the wells; the chemical problems are more random but tended to increase in severity towards the west.

The detailed analysis is available for your perusal.

Question 3.

Where exactly are the wells that have run dry?

Answer.

A number of people have spoken up in Council meetings and to the press. No lists have been kept, as people are sensitive about this. However, I can give Mr. Yeoman some names of people to call.