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## Do what's best

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I am writing in response to Grant Under Fire [PNR Oct. 1]. As a resident of the affected area, I wish to argue the case for providing city water by pipeline.

Our well runs dry every summer. Like many residents on our street we do not have a swimming pool or hot tub. It makes more ecological sense to leave the little water available in the earth to replenish our local streams and support our unique ecosystem. This is particularly so as we seem to be in a long stretch of summer drought.

The water from our well is far from meeting the Canadian Drinking Water Quality Standard and has been labelled 'unacceptable' for household use by two different laboratories. May 2008 analysis showed toxic levels of coliform, lead and manganese. Many residents in our area, including my family, collect rainwater and use conservation practices.

Because of these water problems, the residents of Senanus Drive are forced to have CRD water delivered by truck from Metchosin. This is costly in both the economical and ecological sense (greenhouse gasses, pollution, energy use in transport.)

I am pleased that Ms. Waters is working with Project on Ecological Governance, West Coast Environmental Law and the Environmental Law Centre. On further analysis by these groups I would be surprised if installing a water line were not seen as the greenest alternative.

Those of us fortunate enough to have a good supply of clean well water might wish to consider the advantages to both our community and local ecosystems, farmlands, streams, fish and other non-human creatures can only benefit.

Instead of trying to find loopholes in legislation surrounding this water service, particularly when combined with growing water conservation measures, we should focus on what is best for our environment and community as a whole. CRD water by pipeline is the best option.

C. Neal,

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