

DATE: February 19, 2019

FILE: 5600-05/CVWS

TO: Chair and Directors
Comox Valley Water Committee

FROM: Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer

Supported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer

R. Dyson

RE: Water Main Leak under Puntledge River- Update

Purpose

To provide an update on the leak repair of a water transmission main within the Comox Valley Water System (CVWS).

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer:

For information purposes only.

Executive Summary

Water for the CVWS is drawn from BC Hydro's penstock and treated at the water treatment facility located on Powerhouse Road. Following treatment the water exits the facility by two transmission pipelines, these pipelines provide water to the entire CVWS. One of these lines is a 900mm diameter steel pipeline that runs directly from the chlorination station under the Puntledge River and onwards into the system. A leak has been discovered under the east bank of the Puntledge River; a map showing the approximate location of the leak is attached as Appendix A.

Since the staff report titled *Water Main Leak under Puntledge River* and dated January 31, 2019, the following progress has been made on the repair of the leak:

- Since January, the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) has met almost daily in office and on site with our consultants and various industry specialists to discuss leak repair options, construction methodology, and risks.
- In early February 2019, the CVRD entered a contract with Knappett Industries Ltd. as the construction contractor for the preferred solution. Having a contractor on board early as part of the team helps to provide valuable insight on the constructability and timing of the preferred solution.
- Working with consultants, specialists and contractors a preferred replacement methodology has been selected that includes installation of valves on the water main and patching of the leak from inside the water main.
- This solution has been identified as the simplest repair solution and therefore most likely the most cost effective as no replacement of the main is required, only the installation of valves and patching the leak.
- The necessary valves required for the repair have been identified as the critical path item for the project and have the longest lead time (4-5 weeks). Upon identification of the preferred solution, the valves were ordered two weeks ago to expedite fabrication. Should the production times for the valves be longer than 4-5 weeks, spare valves that meet the project requirements have been located within our municipality's inventories and may be used if required to not delay the project.

- Over the coming month the CVRD will be working closely with consultants, specialists, regulators and contractors to continue implementation of the repair solution as soon as possible.

A staff report providing an update on progress towards repair of the leak will be provided at every Comox Valley Water Committee meeting until the leak repair is completed.

Prepared by:

Concurrence:

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Attachments: Appendix A – “Map of CVWS, showing expected location of the leak”