

DATE: May 10, 2019**FILE:** 5600-20/Denman Island**TO:** Chair and Directors
Electoral Areas Services Committee**FROM:** Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative OfficerSupported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer*R. Dyson***RE: Denman Island –Bulk Water Service Review**

Purpose

To provide a recommendation relating to the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) providing a bulk water service on Denman Island.

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer:

THAT staff be directed to set up a temporary bulk water filling station as part of the Denman Island Water Local Service Area system to provide bulk water to licensed haulers on Denman Island on a trial basis for summer 2019;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to investigate other alternatives for bulk water sale on Denman Island to inform a recommendation back to the Electoral Areas Services Committee in late 2019.

Executive Summary

In late 2018, the Graham Lake Improvement District (GLID) changed their position of supplying water in bulk to haulers located on Denman Island and no longer supply water to haulers due to concerns surrounding GLID's liability. GLID made the CVRD aware of this change in early January 2019.

Water haulers located on Denman Island have limited alternative options and as a result may be required to develop costly alternatives or possibly stop providing service entirely. Residents that depend on bulk water may face dire circumstances this summer if alternative sources are not secured.

Staff have confirmed that the existing Denman Island Water Local Service Area (DIWLSA) water license and establishment bylaw do not preclude sale of bulk water. To ensure adequate water supply on Denman this summer, staff are recommending that bulk water sales be provided from the DIWLSA to licensed water haulers on a temporary basis while the full legal ramifications of sale of bulk water from this service and other potential alternatives are explored.

While a preliminary legal review indicates similar liability concerns identified by GLID could exist for DIWLSA, these risks are likely very low and should be balanced against the impact to health and safety of those members of the Denman Island community reliant on bulk water delivery. If this recommendation is approved, staff will be mitigating risk to the service by putting in place a robust indemnification agreement with the water hauler(s) and ensuring that they follow all required licensing requirements under Island Health regulations.

If the Electoral Areas Services Committee supports these recommendations, staff will report back to the committee in late 2019 with a recommended path forward for a more permanent solution.

Concurrence:

K. La Rose

Kris La Rose, P.Eng
Senior Manager of Water/
Wastewater Services

Concurrence:

M. Rutten

Marc Rutten, P.Eng
General Manager of
Engineering Services

Stakeholder Distribution (Upon Agenda Publication)

Graham Lake Improvement District	✓
Island Trust, CAO	✓