

# Timber Ridge Water System Upgrade Project Report

## Petition Results

The Timber Ridge Water Upgrade will proceed after the petition was signed by 67% (245 of 366) of the property owners representing 68% of the assessed value of land and improvements within the service area

The Board and Province have now approved the Bylaw and construction will begin this summer.

## Project Summary

The project includes:

- purchasing bulk treated water from a private water utility, Windermere Water and Sewer Company (WWSC);
- extending the WWSC water mains to connect Timber Ridge;
- installing a bulk water metering station;
- retrofitting the Timber Ridge distribution system to receive bulk water; and
- installing water meters at each connection or residence.
- removing the Water Quality Advisory signs as the treated water will be safe for everyone to consume.

The RDEK will retain ownership of the Timber Ridge infrastructure and continue to operate and maintain the system just as it does now. The only difference will be where we will get the water from.

## Construction Timelines



The Building Canada Fund Agreement was signed at the April 9, 2010 Board Meeting. Urban Systems Ltd. is the engineering firm that will be doing the design, tendering and construction management for the Upgrade Project.

The next major step will be the award of the construction contract, which identifies who will be doing the actual construction and at what cost. This contract is expected to go to the RDEK Board on July 9, 2010.

Construction will likely be underway in July and August with completion expected by September 2010.

## Water Meters

A key part of the upgrade project will be the installation of water meters. This part of the project is expected to begin sometime in July.

Neptune Technology Group will be the supplier and manager for the project.

Neptune will contact each property owner well in advance to arrange an installation time and provide more details.

The meters will be outfitted with radio frequency drive-by technology. Meter readings will be done by RDEK Staff driving by quarterly.

What this means is that following the actual installation, no access to your home is required for routine meter reading. With the introduction of water meters, the way we measure and charge for water will change.

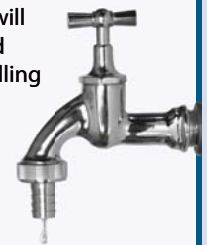


## User Fees

The installation of water meters will allow the RDEK to get accurate data on system water use. This data is required to be able to set a new rate structure that is based on a combination of a flat rate and consumption.

Until we have data to give us an idea of water use on the system, the RDEK will continue charging flat rate user fees. User fees are expected to be in the neighbourhood of \$70/month.

These fees will be in effect until the new flat rate + consumption rate structure comes into effect. Before this change happens, there will be a period of mock billing. The bill you receive during this period will have a line item that will show what you would be paying under the new system. This mock billing period will allow homeowners to prepare for the rate schedule and work to eliminate water waste.



## Parcel Tax

While the user fees will pay for the operation and maintenance of the system, there will be a parcel tax to cover the cost of the construction and capital contribution fee. The parcel tax will start in 2011.

Property owners will also have the option to make a one-time prepayment rather than pay the parcel tax each year for the term of the borrowing.

Property owners will be notified and provided with an overview of costs and timelines for prepayment once construction is complete.