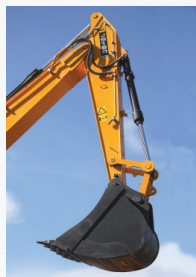


Timber Ridge Water System Upgrade Project Report

Construction Update



Construction has started! The contractor, B. Wickhorst, will be on site for the next few weeks. The focus of construction at the present is the installation of the water mains and retrofitting the distribution system to receive bulk water.

Once that work is complete, a bulk water metering station will be installed and lines will be flushed.

Construction is expected to be completed by the end of October. Once complete, it will be a few weeks before the Water Quality Advisory signs can be taken down. During this time, the RDEK will be working with Interior Health (IH) to meet all their testing requirements and obtain IH's approval to remove the signs. When the signs come down and you flush your home's plumbing (more detail to follow), the treated water will be safe for everyone to consume.

Water Meter Installation Complete

A key part of the upgrade project was the installation of water meters. This part of the project was completed this summer with over 98% of residences having their meters installed during the installation period. Thanks to everyone for making the installation a success!

The meters are outfitted with radio frequency drive-by technology. Meter readings will be done by RDEK Staff driving by quarterly. No access to your home is required for routine meter reading. The only time access may be required is if there is a maintenance issue with the meter.



User Fees

Now that the meters are on line, we will spend the next 12 months collecting data to give us a good picture of water use in the community.

We will then use this data to establish a new rate structure based on flat rate and consumption. Until then, the RDEK will continue charging flat rate user fees. User fees are expected to be in the neighbourhood of \$70/month.



Starting in 2012, 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.

Final details on the prepayment option will be provided to property owners once construction is complete. The prepayment amount is expected to be \$3,800 and will be due on **December 15, 2010**.

Utility Advisory Commission

The Timber Ridge Utility Advisory Commission (UAC) is made up of community members who are appointed for two year terms. The role of the UAC is to provide the Electoral Area F Director and the RDEK Board with input and recommendations on the operation and maintenance of the Timber Ridge Water System.

The UAC is not a decision making body; however, its input is highly valued by both the Area Director and RDEK Staff.

The Timber Ridge Utility Advisory Commission members are:

- Terri Adair
- Nev Anderson
- Mel Gibson
- Bob Piche
- Richard Smith

The UAC has been working with the RDEK on the Timber Ridge Water Upgrade Project.

For More Information

Regular project updates will be posted on our website every two to three weeks until the completion of the construction. To view the updates, visit:

www.rdek.bc.ca

From the menu on the left hand side of the screen, choose SERVICES, then follow the link to Water Systems and Timber Ridge.



For more information on the project, please contact:

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