Dear Property Owner(s):

Re: San Pareil Water System Improvements

The Regional District of Nanaimo is currently carrying out engineering design work on improvements to the San Pareil reservoir and pump station facilities. The Regional District identified the improvements as being necessary for fire flow requirements within the entire San Pareil water service area when discussions were being held with residents in 1999 regarding RDN assuming ownership of the water system.

In 1999, the costs to upgrade the water system to provide standard fire flows were estimated at approximately $800,000. Due to this cost, residents within the water service area did not want to proceed with the improvements at that time.

More recent engineering work and associated new cost estimates for the project will be completed this summer and presented to residents in the fall. Residents’ approval will be sought to borrow the funds necessary to implement the reservoir and pump station improvements.

This matter was raised at the recent SPPORA Annual General Meeting where the RDN noted that the flow capacity in the subdivision is currently not capable of supplying sufficient water to meet fire flow requirements. The Parksville Fire Department is aware of this deficiency and utilizes tankers to support fire fighting needs in the San Pareil area. The fire protection area for San Pareil also includes the properties not currently within the water service area. The proposed reservoir, pump station improvements and associated water main upgrades will serve to address this flow limitation.

Until the improvements are complete and fire flow capacity can be assured, it is important that San Pareil area homeowners discuss their fire insurance coverage with their insurance provider to ensure they have proper coverage given the existing circumstance in the subdivision. Your insurance provider(s) should be advised that fire coverage is provided by the City of Parksville Fire Department. If you have tenants living in your San Pareil residence we request that you forward this information to them.

Regional District staff will meet with San Pareil residents this fall to provide more detail on the proposed improvements and to answer questions from the public or you may contact me anytime with your questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mike Donnelly, AScT
Manager of Water Services

cc: J. Stanhope, Electoral Area G
    C. Mason, CAO, RDN
    J. Finnie, General Manager Water and Wastewater Services
    D. Banks, Fire Chief, City of Parksville