



TOWN OF LAKE COWICHAN

Public Works and Environmental Services Committee

Tuesday, February 6th, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. – Council Chambers

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Page #

INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS (if applicable)

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. BUSINESS ARISING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (a) Watermain Upgrades for:
 - (i) Greendale Rd – update; and
 - (ii) Ohtaki Footbridge and Greendale Trestle- status.
- (b) Water Treatment Plant Upgrade – current progress.
- (d) **Ongoing Items Still Being Addressed:**
 - (i) Boat Ramp Improvements – progress update; and
 - (ii) CLEC Water System Upgrades.

4. DELEGATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

None.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Harold Norlund, Vice President and General Manager, Crofton Division, Catalyst Paper Corporation, re: Notice of Application for Water License Under the Sustainability Act Regarding Licence Numbers C116095, C058342, C058227, and C058228.
- (b) Tina Rowledge, Director for Cowichan Lake District Senior's Association, re: Snow Removal.
- (c) Bill Swain, Secretary, Valley Fish and Games Club, re: Boat Launch.
- (d) Dave Parsons, re: Highway 18 Signs.

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6. REPORTS

None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

None.

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

9. PUBLIC RELATIONS ITEMS

10. MEDIA/PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

11. ADJOURNMENT

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RECEIVED Dec 22 2017

December 19, 2017

Town Of Lake Cowichan
PO Box 860,
Lake Cowichan BC, V0R 2G0

Catalyst Paper Corporation
2nd Floor, 3600 Lysander Lane
Richmond, British Columbia
Canada V7B 1C3

Tel: 604 247 4400
Fax: 604 247 0512

Attn: The owner or shared owner of Lake Cowichan riparian land

Subject: Notice of Application for water license under the Water Sustainability Act

Regarding licence number:

C116095

Dear Sir/Madam:

As you might be aware, the Cowichan River has suffered from nine droughts over the past seventeen years due to the impacts of climate change causing drastic variations in snow pack and spring/summer rainfall. Despite our best efforts to conserve stored water, limited lake water inflows and warmer than usual weather leading to increased evaporation, continue to reduce stored water levels in Lake Cowichan putting the Cowichan River at genuine risk of running dry in the late summer. This outcome would unnecessarily jeopardize the community's water supply, fish populations and wildlife, and the operation of the Crofton mill.

To avoid this negative outcome, Catalyst successfully applied in 2015 for a two-year approval which allowed it to pump water from the upstream side of Lake Cowichan weir to the downstream side of the structure to maintain up to five cubic metres per second of flow in the Cowichan River. The pumping process was successfully tested in 2016, but was never used as late fall rains in 2016 and 2017 recharged the lake before it became necessary to take this action.

With the expiry of the two-year approval at the end of 2017, Catalyst is again seeking pumping authorization to maintain minimum flow rates and prevent the river from running dry. Attached to this letter is a copy of the **Notice of Application** which outlines our intention to obtain authorization for a 10 year water license.

The following are key points about this important application:

- Application is for a new 10 year water licence that authorizes pumping of water from dead storage in Cowichan Lake.
- Catalyst would only pump if the lake level nears zero storage and there is no water available to maintain natural flows out of the lake.
- Of the maximum 4.5 cubic metres per second to be pumped over the weir, 1.7 m³/second will be available to maintain operations of the Crofton Mill and the water supply for the Village of Crofton with the remaining 2.8 being used for conservation.

- Pumping would proceed for no longer than 49 days until the rains recharge the lake to naturally maintain at least 4.5 cubic metres per second of flow.
- The maximum elevation drawdown of the lake if the authorization were used completely would equal a drawdown of 23 inches.
- Approximately fifteen low pressure, high flow pumps are connected to screened intakes to protect fish.
- The pumps are electrically powered and create no noise or emissions.
- Should pumping be deployed, an independent and qualified environmental professional will monitor lake levels and observe environmental impacts, and will provide a bi-weekly report to regulators during operation. Appropriate actions will be taken to address any observed impacts.

Any questions about the processing of this application can be directed to Mr. David Skarbo, Authorizations Specialist, at Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development at 2100 Labieux Road, Nanaimo BC, V9T 6E9. Mr. Skarbo's telephone number is (250) 751-7311.

Objections to this application may be filed with the Regional Water Manager, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9, within 30 days of this notice.

Sincerely,



Harold Norlund,
Vice President and General Manager, Crofton Division
Catalyst Paper Corporation

December 19, 2017

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PO Box 860,
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Attn: The owner or shared owner of Lake Cowichan riparian land

Subject: Notice of Application for water license under the Water Sustainability Act

Regarding licence number:

C058342

Dear Sir/Madam:

As you might be aware, the Cowichan River has suffered from nine droughts over the past seventeen years due to the impacts of climate change causing drastic variations in snow pack and spring/summer rainfall. Despite our best efforts to conserve stored water, limited lake water inflows and warmer than usual weather leading to increased evaporation, continue to reduce stored water levels in Lake Cowichan putting the Cowichan River at genuine risk of running dry in the late summer. This outcome would unnecessarily jeopardize the community's water supply, fish populations and wildlife, and the operation of the Crofton mill.

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C058227

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Sincerely,



Harold Norlund,
Vice President and General Manager, Crofton Division
Catalyst Paper Corporation

Notice of Application for
WATER LICENSE – WATER SUSTAINABILITY ACT (Section 12)

Catalyst Paper Corporation, of #200 – 3600 Lysander Lane, Richmond, BC, V7B 1C3, has applied for a ten year water license approval to divert water out of Lake Cowichan which discharges into the Cowichan River which flows east into Cowichan Bay, and hereby gives notice of the application to all persons who may be affected.

In April 2017, Catalyst applied for a ten year license to pump water out of Lake Cowichan into the Cowichan River for the years 2018 to 2027 in the event of a drought that might cause the river to run dry. Climate change impacts have left the river exposed to drought conditions as Lake Cowichan water storage is no longer adequate to meet reduced spring and summer precipitation.

Catalyst is applying for a ten year water license to replace its current short term (two year) pump out approval which expires at the end of 2017. The application seeks approval to pump water from the upstream side of the Lake Cowichan boat lock and weir (located near 300 North Shore Rd, Lake Cowichan) to the downstream side of the structure which will maintain up to 4.5 cubic meters per second (cms) of flow in the Cowichan River. Approximately 30% of this water will be used by Catalyst under its existing water licence, which authorizes water for the pulp and paper facility in Crofton and for domestic use by the Village of Crofton, while 70% will be used for conservation purposes to support fish populations in the Cowichan River.

Over the duration of the proposed license period, we intend to begin pumping if the lake level nears the bottom of the weir gates. Pumping will remain in place no longer than 49 days until rains recharge the lake so that it can naturally maintain at least 4.5 cms of flow into the Cowichan River. The maximum quantity of water to be diverted would result in a draw down on Lake Cowichan from 161.40 m GSC to 160.80 m GSC (23 inches maximum draw down) if the operation lasts for the entire 49 day approval window. For reference, the water level on Sunday October 9, 2017 was 161.48 m GSC.

An independent, qualified environmental professional will monitor lake levels, any observed impacts and provide a bi-weekly report to regulators and First Nations over the duration of any pumping operations for the proposed ten year period. Further, a government approved environmental management plan will be in place before any pumping operations begin to ensure the process runs smoothly without any unforeseen impacts.

Objections to this application may be filed with the Regional Water Manager, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9, within 30 days of this notice.

Deadline for feedback is January 19, 2018

Cowichan Lake District Senior's Association,

55 Coronation St.

Lake Cowichan, B.C.

250-749-6121

January 23, 2018

Town of Lake Cowichan,

Mr. Joe Fernandez, CAO

Dear Mr. Fernandez,

The Board of Directors of the Cowichan Lake District Seniors Association met on Tuesday, January 16, 2017 to discuss numerous issues with snow removal being one of them.

This letter is a request, asking for the Seniors Center to be put back on the list for snow removal as in the past.

Your consideration on this issue will be greatly appreciated.

With thanks,



Tina Rowledge, Director for CLDSA



Valley Fish and Game Club

6190 Mayo Road, P.O Box 924, Lake Cowichan, BC, V0R 2G0
Website: www.valleyfishandgame.com, Email: info@valleyfishandgame.com

January 20, 2018

Town of Lake Cowichan
39 South Shore Rd.
Lake Cowichan, BC
V0R 2G0

Dear Mayor Forrest and Councillors,

This letter is in regards to the repair and improvements to the boat launch.

We just want to pass on a big thank you to Council and let you know it is used and appreciated by our members. With the closure of the Point Ideal Boat Launch to the public it makes that launch even busier. We are sure all the locals and tourists alike who use the boat launch will appreciate it as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Swain". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bill Swain
Secretary, Valley Fish and Game Club

Nagi Rizk,
Town of Lake Cowichan,

Re: Signs

I have noticed a steady proliferation of signs free standing or attached to trees on Highway 18 from the #1 Highway to Lake Cowichan.

This is visual pollution and detracts from the beauty of the drive. I want the signs removed and stricter enforcement of any regulations pertaining to the probable illegal placement of said signs.

Sincerely yours,
Dave Parsons

cc: Municipality of North Cowichan
Ministry of Transportation + Highways