



Regional District of Nanaimo Water Services Department

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# WATER QUALITY UPDATE FOR NANOOSE BAY PENINSULA WATER SERVICE AREA RESIDENTS

## Information Meeting February 8th – 7pm to 9pm Nanoose Place Community Centre 2925 Northwest Bay Road

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the proposed Nanoose Bay water treatment facility to be located in Red Gap. RDN staff will be present to answer questions about the project, to provide an overview of the work accomplished to date and the proposed project schedule. The design engineers, Worley Parsons of Victoria, will be on hand to answer any technical questions associated with the project.

#### Why do we need treatment?

RDN customers in the Nanoose Bay Peninsula Water Service Area periodically raise concerns related to colour and sediment in their water supply. The majority of these complaints come from the Fairwinds, West Bay, and Arbutus Park Estates neighbourhoods.

Four wells in the Red Gap area contain high levels of iron and manganese. When the water is disinfected (chlorinated), the high iron and manganese react with the chlorine and cause colouration of the water and sediment in the system. This leads to complaints and general dissatisfaction with the aesthetic quality of the

water. There are no health implications associated with the iron and manganese levels.

#### What has been done so far?

A preliminary engineering design has been completed for a water treatment facility to be located at Nanoose Road and Northwest Bay Road.

This facility has been designed to treat the four wells in the Red Gap area but can be expanded to provide additional treatment capacity in the future for other wells in the Nanoose Bay Peninsula Water Service Area.

#### What type of treatment is it?

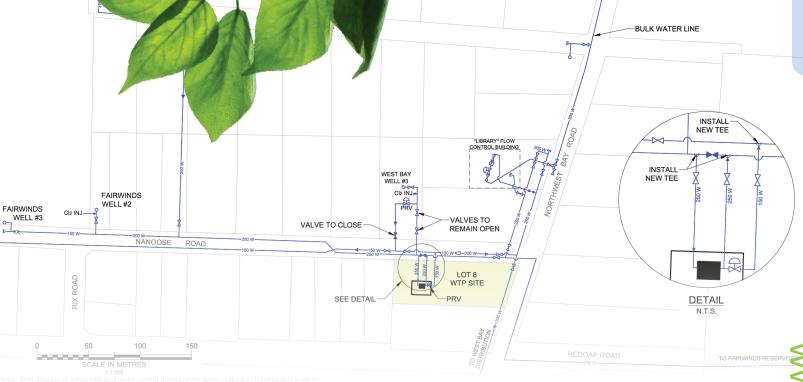
The treatment uses chlorine to react with the iron and manganese, and a granular filter to remove the oxidized

elements. The resulting low iron and manganese water will be pumped to

system reservoirs for distribution to the Nanoose Bay Peninsula Water Service Area.

This treatment option will result in four wells in the Red Gap area being treated to Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guideline aesthetic levels for iron and manganese. The treated water will be mixed with groundwater from other wells in the service area.





#### How much will it cost?

The estimated cost (subject to completion of final design) is \$1.4 million, which would result in an annual parcel tax rate of approximately \$10 to \$24. Financial support for the project from Federal and Provincial grants would be pursued and if successful could reduce the final costs.

#### How will it be paid for?

Funding sources have been identified as follows:

Nanoose Bay Bulk Water borrowing authority, water service area reserves, Community Works funds as well as potential senior government grants and funding partnerships.

#### When will it be completed?

We are seeking community input on proceeding with this project. If the RDN proceeds without government grants the project could be completed by the summer of 2011. Awaiting confirmation of government grants will affect the project timeline.

### Website Updates

For updated information on the water treatment project please visit

www.TeamWaterSmart.ca.

### What happens after this meeting?

RDN Board approval is required to proceed with the final design and submit letters to senior levels of government for potential grant funding.



Questions? If you have questions or comments, please call our Water Services Department, at 250-390-6560 or 250-954-3792.

