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Corporate Services

**REPORT TO THE ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 03 SEPTEMBER 2008**

SUBJECT: Process for an Electoral Area to be become a Participant in the
“Management of Onsite Sewage Systems Service”

PURPOSE/ISSUE:

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the process required for an Electoral Area to become a participant in the Management of Onsite Sewage Systems Service.

HISTORY/BACKGROUND:

On March 19, 2008 the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board adopted Bylaw No. 3478 cited as “Management of Onsite Sewage Systems Service Establishment Bylaw, 2007”. The authority for the service lies in the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan approved by the Minister of Environment. The Plan contains a commitment by the CRD to develop and implement a management program for onsite sewage systems. The participants are the District of Saanich, the Town of View Royal, the City of Colwood and the City of Langford.

In order for an electoral area to become a participant, establishment Bylaw No. 3478 would need to be amended to add them as a participant and the maximum requisition may need to be increased to support the additional work to be done in the service. The cost recovery in the bylaw is by way of a parcel tax on those parcels connected to an onsite sewage system. A database would need to be developed identifying all properties with an onsite sewage system and those properties will form a parcel tax roll for requisition purposes.

The requirements for amending the establishment bylaw in order to add a participant are contained in sections 802 (1)(b) and 801.5 (2) of the *Local Government Act*, copy attached. The act requires the approval of the electoral area director and approval of 2/3rds of the participants, inclusive of the electoral area. The Minister would likely expect considerable consultation with the community outlining the cost and the rationale for becoming a participant.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1) Accept the report for information.
- 2) Request staff to provide additional information.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The maximum levy in the establishment bylaw is the greater of \$211,070 or \$.008 per thousand dollars, when applied to the net taxable value of the land and improvements within the area. For each of the electoral areas, the amount, based on 2008 assessments, would be:

Juan de Fuca	\$10,774
Salt Spring Island	\$25,627
Southern Gulf Islands	\$22,902

SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS:

The CRD has an existing service for the management of onsite sewage systems. The Local Government Acts sets out the requirements for amending the service establishment bylaw. An electoral area may become a participant with the approval of the director and 2/3rds of the participants. The Minister would likely expect considerable consultation with the community outlining the cost and the rationale for becoming a participant. The Minister may also, if he chooses, order that the bylaw receive the approval of the electors.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Electoral Area Services Committee accepts the report for information.

Rita M. Estock, Dip Bus Admin, FCGA
Senior Manager, Financial Services

Diana E. Lokken, Dip Bus Admin, CMA
General Manager Concurrence

Attachs.