

Reference: 206424

Alastair Bryson, Chair
and Directors
Capital Regional District
625 Fisgard Street
PO Box 1000
Victoria BC V8W 2S6

Dear Chair Bryson and Directors:

Further to your letter of April 10, 2014, the Province has considered your request for the Provincial Cabinet to issue an order under Section 37(6) of the *Environmental Management Act* to suspend the operation of those provisions of the existing rezoning bylaw (as amended by Bylaw No. 2806) of the Township of Esquimalt.


After giving careful consideration to your request, the Province will not attempt to override the zoning decisions of the duly elected Esquimalt Council. How locally elected municipal officials in the Capital Region achieve consensus on sewage treatment logistics is not something for the provincial government to dictate. Even if the Province were willing to intervene, the facts at this time do not provide a strong basis for intervention using the provisions of the *Environmental Management Act*.

While we fully appreciate the timelines the Capital Regional District (CRD) is working under to implement secondary sewage treatment in order to comply with the requirements of both the federal and provincial governments, the CRD is expected to fully comply with its Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP).

With respect to your request to approve Core Liquid Waste Management Plan Amendment No. 9, my decision will follow in a separate letter that you will be receiving shortly.

As you continue with your efforts, provincial staff are available to assist the CRD in achieving compliance with its LWMP. In the meantime, please feel free to contact Deputy Minister Wes Shoemaker, at 250 387-5429 or at Wes.Shoemaker@gov.bc.ca, should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Mary Polak
Minister of Environment



Coralee Oakes
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural
Development