



# The Corporation of Delta

## Human Resources & Corporate Planning

**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** John DuMont, Director of Human Resources & Corporate Planning

**Date:** September 18, 2007

**Subject:** **SFPR Environmental Assessment Update**

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The following is a brief update on the SFPR Environmental Assessment as follow-up to the discussion on this topic at the September 17, 2007 Regular Council Meeting.

An application was made by the Ministry of Transportation (MoT) in October 2006 to the BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) for the Environmental Assessment (EA) of the South Fraser Perimeter Road (SFPR). The legislated 180 day review period for the Environmental Assessment has elapsed, however as a result of outstanding issues from the reviewing regulatory agencies, the review process has not yet concluded. The EAO has not submitted an Assessment Report to the Ministers and has not yet shared a draft of an Assessment Report with the EAO Working Group.

At the July 30, 2007 Regular Meeting of Council, a Council Report on the third public comment period as part of the EA process for SFPR was considered. The subject matter for the third public comment period was an updated cumulative effects assessment and refinements to the air quality assessments. Council adopted the recommendations of the report that included a request that the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) require that Delta's previously requested tree planting be a requirement for mitigating the estimated cumulative impact of Greenhouse Gas emissions. Delta also asked that the EAO seek comments from the public regarding the Burns Bog Scientific Advisory Panel's opinion on the potential impact of SFPR on Burns Bog along with Environment Canada's submission once it is received by the EAO. We have yet to receive responses to these requests.

On August 2, 2007, Delta staff participated in a conference call of the EAO Working Group. During this call the EAO advised that the most significant outstanding item in the EA was Environment Canada's submission with respect to potential impacts of the proposed SFPR alignment on Burns Bog along with their consideration of the Scientific Advisory Panel's opinion on the impact of SFPR on Burns Bog. There have not been any further meetings of the EAO Working Group since the August 2 conference call and Environment Canada's submission has not yet been released to the EAO Working Group or the public. It is anticipated that we will receive further information in the near future on this topic and staff will be providing a report to Council when Environment Canada's submission is received.

I have attached a copy of the list of the past reports on the topic of the SFPR EA that are posted on Delta's website. This memo will also be added to Delta's website for the public's information. In addition to regular reports to Council on this issue, staff has also provided regular memo updates and will continue to do so as the SFPR EA process continues.

Please contact me at 604-946-3218 if you require further information.

John DuMont  
Director of Human Resources & Corporate Planning

cc: George V. Harvie, Chief Administrative Officer  
Mike Brotherston, Senior Policy Analyst

Attachment