

THE CORPORATION OF DELTA

From the office of:
The Mayor,
Lois E. Jackson

October 21, 2008

The Honourable John Baird
Minister of the Environment
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister,

Re: Impact of South Fraser Perimeter Road on Burns Bog

Delta has recently received a number of items of correspondence (enclosed) from the public identifying concerns with respect to potential impacts of the South Fraser Perimeter Road (SFPR) on Burns Bog, including questions relating to the Conservation Covenant that was signed when the four levels of government purchased Burns Bog. Delta, Metro Vancouver and British Columbia signed a covenant in favour of Canada to ensure that the lands owned by local government and the province are protected in perpetuity and managed as a raised bog ecosystem.

During the harmonized Environmental Assessment for SFPR, Environment Canada sought the advice of the Scientific Advisory Panel that was created to advise the Burns Bog Managing Partners during the development of a Management Plan for Burns Bog. The Scientific Advisory Panel provided recommendations back to Environment Canada that were used in the formation of a detailed submission of comments provided by Environment Canada during the Environmental Assessment process. In response to the comments submitted by Environment Canada, significant changes were made both to the project and mitigation measures proposed. This included a substantial shift of the alignment of SFPR away from the western edge of Burns Bog.

Environment Canada was not a Responsible Authority for the Federal Screening assessment and was not required to "approve" the SFPR project. Delta has relied on the expertise of your staff and the Scientific Advisory Panel with respect to assessing the impacts and effectiveness of mitigation measures proposed. I am seeking advice from Environment Canada with respect to your final position in response to the changes in the alignment and mitigation measures proposed with respect to impacts on Burns Bog. Furthermore, as holder/transferee of the Conservation Covenant for Burns Bog, please advise if Environmental Canada considers the SFPR project to be in breach of this covenant.

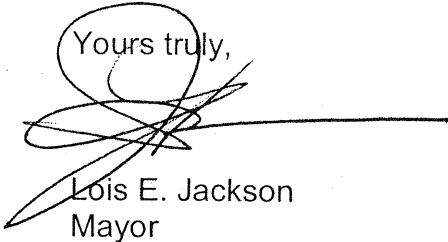
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Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'L' and 'J' followed by a horizontal line. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

Lois E. Jackson
Mayor

Enclosure

cc: John Cummins, MP, Delta-East Richmond
Sukh Dhaliwal, MP, Newton-North Delta
Delta Council
George V. Harvie, Chief Administrative Officer
Mike Brotherston, Manager of Climate Action and Environment