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## REPORT TO JUAN DE FUCA WATER DISTRIBUTION COMMISSION MEETING OF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024

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**SUBJECT**     **Bylaw No. 4653: Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw, 1990, Amendment  
Bylaw No. 80, 2024**

### **ISSUE SUMMARY**

Bolstering compliance with Water Distribution Local Service terms and conditions by updating relevant fees and charges to deter tampering with water distribution services.

### **BACKGROUND**

Bylaw No. 1857, "Capital Regional District Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw, 1990" (MTI), provides for the enforcement of bylaws through ticketing by Capital Regional District (CRD) Bylaw Enforcement Officers.

Under Bylaw No. 2538, "Water Distribution Local Service Area Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 1997", the Capital Regional District established a local service to supply water in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and Western Communities (JDF Water Service).

Bylaw No. 3889, "Water Distribution Local Service Conditions, Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2013", indicates that it is prohibited to make new connections or alterations to any of the Waterworks belonging to CRD Integrated Water Services. Contraventions with the bylaw shall be liable upon conviction to a fine (S. 5.1).

A recent increase in tampering with service connections and operating valves on water mains has created a need for revision of enforcement practices. CRD staff have conducted compliance education efforts by issuing reminders to contractors outlining the conditions of the service bylaw as an initial attempt to reduce offences. However, senior staff have determined that additional measures are required for effective bylaw enforcement.

Bylaw No. 3889 is currently not included in Bylaw No. 1857, and this amendment proposes its addition. The proposed amendment maintains a strong focus on education and guidance, where ticketing is used only after all other attempts to obtain compliance through collaboration with the discharger have failed.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

#### *Alternative 1*

The Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That Bylaw No. 4653, "Ticket Authorization Bylaw, 1990, Amendment Bylaw No. 80, 2024", be introduced and read a first, second, and third time; and
2. That Bylaw No 4653 be adopted.

*Alternative 2*

That this report be referred back to staff for further review.

**IMPLICATIONS**

*Water Quality Implications*

There are water quality concerns resulting from tampering with water main valves and service connections. Unauthorized operation of valves or service connections can lead to several water quality concerns such as contamination of the water supply, backflow pollution, pressure fluctuations, and unmonitored water usage, these activities could adversely affect water quality and public health.

*Financial Implications*

There will be a small increase in revenue by increasing the fine amounts. Each service individually pays for bylaw enforcement and enforcement cost will be borne by the JDF Water Service.

**CONCLUSION**

Unauthorized tampering of the system can cause disruptions to water services, affecting the overall quality and reliability of water supply. By updating the CRD Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw with revised Water Distribution Local Service conditions and fees, staff can more effectively garner compliance and mitigate water safety concerns.

Staff will work proactively and cooperatively with businesses and residents to muster compliance with Water Distribution Local Service Area Establishment Bylaw, and ticketing will only be used after all other attempts to work with the discharger have failed.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That Bylaw No. 4653, "Ticket Authorization Bylaw, 1990, Amendment Bylaw No. 80, 2024", be introduced and read a first, second, and third time; and
2. That Bylaw No 4653 be adopted.

Submitted by:	Steve Carey, J.D., Senior Manager, Legal & Risk Management
Concurrence:	Kristen Morley, J.D., General Manager, Corporate Services & Corporate Officer
Concurrence:	Alicia Fraser, P. Eng., General Manager, Integrated Water Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

Appendix A: Bylaw No. 4653