



NEWS RELEASE

Associated Environmental can help you to navigate BC's new Water Sustainability Act

Vernon, BC --- May 25, 2016 --- Do you use groundwater in BC for irrigation, drinking water supply, industrial use, or dewatering? Are you aware that on February 29, 2016, the BC Ministry of Environment tabled new Regulations that affect groundwater use?

Associated Environmental can help you to interpret BC's new Water Sustainability Act and associated Regulations and apply for licences.

The new Regulations require all existing groundwater users, except household users, to apply for a short-term water use approval or a licence. The licensing process will include an application and associated fees, and annual water rental fees. The new Water Sustainability Act works in conjunction with other Acts that affect groundwater use, such as the Environmental Assessment Act and the Reviewable Projects Regulation.

The provincial government has introduced a 3-year transition period that offers incentives for users to apply early for their licence. The province will issue licences after considering all water users; they recognize the need to balance the interests of all users, including the economic, environmental, and social contexts.

The expert hydrogeologists, hydrologists, and biologists at Associated Environmental have been involved in the development of the Regulations, and have already prepared applications for clients. If you need help with your application or require further information, please contact Marta Green, P.Geo. or Jacques Groenewald, M.Sc., P.Geo. at 250 545-3672 or by email at greenm@ae.ca and groenewaldj@ae.ca.

About Associated Environmental

Associated Environmental Consultants Inc. is the environmental science division of Associated Engineering. Our broad scope of experience includes environmental assessments, environmental planning, and water resources, as well as assisting public and private sector clients with obtaining the necessary approvals for capital works and major maintenance projects. Our environment team brings diverse expertise in fisheries biology, water quality, terrestrial ecology, hydrology, groundwater, erosion and sediment control, and public consultation.

About Associated Engineering

Associated Engineering is an employee-owned, Canadian consulting firm with a 70-year history of providing client-focussed service. With 900 staff operating in 21 offices across Canada, we provide expertise in planning, engineering, environmental science, and landscape architecture.

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For more information, please contact:

Lianna Mah, M.Eng., FEC, P.Eng.
Vice President, Business Development
Associated Engineering
Suite 300, 4940 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V5G 4M5
Phone: (604) 293-1411
Email: mahl@ae.ca
Web: www.ae.ca

