

Scott Point Waterworks District

Annual General Meeting 2018

Report of the Chair for Year Ended Dec 31, 2017

Summary

2017 was a busy year for the Water District. There were fewer significant operation and maintenance issues and the District made substantial progress on Project Blend to deal with water quality concerns raised by the Province.

The Trustees also completed a comprehensive review at financial, management and operational risks and which resulted in the approval of a road map for the next 10 years. Progress was made in modernizing our billing administration and payment practices.

I would like to thank my two other trustees for their hard work and time as we navigated these waters. And I would like to thank our contractors: Jean Eastman who is now doing our billing administration work, and the operators at North Salt Spring Waterworks for their diligence in dealing with day-to-day issues.

Operations

There were no major leaks on the system in 2017. The water main appears to be in good shape with little evidence of deterioration of the concrete pipe. The leakage rate was recorded at 11.4%, lower than previous years and closer to long-term average. An identified risk to the water main is the number of large trees adjacent to the main where root intrusion could cause future problems.

While there were no leaks on the service lines between the water main and the water meters in 2017, these continue to be an identified risk. A program will commence in 2019 to pro-actively replace 2-3 service lines and meters per year.

There were a few small leaks reported by individual residents. Residents are reminded that damaged lines from valve to the house, old toilets, and automatic irrigation systems have an increased probability of being a source of leakage.

The supplier of the Reservoir Tank repaired a number of small tank seam leaks in 2017 and the only other major non-routine maintenance was the replacement of certain control equipment at treatment plants.

Government Regulation

The new-ish Water Sustainability Act requires the District to obtain a license and pay an annual fee for groundwater removal. The District applied for the required license in early 2016 and the

application continues to slowly wind its way through the bureaucracy. A license is expected in the second quarter of 2018.

Treatment for THMs

We have been reporting for several years about the presence disinfectant by-products (DBP), particularly tri-halomethane (THM) in the water and were put on notice by Island Health in 2015. To address the issues we commenced Project Blend in 2017 to better treat Well 4 water including putting some through the Reverse Osmosis plant at Well 1. Work this past year included installation of a new 2 inch PVC pipeline installed in the road allowance along Scott Point Drive to connect Well 4 to the RO treatment plant at Well 1 and replacement of the two 5,000 gallon tanks at well 1 with smaller PVC tanks better suited for the requirement and to meet seismic requirements.

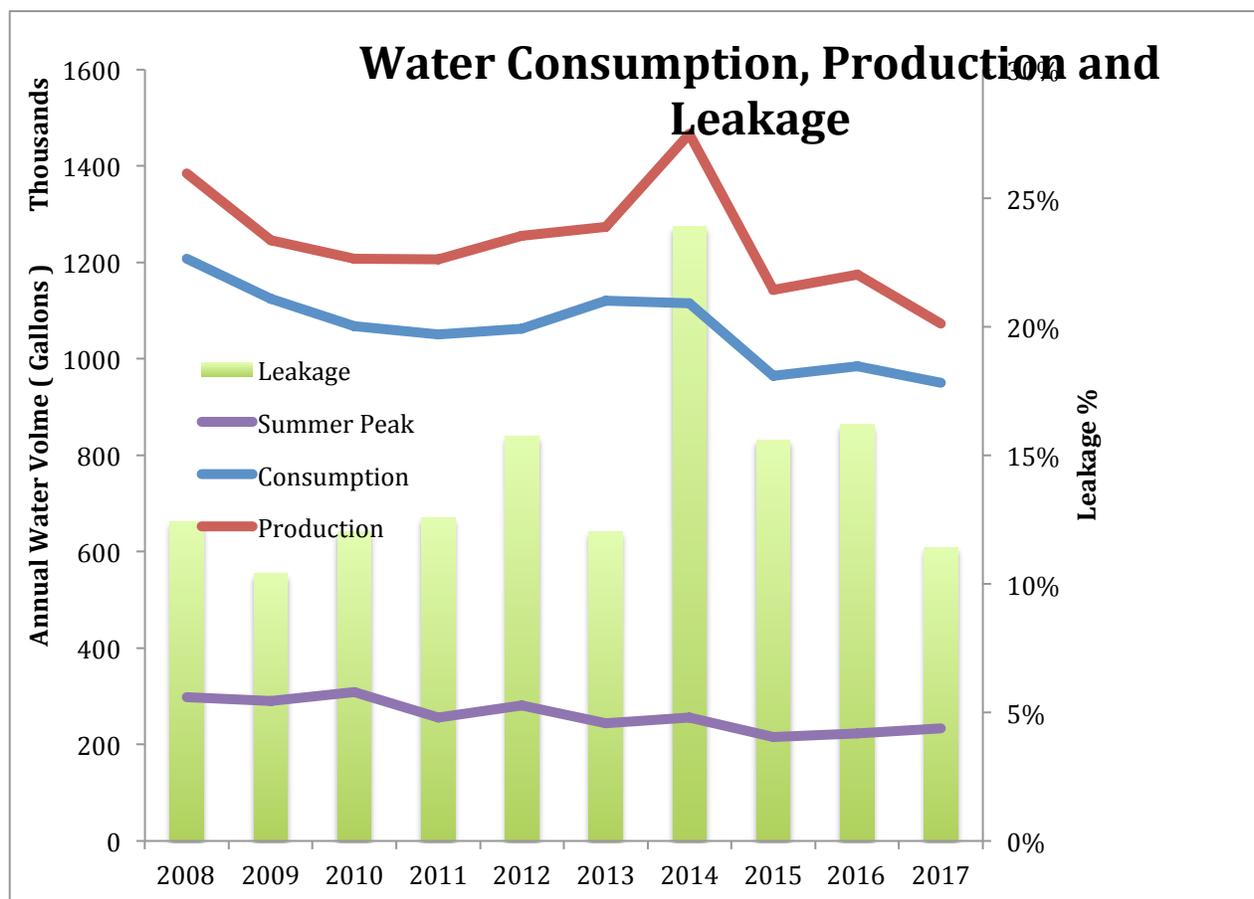
A separate report on project planning and further work for Project Blend is provided.

Other Operation Items

2017 marked the 5th anniversary of the Reservoir storage tank. The tank will be drained, cleaned and inspected in 2019.

Water Consumption and Leakage

The total water consumed was 950,368 gallons, a decrease of 34,300 gallons from 2016. Compared to any standard, Scott Point residents are very frugal users with annual daily water use per household of 45 gallons, compared to guidelines that indicate households are considered to be conservative users at 130 gallons.



Following the policy of previous years, the Trustees decided that issuing blanket watering restrictions was not warranted, given the already low consumption levels. Providing general information on conservation and directly contacting individual residents with higher than usual water use has proved to be an effective strategy to control consumption. It is also noted that a number of residents have installed rainwater capture cisterns which reduces gardening water demand on the system during summer – a big benefit for all.

Referendum

The September 2017 referendum result means a continuation of status-quo for the Water District. A key component of managing our own water system is the ability to attract eligible residents to take their turn as Trustees serving three-year terms on the Board.

10-Year Plan

The Trustees with help from previous trustees completed a comprehensive enterprise risk review in 2017 and approved a 10 Year Plan in 2018. A summary of the process and results of the risk review and the 10 Year Plan to guide future expenditures is available on the website under the Governance tab.