

From: Maxine Leichter <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 11:58 AM
To: SSIInfo; Peter Luckham; Laura Patrick; Peter Grove; William Shulba
Subject: water for affordable housing

Date: May 24, 2021

To: Salt Spring Island Trustees

Re: SS-R2-2021.1 114 Swanson Rd. (Rezoning request from 4 units to 6 units)

From: Maxine Leichter

In considering the above rezoning request, please consider the following:

Ideally, affordable housing would be located near Ganges.

NSSWD likely does not have enough water to serve more households than currently zoned for in their service district.

Therefore, affordable housing projects near Ganges will need to use groundwater.

The supply of groundwater is both limited and is subject to contamination from salt water if over pumped.

Two new large projects that have been approved a few blocks away and on either side of 114 Swanson Rd. (Meadow Lane on Kings Rd – 50 units and Croftonbrook 54 units)

The tests that were done to show water availability for 114 Swanson Rd. could not have reflected the groundwater conditions that will be present when these two projects are pumping out large amounts of groundwater to serve 104 households.

If we want there to be any groundwater left for affordable housing near Ganges, then no more density increases should be approved near Ganges if they are dependent on groundwater unless they are for affordable housing. Absolutely, no more densities dependent on groundwater should be approved in the area of these two new projects until they are up and running and we can see their effect on groundwater in the area.