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## NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Environment

### **PUBLIC INVITED TO COMMENT ON WATER ACT MODERNIZATION**

VICTORIA – The Ministry of Environment is inviting British Columbians to comment for a second time on its plans to renew B.C.’s water laws following the release today of its policy proposal on a new Water Sustainability Act.

“During the first round of engagement on modernizing the Water Act, British Columbians asked us for another opportunity to participate,” said Environment Minister Murray Coell. “That’s why we are now asking them to review the policy proposal and let us know what they think.”

The proposed new Water Sustainability Act would replace the existing century-old Water Act and ensure that the management of water is sustainable for current and future generations. The Water Sustainability Act is for all British Columbians – our communities, our environment and our economy. It will help lighten B.C.’s water footprint and transition us to a new way of managing water.

The Living Water Smart Blog (<http://blog.gov.bc.ca/livingwatersmart/>) will be the focus of engagement on the proposed act. Starting today and continuing into January 2011, the Ministry of Environment is encouraging British Columbians to get involved on the blog, where there will be a number of successive posts about the proposed Water Sustainability Act. Participants can submit specific questions and comments about the act on the blog, by email or post.

Modernizing the Water Act is an essential part of Living Water Smart: B.C.’s Water Plan, the B.C. government’s vision and plan to keep the province’s water healthy and secure for the future.

To view a PDF of the Policy Proposal on British Columbia’s New Water Sustainability Act, please visit: [http://www.livingwatersmart.ca/water-act/docs/wam\\_wsa-policy-proposal.pdf](http://www.livingwatersmart.ca/water-act/docs/wam_wsa-policy-proposal.pdf)

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