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June 18, 2024

File: 0400-20

The Honourable George Heyman Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy PO Box 9047, Stn Prov Gov Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Via email: <u>ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca</u>

Dear Minister Heyman:

## RE: LONG-TERM BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT STRATEGY SUBMISSION

Thank you for your letter dated June 6, 2024, and for the opportunity to discuss the Capital Regional District's (CRD) Long-term Biosolids Management Strategy at our meeting on May 6, 2024. I would also like to extend my appreciation to the ministry staff for their engagement in the subsequent meetings with senior CRD staff. Your consideration of our request to extend the June 2024 deadline for submitting the long-term strategy is greatly appreciated.

We have carefully reviewed the conditions and revised submission timelines outlined in your letter. While we appreciate the consideration given to our request, the conditions and timelines presented pose significant challenges for us.

After thorough deliberation, the CRD Board decided to adhere to the original deadline of June 18, 2024, for the submission of the Long-term Biosolids Management Strategy. We believe this course of action will best serve the interests of all involved and demonstrate our commitment to the sustainable management of biosolids.

The CRD Board has invested considerable effort in preparing the Long-term Biosolids Management Strategy, ensuring it is comprehensive and aligns with our commitment to environmental stewardship and regulatory compliance. We are confident in the work completed to date and the robustness of the strategy we have developed, which reflects the significant input and review undertaken by the CRD Board.

We look forward to your guidance and further direction in response to our submission which you will receive soon.

Sincerely,

Colin Plant

Chair, Capital Regional District Board

cc: CRD Board

Ted Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD

Laurel Nash, Assistant Deputy Minister, Environmental Protection