

E-mail November 3, 2009.

Honourable Shirley Bond
Minister of Transportation
Province of British Columbia
BOX 9055 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, B.C., V8W 9E2

Texada Gravel on Gabriola Island

Dear Minister

You have on file, I know, several letters expressing the concerns of Gabriolans on the use of a material known as Texada Gravel by Emcon Services on the unpaved roads of Gabriola Island. This letter refers specifically to one addressed to The Honourable Kevin Falcon dated May 8, 2008. In that letter, which I have attached unchanged, I outlined the technical reasons why the material being used by Emcon is unsuitable, and why it is the cause of so many complaints.

I was quite dismayed to read in your letter of September 16, 2009, addressed to Erik Andersen of the Gabriola Island Residents and Ratepayers Association, that your ministry regards the report produced by Golder Associates as being sufficient evidence that the gravel "has been tested extensively, and meets ministry standards".

I should like to stress once again, with emphasis, that it is not the non-compliance with ministry standards that is the issue. It is my contention based on the results of several field observations and laboratory studies, reports of which have been written and presented to your officials, that it is the ministry standards themselves that are at fault in that they do not recognize the unusual nature of the material being supplied from Texada and its adverse effects when used on the Gulf Islands. For your further information, I attach my comments on the Golder Associates Report.

This problem is creating great annoyance on Gabriola and both Emcon and your Ministry's failure to come to grips with the problem continues to be distressing.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely