

Resolution 13A

PAYMENT OF ROYALTIES FOR BOTTLING OF WATER (PASSED)

⇒ County of Colchester

WHEREAS Colchester County Council supports the principle that companies extracting water in our community for the purpose of bottling and sale should be subject to royalty fees; and,

WHEREAS the *Municipal Government Act* does not give municipalities the legislative authority to issue a levy on water extraction;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UNSM request a change in the *Municipal Government Act* which would allow municipalities to issue a levy on companies or persons who extract water from within their municipality for the purpose of bottling and sale.

Forwarded to:
Department of Environment

RESPONSE:

All water users that are withdrawing water greater than 23,000 litres per day are required to have an approval and pay an established water fee to the provincial government. Currently the fee structure for water used in the province does not distinguish by use.

Any review of, or changes to water withdrawal fees would be undertaken by Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) as the lead agency on water resource management. Consultation with municipalities and stakeholders would be a component of that review process. However, at this time the department does not support the introduction of additional water withdrawal fees at the municipal level.

Further information regarding the existing withdrawal fee system can be obtained by contacting the NSE.