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District

Coquitlam Reservoir to be removed from service to assist in BC Hydro's Coquitlam Dam Upgrade project

The Coquitlam Reservoir will be temporarily removed from the Greater Vancouver Regional District's drinking water supply from November 16, 2005 to mid-February 2006, in order to allow the relocation of the GVRD's water supply facilities.

Under normal operations, the GVRD has three reservoirs to draw from, the Capilano, Seymour and Coquitlam, two of which are required to be in service at all times to ensure adequate water supply. Impacts of removing the Coquitlam reservoir from service include a decrease in system flexibility to switch water sources if water in one of the other operational reservoirs should become turbid, or cloudy with sediment, due to heavy rainfall.

Filtration provides a long-term solution to turbidity and the Seymour-Capilano Filtration Project is expected to be completed in 2009.

The GVRD monitors water supplies and quality in order to provide adequate notice to customers of any changes. In cases where turbidity is detected in the system, disinfection levels are raised as a precaution. During a turbidity event, those with compromised immune systems due to HIV or who are undertaking chemotherapy or anti-rejection medications should take extra precautions. Some industrial processes may also be affected.

For more information about the GVRD water supply, please contact GVRD Info Centre at 604 432-6200. For further details on the BC Hydro Coquitlam Dam Seismic Upgrade Project, call Charlotte Bemister at 604 528- 2354.

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