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September 1, 2019

To: Forest Nova Scotia, Introductory Letter

Authored By: David F Barrett, Woodlands Manager of Barrett Lumber Company Ltd (BLC)

Dear Members,

I hope that all of you will utilize the research I have completed regarding the Ditch Tax (Stormwater Charge) of Halifax Regional Municipalities (HRM). It is now up to you and my hope is that you will use it to prove to all Nova Scotia politicians and environmental groups just how much all of the private forest land holders in Nova Scotia are providing the rest of the Nova Scotians for free; by keeping our land holdings in Forestry whether it is harvesting, planting, silviculture etc. For those of you who want to delve into the meat of BLC arguments, see BLC May 31/2018 second appeal to NSURB and the March 26/2019 Thank you letter to the NSURB and Halifax Water. It is my hope that all of you pressure your MLA to exempt forest land from any Stormwater Charge in the future and exempt those that already have the Stormwater Charge imposed (Appendix 1, Appendix 2)

The time lost by myself and others fighting against this Stormwater Charge (Ditch Tax) was tremendous, I hope that with copies of this email; if any of you are caught up in this tax grab, by your local governments, you will have a head start in defeating any proposals of a Forestry Stormwater Charge. In other words, don't let Forestry be collateral damage for problems caused by others, especially since even a harvested forestry crop provides more Stormwater control than it produces.

In addition to getting our present Stormwater Charges reduced by 78%, it was very rewarding to see, in print how much we forest owners in Nova Scotia are providing our neighbors free of charge as stated in BLC second appeal to NSURB dated May 31/2018 and Thank You letter to NSURB and Halifax Water dated March 26/2019. Although we had applied for 100% relief.

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