



October 17, 2012

File: D720001-00/Middle Chase
D720002-00/Lower Chase

Bill Sims, A.Sc.T.
Manager, Water Resources
City of Nanaimo
2020 Labieux Road
Nanaimo BC V9T 6J9

Dear Bill:


Re: Chase River Dam Breach Flood Inundation Study

Thank you for inviting Monty Miedriech, John Baldwin and myself to your Dam Safety Table Top Exercise on September 20th and 21st and for forwarding to us the Associated Engineering report entitled Chase River Dam Breach Flood Inundation Study (Inundation Study), dated July 2012. The Inundation Study has been reviewed by our office and its conclusions and recommendations were briefly discussed with you and your staff.

The Inundation Study has highlighted an unacceptable deficiency in both the Middle Chase River Dam and Lower Chase River Dam and states the probability of an extreme failure of these dams is very high. The Inundation Study concludes a 'do-nothing' option is unacceptable and recommends modifications to the dam that include upgrading, replacement or removal of the dams. The Inundation Study also recommends reclassifying both the Middle Chase River Dam and Lower Chase River Dam to an extreme consequence rating based on the estimated number of casualties resulting from a probable seismic event. Our records have now been updated to reflect this recommendation.

At this time we are asking for a decision on your course of action for the Middle Chase River Dam and Lower Chase River Dam by November 30, 2012. Please refer to Section 4 of the BC Dam Safety Regulation on requirements for upgrading or replacement of the dams and Section 9 on the requirements for dam removal.

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Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations Resource Stewardship Division	Water Management Branch Dam Safety Section	Mailing Address: PO Box 9340 Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC V8W 9M1 Telephone: 250-387-3265 Facsimile: 250-952-6792	Location: 3 rd Floor, 395 Waterfront Cres Victoria BC V8T 5K7 
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We are pleased with the level of response the City of Nanaimo has shown towards the findings of this Inundation Study to date. We look forward to continuing our close working relationship with you and your staff in resolving this issue.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Morgan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "S" and a checkmark-like flourish at the end.

Scott Morgan
Dam Safety Section Head

pc: John Baldwin, Dam Safety Officer, West Coast Region