

12 February 2020

SENT BY EMAIL

Town of Canmore
902 - 7th Avenue
Canmore, AB T1W 3K1

Attention: Félix Camiré, Project Engineer, Town of Canmore Engineering Services

Dear Mr. Camiré:

**Re: Approval No. NR-2018-1 for Town of Canmore to construct and operate
a Debris Flood Retention Structure on Cougar Creek**

Having received the authorization of the Lieutenant Governor in Council by Order in Council 31/2020 dated 12 February 2020, the Board is now in a position to issue Approval No. NR-2018-1 to the Town on Canmore. I have enclosed the signed approval of the Board dated 12 February 2020.

Yours sincerely,



Bill Kennedy
General Counsel

cc Meghan Jurijew, Environmental Assessment, Environment and Parks (by email)
Pauline Scoffield, Regional Approvals, Environment and Parks (by email)

**THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION BOARD ACT
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION BOARD**

IN THE MATTER of a project of the
Town of Canmore for approval to
construct and operate a Debris
Flood Retention Structure on
Cougar Creek in Canmore, Alberta

APPROVAL NO. NR 2018-01

WHEREAS the construction and operation of a water management project is a reviewable project under s. 4(d) of the *Natural Resources Conservation Board Act*, and

WHEREAS the Natural Resources Conservation Board (Board) is prepared to grant approval to the application by the Town of Canmore, subject to the following conditions, and

WHEREAS the Lieutenant Governor in Council has given authorization (attached).

THEREFORE, the Board orders as follows:

1. The Project of the Town of Canmore (the Town), for construction and operation of the Debris Flood Retention Structure on Cougar Creek in Canmore, Alberta, as described in Application No. 1601 from the Town to the Board filed on August 19, 2016 and the revised application from the Town filed on September 6, 2019 as well as all supplemental materials supporting the application (Application) filed with the Board, is approved, subject to the undertakings and commitments in the Application and subject to the following terms and conditions.
2. The Town must:
 - a) allow all Treaty 7 First Nations to harvest traditional plants (medicinal or ceremonial) and to participate in a ceremonial event before construction begins, and
 - b) commit to ongoing issues resolution/consultation with Treaty 7 First Nations as the Project is constructed and operated,to the satisfaction of Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP).
3. The Town must:
 - a) conduct surface water quality and quantity monitoring twice per month during construction, or at a frequency deemed appropriate by AEP,
 - b) conduct surface water quality and quantity monitoring on an annual basis, during the operation of the Project,
 - c) develop a long-term surface water quality and quantity monitoring program for Cougar Creek, including discharge and water levels, using appropriate surface water locations and/or the shallow monitoring well identified as TH14-3 (or another

suitable shallow groundwater monitoring well close to the Structure to be used as a proxy for surface water conditions), and

- d) conduct annual surface water reporting, available to the public and First Nations communities,

all to the satisfaction of AEP.

4. The Town must:

- a) conduct groundwater quality and quantity monitoring twice per month during construction, or at a frequency deemed appropriate by AEP,
- b) conduct groundwater quality and quantity monitoring on an annual basis during operation of the Project,
- c) develop a long-term groundwater quality and quantity monitoring program, including groundwater level and gradient, using appropriate groundwater monitoring wells, and
- d) conduct annual groundwater reporting, available to the public and First Nations communities,

all to the satisfaction of AEP.

5. During construction, reclamation and revegetation activities, the Town must:

- a) test all imported soil material to ensure it has similar physical, chemical, and biological characteristics as soil naturally occurring in the Cougar Creek area, including testing for weeds or invasive species, and is appropriate to be used for reclamation activities, and
- b) ensure that all seed mixes and material used for revegetation are appropriate for and representative of the surrounding vegetation communities (i.e., native species), and are consistent with First Nations/aboriginal preferences of the use of native vegetation species for reclamation,

all to the satisfaction of AEP.

6. During construction and post flood maintenance, the Town must implement the proposed dust control management plan. The dust control management plan must include:

- a) dust suppression methods (road watering and other possible dust suppressants) and proactive triggers (or thresholds) that detail when dust control will occur, and
- b) a dust complaint response protocol that identifies how the Town will address complaints or concerns about Access Road dust,

all to the satisfaction of AEP.

7. Subject to any limitations imposed by AEP, the Town must fulfil its commitment to provide continuous backcountry access through or around the Project area during all phases of the Project.

8. The Town must complete a health, safety and environment plan (HSE Plan) to the satisfaction of AEP prior to commencing construction.

9. The Town must finalize its Operation, Maintenance and Surveillance Manual by including:

- a) an adaptive management approach to effectively manage ongoing rock debris erosion and deposition downstream of the Structure, and
 - b) a surveillance data monitoring and reporting plan for the Structure, no later than one year after the completion of the Structure water storage test,
- to the satisfaction of AEP.
10. The Town must complete and implement the Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP) to the satisfaction of AEP, and integrate those plans with the Town's existing Municipal Emergency Management Plan.
 11. The Town must evaluate and implement wildlife habitat enhancement above the spillway to the satisfaction of AEP, and work with AEP during the construction and implementation stages to identify mitigation options for improving wildlife habitat connectivity.

Made at the City of Edmonton, in the Province of Alberta, this 12th day of February, 2020.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION BOARD

original signed by:

Peter Woloshyn, Panel Chair

L. Page Stuart

Michele Annich