

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]
To: "[Contact \(INFC\)](#)"; pm@pm.gc.ca; Chrystia.Freeland@parl.gc.ca; Bill.Morneau@parl.gc.ca; Seamus.OREgan@parl.gc.ca; Jonathan.Wilkinson@parl.gc.ca; [Laura Friend](#); john.barlow.c1@parl.gc.ca; pglenn@mtroyal.ca; williams@mtroyal.ca; dbratt@mtroyal.ca
Cc: [REDACTED] "[Howe, Jennifer \(IAAC/AEIC\)](#)"; Melanie.Joly@parl.gc.ca; Catherine.McKenna@parl.gc.ca; Navdeep.Bains@parl.gc.ca; [REDACTED]; eyeopener@cbc.ca
Subject: More disturbing facts have surfaced lately - Flood mitigation and clean energy
Date: Monday, May 25, 2020 1:38:05 AM
Attachments: [Follow Up Report May, 25, 2020.pdf](#)

Dear Right honorable J. Trudeau,

In our previous letter of May 8, 2020, we requested your personal involvement based on the scientific facts that we provided in the letter.

More disturbing facts have surfaced lately, which we provide in the attached report.

We are urging your personal involvement, not only to prevent possible major financial losses or environmental disaster from happening, but also, to facilitate a once-in-life opportunity for new revenue and clean energy to become reality.

Sincerely,

Flood & Water Management Council (FWMC)

May 8, 2020,

Dear Right honorable J. Trudeau,

This letter is asking for your personal attention.

Due to the seriousness of the subject matter, this letter is asking for your personal involvement.

Background:

- On Apr, 29, 2018 we corresponded with your office to present a proposed comprehensive solution for floods, droughts and water management in Alberta. This particular solution was described as an innovative solution for flood mitigation and water management by the UNESCO-IHE (World renowned International Institute of Hydrology and Environmental Engineering).
- On May, 2, 2018, we received a letter from your office addressed to Dr. Gabriel stating:

On behalf of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, I would like to acknowledge receipt of your email, with which you attached a document concerning flood water management. Thank you for providing the Prime Minister with this report...I have taken the liberty

of forwarding a further copy to the Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, for his information and consideration.

Once again, thank you for writing to the Prime Minister.

M. Bredeson

Executive Correspondence Officer - for the Prime Minister's Office

- On May 29, 2018, a letter from your office was received which stated the following:

“I am writing in response to your email of April 29, 2018, to the Prime Minister, regarding risks associated with currently proposed flood mitigation and water conservation projects in Alberta, as well as the proposed Tri-River Joint Reservoir alternative project. I would encourage you to submit your proposal to the Province of Alberta so that it may determine whether the Tri-River Joint Reservoir project should be prioritized for funding consideration under the Investing in Canada Plan.”

The attached document includes scientific facts and evidence regarding serious risks associated with the SR1 flood project, and the alternative comprehensive solution.

Today, we are asking for your personal involvement, not only because there is a push for a costly, yet a high risk project with no proven benefits (as shown in the attachment supported by scientific facts and evidence), but also the stubbornness and the opposition by some decision-makers and bureaucrats who continue to ignore your office recommendation to consider and professionally study the other alternatives, while demanding federal support for a risky and futile project.

The recent dramatic changes have affected our lives and our economy, yet this new reality provides a perfect opportunity for diversifying our economy, particularly with the utilization of clean energy produced by our tremendous water resources..

Sincerely,

Flood & Water Management Council (FWMC)

From: Contact (INFC) <infcontact.inf@canada.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2018 7:58 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Dr. Emile Gabriel - re. proposed flood mitigation and water conservation projects in Alberta

Dr. Emile Gabriel

Dear Dr. Gabriel:

I am writing in response to your email of April 29, 2018, to the Prime Minister, regarding risks associated with currently proposed flood mitigation and water conservation projects in Alberta, as well as the proposed Tri-River Joint Reservoir alternative project.

The Government of Canada has a long history of making strategic investments in a wide range of infrastructure categories. Infrastructure is the foundation of sustainable and inclusive communities—it removes barriers, brings people together and allows all Canadians to be active participants in their community. Moreover, good infrastructure fosters an environment where the best of Canadian innovation can grow.

The Government of Canada works closely with provincial, territorial and municipal partners to fund infrastructure projects, but it is these orders of government that are responsible for the planning, prioritization, design, financing and operation of their infrastructure assets. As some of the projects you are referencing have already been approved and would be constructed in Alberta, I would encourage you to contact Alberta Infrastructure to voice your concerns, if you have not already done so.

The Government of Canada is investing more than \$180 billion under the long term *Investing in Canada* plan. Our priority is to promote infrastructure that will create good, well paying jobs that can help the middle class grow and prosper. Key areas for investment include public transit, green and social infrastructure, transportation infrastructure that supports trade, and infrastructure in rural and northern communities.

Under the *Investing in Canada* plan, the Government is investing \$28.7 billion over 12 years to improve public transit infrastructure throughout Canada, which will help build new urban transit networks and service extensions that will transform the way Canadians live, move and work. In addition, the Government is investing \$26.9 billion over 12 years towards green infrastructure to build sustainable and healthy communities.

I am pleased to announce that on April 3, 2018, I signed the Agreement with Alberta, which will provide \$3,397,857,038 in federal funding dedicated to infrastructure projects over the next decade. This new funding will see the Government of Canada and the Province of Alberta make unprecedented investments in public transit, green infrastructure, communities, recreational and cultural infrastructure, as well as rural and northern communities.

Under the new Agreement, proposed projects must first be prioritized by the province before they are submitted to Infrastructure Canada for consideration. I would encourage you to submit your proposal to the Province of Alberta so that it may determine whether the Tri-River Joint Reservoir project should be prioritized for funding consideration under the Investing in Canada Plan.

The Government of Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund is a 10 year, \$2 billion national program designed to help communities better withstand current and future risks of natural hazards. The projects funded under this competitive, merit based program will increase the resilience of Canadian communities to the negative impacts of weather related events and safeguard the continuity of their services.

The Applicant Guide for the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund provides information on the application requirements and the project evaluation process, including the nature and type of information required to ensure a complete application. The Applicant Guide can be found on Infrastructure Canada's website at www.infrastructure.gc.ca/dmaf-faac/index-eng.html.

Additional details and updates on Canada's future infrastructure investments and funding programs can be found on the Department's website at www.infrastructure.gc.ca.

Thank you for writing on these important issues.

Flood & Water Management Council (FWMC)

Follow up report to *“Serious risks associated with the SR1 flood project, and the alternative comprehensive solution.”*, May,8, 2020

Grave Safety Issues with the Springbank Dry Reservoir (SR1) And The Lack of Credible Study on Alternative Options



Tri-River Joint Reservoir of Alberta (TRJR)

An Advanced Flood/Drought Control and Water Management System

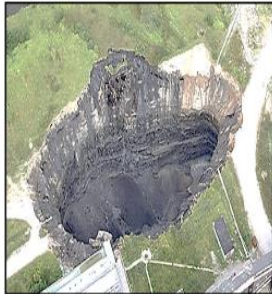
May 25, 2020

**MORE:
GRAVE SAFETY ISSUES
WITH THE SPRINGBANK DRY
RESERVOIR (SR1)**

“...this does not mean that if a 100-year flood happened this spring, it wouldn't happen again for another 100 years.

It could happen again in the following year or even twice or more in any given year”

[\(Calgary City News Blog\)](#)



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The Bow and Elbow rivers are high in our city (Calgary) and residents are experiencing additional anxiety on top of the pain and the struggle with the COVID-19.

Just a few days ago, we read and watched two dams failing in Michigan, forcing thousands to evacuate in the midst of the epidemic.

The published news said:
“Feds warned years ago Edenville Dam couldn't handle a historic flood”

(Feds revoked failed Edenville dam's license in 2018 over inability to handle big floods).

Coincidentally, the Edenville Dam total capacity is 81,700,000 m³, which is almost the same presumed capacity of the Springbank dry reservoir (SR1)

Why did Edenville Dam fail?

The Edenville Dam, at the base of nearby Wixom Lake, failed amid high floodwaters in the area, sending water gushing through a now-gaping hole near its spillway.

Overtopping



Overtopping of a dam, as shown above, is often a precursor of dam failure. National statistics show that overtopping due to inadequate spillway design, debris blockage of spillways, or settlement of the dam crest account for approximately 34% of all U.S. dam failures.

Right honorable Prime Minister

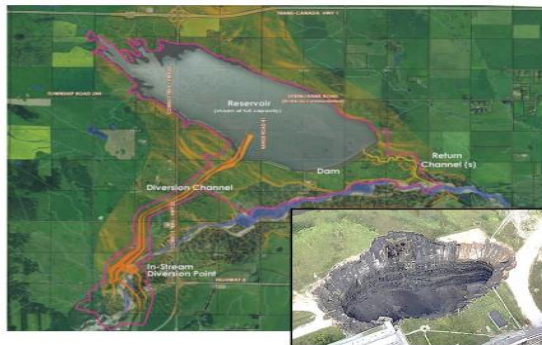
We requested your personal involvement based on the scientific facts that we provided in the previous letter of May 8, 2020.

More disturbing facts have surfaced lately, which we provide in this report.

It is extremely disturbing to read this comment in P32 of one of the reports on the Springbank dry reservoir (SR1):

“Comment: The GOA Dam Safety Guidelines were updated in 2013. No discussion or indication was provided as to whether the proposed project design meets all of the criteria contained in the updated guidelines. The Interim Design Report (Stantec 2017b) and the interim Geotechnical Assessment Report, Appendix D were not provided in the EIA documents. Therefore, these documents were not considered in our review.”

Springbank Dry Dam



Dam safety is of a paramount concern (particularly when a dam is located only 15 km. away from a major city (Calgary))

The SR1 is nothing more than a big “hole” in the ground that has to remain empty and available at a moment’s notice to accommodate flood water.

**MORE:
GRAVE SAFETY ISSUES
WITH THE SPRINGBANK DRY
RESERVOIR (SR1)**

1- It has been more than five years since the SR1 was selected, yet a signed official stamped, "Interim Design Report" has not been provided.

2- The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency has issued a letter to the province, stating there are "deficiencies," including groundwater impacts during construction and how lands on the adjacent Tsuut'ina Nation will be affected once the reservoir is in full operation.

The Tsuut'ina has also opposed the project, concerned it will be only metres from reserve land and could negatively impact sensitive treaty land both upstream and downstream of the project.

3- Detailed modellings on items such as water pressure and sediment deposit are required as part of the regulatory review process, and using a lab environment allows the best opportunity to create/re-create actual conditions,"¹.

1- As of May 2020, Alberta Transportation states that the Interim Design Report is still in draft as engineering investigation and designs are in the process of being advanced; therefore, it is not being provided.^a

^a - Supplemental Information Request 1, Question 14, Pages 2.22-2.23 Supplemental Information Request 1, Question 15, Page 2.24

2- No remedy has been provided publicly to this legitimate concern by the Tsuut'ina Nation.

3- Inexplicably, and in a sudden abrupt move, the 50-metre by 30-metre model of the \$432 million dam and reservoir built by National Research Council of Canada, at a cost of \$800,000, was dismantled in November 2016 without even having an Interim Design Report issued.²

¹ - <https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/scale-model-of-springbank-dam-tests-flood-diversion-impacts->

4- The Prime Minister's Office and the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness recommendations that the proposed TRJR be submitted for Federal Funding grants was ignored by Alberta government officials.

5- A dry reservoir like the (SR1) has to remain empty and available at a moment's notice to accommodate flood water. As such, it cannot be used to deal with wildfires, drought conditions or to generate electricity.

More than \$50 million has been wasted on the SR1 so far. The taxpayers, under current economic circumstances, would not have an appetite or be ardent about throwing more money at a project that cannot be built to the highest safety standards and its safety is uncertain.

4- Seven years have passed since the 2013 flood, and a proper, unbiased feasibility study on the Tri-River Joint Reservoir of Alberta (TRJR) alternative option, that would not take more than one year +/- could already have been done providing an alternative option.

Our provincial government has to date avoided spending about \$200 – \$300,000.00 to authorize a feasibility study of the TRJR by a professional, reputable consultant firm, as directed by CEAA.

5- The TRJR is a project that offers the possibility of incalculable benefits to Alberta and Canada and would leave a valuable legacy for future generations, if its promises were to be confirmed by a feasibility study.

In light of the current world epidemic that has turned all conventional wisdom upside down, water is becoming our most vital resource not only for flood mitigation, but also for ongoing droughts, wildfires suppression, industry needs, recreation, and most importantly, securing drinking quality water and quantities for the present and the future generations.

Water is the new white gold and Nature has provided us with a ready-to-use tremendous reservoir, a gift that will be very useful in mitigating future floods, managing drought conditions and fighting wildfires.

As well as providing the opportunity to generate clean, renewable hydro-electricity, plus allowing for a state-of-the-art new and immense recreation area for present and future generations.

The experts in the (FWMC) have provided an environmentally friendly innovative and comprehensive solution for flood mitigation, water conservation and environment protection for most (if not all) of our affected river communities in Southern Alberta from another disaster such as the 2013 flood, in the form of the Tri-River Joint Reservoir of Alberta (TRJR) proposal, which would be located in a strategic, safe and suitable valley in the vicinity of the K-Country.

The province of Alberta has not been immune to bad, or ill-conceived projects, for example, the Swan Hills fiasco with \$285-million funding that was cancelled. At that time, former Alberta Premier Alison Redford told reporters, *“We're not going to continue to push things if the private sector's telling us they don't make sense.”*

We are urging your personal involvement, not only to prevent a possible major financial losses or environmental disaster from happening

but also, to facilitate a once-in-life opportunity for new revenue and clean energy, to become reality.

Flood & Water Management Council (FWMC)