

January 27, 2021

Natural Resources Conservation Board
19th floor, 250 - 5 Street SW
Calgary, AB T2P OR4

Attention: Bill Kennedy, General Counsel
Laura Friend, Manager, Board Reviews

Dear Sir and Madam:

**Re: Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir Project (the “Project”)
NRCB Application No. 1701
Calgary River Communities Action Group (“CRCAG”) and Flood Free
Calgary (“FFC”) – Response to January 20, 2021 of the Stoney Nakoda**

We write regarding the January 20, 2021 letter filed by the Bearspaw First Nation, Chiniki First Nation and Wesley First Nation (collectively, the “**Stoney Nakoda**”) and in particular their request for a three-month extension to the deadlines for the hearing for the Project. For the reasons outlined below, CRCAG and FFC submit that this request should be denied. CRCAG and FFC take no position on the other requests made by the Stoney Nakoda.

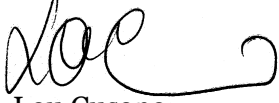
The hearing deadlines outlined in the NRCB’s December 21, 2020 Notice of Hearing were the result of the pre-hearing conference where both the applicant and intervenors made submissions on this issue. More than ample notice was provided to interested parties for this conference. On September 23, 2020, the NRCB posted a letter addressed to all interested parties about a pre-hearing conference occurring in November or December 2020. This was followed by a formal notice from the NRCB of the December 2, 2020 conference on October 5, 2020, which noted that that the conference would, among other things, consider hearing deadlines.

The Stoney Nakoda have not provided an explanation for why they did not participate in the pre-hearing conference. Moreover, as the Stoney Nakoda notes in their January 20, 2021 letter, they have been aware of the Project since at least 2014. While CRCAG and FFC understand the seriousness of the state of emergency declared by the Stoney Tribal Council on January 11, 2021, it does not explain why the Stoney Nakoda did not participate in the pre-hearing conference on December 2, 2020.

The deadline for intervenors to provide comments on the Project issues is on February 26, 2021. CRCAG and FFC believe this timing gives the Stoney Nakoda sufficient time to make submissions on these issues such that their request for extension should not be granted. Maintaining the current schedule also ensures that the Project is considered for approval as soon as possible in

order to avoid a delay in construction and the significant impacts that a future flood would have on downstream communities.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lou Cusano', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Lou Cusano

LC

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