

February 8, 2021

To: Flood and Water Management Council
Attention: David and Noelle Read

**Re: NRCB Application #1701 – Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir Project
FWMC Request that NRCB Reconsider Pre-Hearing Conference Standing
Decision**

The NRCB review panel has instructed me to provide its response to your January 28, 2021 request for the NRCB to reconsider its decision to deny directly affected party standing to the Flood and Water Management Council (FWMC). This letter reflects the review panel's decision.

This is the second standing request made by the FWMC. The first request was decided by the review panel in the NRCB Pre-hearing Conference Decision, issued December 10, 2020. That decision stated that the FWMC failed to establish a chain of causality that would connect the group to the SR1 project. As such, the review panel determined that the FWMC did not meet the test to be considered a directly affected party.

In reviewing the January 28, 2021 FWMC request, the review panel finds that FWMC has essentially restated the information it provided at the time of the pre-hearing conference. Having regard for the information provided, the review panel finds that the FWMC has still not met its burden to establish that it may be directly affected by the SR1 project.

The review panel appreciates and respects that parties other than directly affected parties may make valuable contributions to the public decision process and the Board encourages the FWMC to provide evidence by way of written submission prior to the hearing. However, the FWMC will not have the opportunity to present oral evidence, cross-examine hearing participants or present final argument.

Yours truly;



Bill Kennedy
General Counsel