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Board Chair Vern Hartwell Natural Resources Conservation Board 19th floor, Centennial Place 250 – 5 Street SW Calgary AB T2P 0R4

Sent via email: vern.hartwell@nrcb.ca

Re: Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir Project - Invitation to Participate in Technical Working Group

## Dear Vern Hartwell:

I would like to invite representatives from the Natural Resource Conservation Board to participate in a technical working group that is being established by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency for the environmental assessment of the Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir Project.

As you may be aware, the Project is currently undergoing an environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 and Alberta's Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act. In response to the concerns raised by Indigenous groups and the public regarding the potential effects of the Project and transparency of the environmental assessment process, the Agency is inviting potentially affected Indigenous groups, municipal governments, and the province, including the Natural Resources Conservation Board, to participate in a technical working group with federal expert departments.

As a member of the technical working group, the Natural Resources Conservation Board would be able to contribute local knowledge and work directly with Indigenous groups and federal and provincial expert departments to review the information, address issues, review potential mitigation measures, and influence the design of monitoring and follow-up requirements.

I believe that the work of the technical working group would be greatly enhanced if experts from the Natural Resources Conservation Board were also members, contributing to the rigour and transparency of the environmental assessment.



If the Natural Resources Conservation Board wishes to participate in the technical working group, the Agency can provide additional information related to the timelines and next steps in drafting Terms of Reference for the technical working group.

Should officials in your office have any questions in this regard, please contact Shelly Boss, Project Manager, by telephone at 780-495-2580 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:Shelly.Boss@ceaa-acee.gc.ca">Shelly.Boss@ceaa-acee.gc.ca</a>. I look forward to your response to this invitation.

Sincerely,

Susan Tiege

Section Leader

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

CC:

Shelly Boss, Project Manager, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency