

From: [Nora Decosemo](#)
To: [Laura Friend](#)
Cc: [Bill Kennedy](#)
Subject: Fwd: Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir (SR1)
Date: June 12, 2018 12:54:08 PM

Laura, I can't tell if you got this or not.....

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Susan Copithorne [REDACTED]
Date: June 12, 2018 at 11:40:23 AM MDT
To: CEAA.Springbank.ACEE@ceaa-acee.gc.ca
Cc: info@nrcb.ca
Subject: Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir (SR1)

To: Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to comment on the SR1 Project.

I have grave concerns about how the GoA are conducting these Environmental Studies. In their first report to CEAA they consistently claimed there was “no significant impact” in most categories. These studies require comprehensive and meticulous scrutiny from CEAA. If you haven't already heard, this project is very politically driven. Consequently, the McLean Creek option for flood mitigation must also be meticulously reviewed to determine beyond-a-shadow-of-doubt that it is not a viable option. I contend McLean Creek Reservoir is a better solution for flood mitigation and more.

Environmental Impact Summary – March 2018 The Government of Alberta (GoA) state in (6.4.2.2) Hydrology Mitigation Measures: “However, because the Project is a mitigation for downstream flood damage, this hydrological interaction is intentional and required. Assessing the effect of the Project (or applying mitigation measures to change this effect) on hydrology under this context is not applicable because the Project is expected to operate whenever the hydrological conditions pose a downstream hazard.” The GoA make it boldly clear SR1 is for Calgary downstream communities on the Elbow River and Springbank will be left to live with the environmental consequences.

The Province continues to dismiss risks of groundwater contamination. An

independent study by PGL Environmental Consultants confirm there will be groundwater contamination. A 70 million cubic metre load of floodwater is expected within the Project area. The GoA plan to decommission and plug all wells within the Project area. There are multiple springs in the Project area where groundwater rises above the surface. It is groundwater that supplies springs and wells. All these areas where surface connection occurs between groundwater and dirty floodwater are high risk for contamination. The GoA cannot control these surface connections and they have no intention to mitigate groundwater contamination. The GoA also dismiss the need for any water-quality mitigation during flood and post-flood (6.5.2.2). Their sole priority is to protect one community downstream at the expense of others. Redwood Meadows, Kamp Kiwanis (est 1951), TsuuT'ina Land and Springbank will be subjected to potentially irreversible environmental damage from SR1. To compound the problem, GoA propose berming Bragg Creek for \$38M. Berming will channel and direct the Elbow River, while increasing flow and velocity aimed directly downstream at TsuuT'ina Land, Redwood Meadows, Kamp Kiwanis and Springbank. Floodwater essentially becomes sandwiched between TsuuT'ina at both ends.

The Province continues to dismiss air quality concerns. Technicians claim the diversion channel will be used every 7 years on average. The reservoir bowl will permanently retain two to three metres of silt, sterilizing the land. Prevailing westerlies will pick up silt, jeopardizing air quality.

SR1 is the wrong project in the wrong place. SR1 was hastily contrived and is misguided. The GoA boldly claim the “downstream hazard” along the Elbow River trumps any environmental damages to water and air caused by SR1. These natural resources are not expendable! Whereas a permanent dam at McLean Creek would store water allowing for control during floods and secure water storage for drought mitigation and wildfire suppression. A permanent reservoir at McLean Creek would protect Bragg Creek, all downstream communities and Calgary river communities on the Elbow River.

I trust you will give my comments due consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Copithorne