

From: [REDACTED] [c](#)
To: [Laura Friend](#)
Subject: Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir Project
Date: June 18, 2018 7:56:22 PM

For the Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir Project

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Sun, Jun 17, 2018 at 10:19 AM
Subject: CEAA letter
To: <CEAA.Springbank.ACEE@ceaa-acee.gc.ca>
Cc: Christina Curkovic <[REDACTED]>

Kindly see below my letter of July 22, 2016.
R.B.Church

Please note new address from in letter signatures [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
(Dictated)

Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir Project
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
9700 Jasper Avenue, Suite 1145
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4C3
July 22, 2016

Dear CEAA,

Thank you for your review of the proposed Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir project. This is a project that will have major and devastating long-term impact on the local environment, business and residents in and around the area. The Province of Alberta is wrong when it says this project is cheap, quick and easy. It is none of those. Furthermore, there is a better alternative. McLean Creek is upstream on the Elbow River and is located on Crown land. Building the reservoir there would protect more people, cost less and not cause the destruction of a community.

One of my major concerns about this project is the possibility of increasing mosquito breeding habitats in the area. In the last several years, three or four different types of *Aedes* (striped) mosquitoes have arrived in Alberta. These are the species of mosquitoes which carry the Zika virus. A virus which, as I am sure you are aware, can cause microcephaly in infants as well as serious neurological disorders in adults. The populations of these types of mosquitoes in Alberta seems to have been increased by forest fires in Oregon, Idaho, and Washington in recent years. However, over the last 6 or 7 years, cattle producers along the foothills of the Rocky Mountains have seen a rapid increase in a virus carried by these kinds of striped mosquitos which causes 'pink eye' and 'white eye' in cattle. Dr. Jensen at the University of Calgary Veterinary School has held a series of meeting with ranchers who have had cattle suffering from this virus. Indeed, on my ranch we first saw a cow with 'white eye' in 2005. Some animals with this kind of 'white eye' develop a fever followed by neurological problems. The proposed project at Springbank will create an ideal breeding environment for these kinds of mosquitoes. These mosquitoes are a threat to humans and to other animals (as well as to an industry as a whole).

Please find attached a number of reference materials, including a letter I wrote to CEAA on May 30, 2016, some examples of newly identified pathogen infections in animals and humans (from a committee of which I was a member), and a brief history of the Zika virus in

Canada.

If you have any questions or would like more details, please contact myself or Dr Czub at the CFIA in Lethbridge (stefanie.czub@inspection.gc.ca).

Thanks for the chance to comment on this misguided project,

Sincerely and happy trails,

R. B. Church, CM AOE PhD LLD DSc (Hon)

Emeritus Professor of Medicine

[REDACTED]

--

This email including attachments is confidential and legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, any redistribution or copying of this message is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify us immediately, by return email, and delete this email.

Christina Curkovic

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]