

From: [REDACTED]
To: CEAA.springbank.acee@ceaa-acee.gc.ca
Cc: [NRCB Info: Laura Friend](#)
Subject: Springbank Reservoir - Public Comments
Date: June 3, 2018 7:39:25 PM

I am writing today with regards to comments submitted by a small group of Elbow River residents (Calgary River Communities Action Group) with respect to the Springbank project. I am a Calgarian, have lived in Calgary since 1977, have worked in the downtown core of Calgary since 1984, and also am a Springbank landowner who will lose multi-generational land should the project proceed. I would like to address a few of the comments made by this river action group in their written submission.

The first area I will comment on is their claim to represent almost 1000 Calgarians - I believe that to be true. They represent a small group of Elbow River flood plain residents who were tragically impacted by the flood of 2013. Who they do not represent is the remainder of the population of Calgary, including myself and my family. In fact, most Calgarians I speak with would prefer not to see their neighbours in Springbank wiped out. They would prefer an alternative be built on Crown land at McLean Creek, even if it takes a few years longer to complete. Of note, the Don't Damn Springbank group represents almost 3000 Albertans, and the Dam McLean group represents almost 3600 Albertans. If this was a democratic decision, we would be building a dam at McLean Creek right now. This CRCAG group claims to have worked collaboratively with others, yet have steadfastly refused to even meet with their neighbours in Springbank or Rocky View County. Their sole objective is to get flood protection for themselves as quickly as possible, irrespective of the consequences - human or environmental.

So I respectfully submit that CEAA take their claims to represent 1.2 million Calgarians, or their claims that 1.2 million Calgarians would be impacted by another Elbow River flood with a grain of salt. While the impacts of the 2013 flood were tragic, downtown Calgary will not be wiped out by flooding of the Elbow River. Springbank is not the "only hope" that Calgary has to protect itself. Other projects exist that would protect Calgary and upstream communities.

Having said all that, the review you are conducting is about the environmental impact of the proposed project. In this regard, the CRCAG message appears to be that CEAA should accept the Alberta Transportation/Stantec report as written. They have no new science or local knowledge to contribute. I would respectfully request that CEAA not be influenced by this "cheerleading".

Further, I respectfully request that CEAA listen to those in the Springbank and surrounding communities that know more about the wildlife and ground water and other environmental factors in the project area than Stantec were able to discover in their hurried year of study. I would also strongly suggest that CEAA consider the comments of the First Nations who know more about the land, water and air than the rest of us. Had they been adequately consulted we would not be considering the SR project.

Sincerely,

Lee Drewry
Calgary, Alberta

Sent from my iPad