



MLT AIKINS

WESTERN CANADA'S LAW FIRM

MLT Aikins LLP
1600 - 520 - 3rd Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R3
T: (403) 693-4300
F: (403) 508-4349

John Gruber
Direct Line: (403) 693-4343
E-mail: JGruber@mltaikins.com

Tammy Boyechko
Legal Assistant
Direct Line: (403) 693-2646
E-mail: TBoyechko@mltaikins.com

June 19, 2017

VIA FACSIMILE

Major Capital Project, Water Management
Section
Alberta Transportation
Government of Alberta

Natural Resources Conservation Board
19th Floor, Centennial Place
250 - 5 Street SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0R4

Attention: Seamas Skelly, Senior Water
Projects Technologist

Attention: Bill Kennedy, General Counsel

Alberta Environment and Parks
8th Floor, Oxbridge Place
9820 - 106th Street
Edmonton, AB T5K 2J6

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Canada Place
9700 Jasper Avenue, Suite 1145
Edmonton, AB T5J 4C3

Attention: Rick Blackwood, Assistant
Deputy Minister

Attention: Shauna Sigurdson, Regional
Director - Prairie and Northern Region

Re: Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir Project (the "Project")
Notification of Land Access provided by Stantec
File No.: 058106-0001

We represent John Robinson and a number of other landowners in the area that is the subject of the Project. The email notification from Stantec to John Robinson dated June 16, 2017 (attached) has been referred to us for response. We are advised that a number of our clients have received the same communication.

As far as our clients have been informed, there has been no application filed with the Natural Resources Conservation Board ("NRCB"). If and when such application is made, the NRCB is charged with hearing the evidence and making an impartial determination as to whether the Project is in the public interest. Currently, the NRCB has no formal role in evaluating and assessing the Project.

There has been no preliminary Environmental Impact Statement provided to CEAA. As far as our clients are aware, no Information Requests have been made by any of the relevant federal departments (for example, Fisheries and Oceans).

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Alberta Parks and Environment ("AEP") is not the Project proponent and in fact was the government agency who selected the Project over other alternatives. Moreover, and in the event that the Project proponent seeks approval for the Project, AEP will be required to receive and evaluate various applications under provincial environmental statutes and regulations.

In light of the adjudicative functions of the NRCB, CEAA, and AEP with respect to the Project, our clients are concerned with the attendance of representatives of these agencies with the Project proponent in the manner described in the June 16, 2017 email to John Robinson. Each of these agencies has a formal process, which is a matter of public record, for obtaining the information necessary to carry out their statutory obligations with respect to the Project. Supplementing these processes with an informal (and premature) on-site meeting, such as is contemplated in the subject email to John Robinson, raises the likelihood of information being provided to these agencies by the Project proponent outside of the formal (and public) processes, which in turn raises issues of actual or perceived bias.

We would therefore be grateful if you would provide further information regarding this meeting, including:

- which individuals will be attending from each agency, along with their roles within the agency;
- whether there have been any such meetings in the past; and
- the purpose of the meeting as set out in an agenda or memo.

We look forward to hearing from you on an expedited basis.

MLT AIKINS LLP



John Gruber

JPG:tyb

Encls.

cc: Bob Chappell, Alberta Justice (via facsimile)
cc: Michele Marcus, Stantec (via facsimile)

John P. Gruber

Subject: FW: Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir Project - Notification of Land Access

From: "Marcus, Michele" <Michele.Marcus@stantec.com>
Date: June 16, 2017 at 9:17:54 AM MDT
To: "'robinson@greendrop.com'" <robinson@greendrop.com>
Cc: "'Seamas.Skelly@gov.ab.ca'" <Seamas.Skelly@gov.ab.ca>, "Spivak, Terri" <Terri.Spivak@stantec.com>
Subject: Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir Project - Notification of Land Access

Good morning John,

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, please be advised that Alberta Transportation is expected to do a site visit in the Springbank area on June 21st, 2017 as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Springbank Off-Stream Storage Project. The purpose of this visit is to accommodate the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, the Natural Resources Conservation Board and Alberta Environment and Parks who have advised they will be viewing the proposed Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir site. They will not be accessing your property but will be using the adjacent public roads. We just wanted you to be aware in the event you see vehicles stopped near your property.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Alberta Transportation representative, Seamas Skelly; Phone - 403-330-8953.

Regards,

Michele Marcus, B.A.
Project Assistant
Programs & Business Solutions
Stantec
200-325 25 Street SE, Calgary AB T2A 7H8
Phone: (403) 806-1549
Michele.Marcus@stantec.com



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Michele Marcus, B.A.
Project Assistant
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Michele Marcus, B.A.