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REGIONAL PARKS

August 27 2014

File: D730149 – Gardom Pond Dam

Mr. Jeff Ward
Capital Regional District Parks
490 Atkins Avenue
Victoria BC V9B 2Z8

Dear Jeff Ward:

Re: Dam safety audit

This is a follow-up letter to our site meeting at Gardom Pond Dam on August 20, 2014, with several of the dam owners, local fire chief and representatives from Capital Regional District (CRD) along with Razor Point home owners to complete the dam safety audit. We also reviewed dam safety issues associated with the Gardom Pond Dam. You have confirmed that the dam owners have received a copy of the 2014 dam safety audit check sheet and my letter of July 25, 2014.

This office understands that the CRD continues to be the contact for the six dam owners, and further to your e-mail dated August 22, 2014, is working with the dam owners to complete the Ryzuk Geotechnical 2011 dam safety review (DSR) (major concern is the condition of the low level outlet pipe) and implement a plan to address the deficiencies identified in the draft Ryzuk Report. Your e-mail of August 22, 2014, does confirm that the condition of the low level outlet will be assessed and a plan to address any concerns will be completed by October 15, 2014.

It is noted that the Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) and Operation, Maintenance and Surveillance (OMS) Manual for this dam are to be updated by September 30, 2014. Please forward a copy of these documents to this office.

The onus is on the dam owners to submit a study/report prepared by a qualified person if the downstream consequence classification is to be reviewed. Note Section 6.1 of the BC Water Act Dam Safety Regulation that requires the dam owner to annually conduct a review of conditions downstream of the dam to assess whether there have been any changes to the classification of the dam.

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At the site meeting the local fire chief confirmed that the "dry" hydrant located on Gardom Pond Lane which includes pipes into the reservoir is operated by the Pender Island Fire Department. This water use will require a water licence under the *BC Water Act*. It was also confirmed that the "wet" hydrant located at the corner of Razor Point and Harbour View Roads which is connected to the low level pipe in the dam is NOT in use by the local fire department. Can you confirm if there is any body relying on this infrastructure?

The leaking Razor Point Improvement District (RPID) upper pipe within the dam is a concern. This type of water release within the earth embankment could cause the dam to fail. This office understands that the repair of this pipe was planned for the day of our meeting. The RPID pipes within the dam embankment are to be included in the dam OMS and inspection reports.

Please note that this office does NOT have funds to assist with addressing dam safety issues associated with Gardom Pond Dam. The policy of this office is to support storage of water with protection of the environment and public as the first priority.

It is important that the dam safety issues associated with the Gardom Pond dam be addressed in a timely manner, and that the dam owners will be held responsible for any damages resulting from fail of the dam.

Please feel free to contact me at 250 751-3179 here in Nanaimo if you need clarification on this matter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Baldwin". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined.

M John Baldwin
Dam Safety Officer