



May 14, 2021

Local Government File: 21-005 ALR NFU
Agricultural Land Commission Application File: 62580

ATTN: Anmol Anand
Junior Planner
Peace River Regional District (PRRD)

VIA EMAIL: planning@prrd.bc.ca

Re: ALC NFU application – Halfway East River Boat Launch

Dear Anmol Anand:

Thank you for providing the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries (Ministry) with the opportunity to comment on the proposed Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) non-farm use (NFU) application to construct and operate a boat launch located in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and on the future Site C Reservoir. Ministry staff offer the following comments:

- The proposed project is located on prime agricultural land with an agricultural capability rating of Class 1 and 2, which are lands with the highest potential for agricultural land use activities. This proposal provides no benefit to agricultural production on the ALR.
- Ministry staff note that other available sites were considered by the applicant based on several key factors that may not include agricultural capability. PRRD may wish to review those other sites with the applicant for consideration.
- Ministry staff recognize that the proposal is component of the Site C Outdoor Recreation Mitigation Plan requirement outlined in the Environmental Assessment Certificate issued to the project (EAC #E14-02, Schedule B, Condition No. 40) and that as described, the “access road, car park and boat ramp would be constructed as close to the edge of field as possible to minimize impact to agricultural activities; specifically, to maintain as much unsevered/non-impacted field for continued agricultural activities.”
- The proposed project does not include any buffering between the parking area and adjacent agricultural land. A vegetative buffer should be considered and sited within the project area to buffer and minimize potential conflicts between agricultural and non-agricultural use, such as littering, trespassing, minimizing the potential spread of invasive species, or concerns over pesticide/herbicide applications.

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If you have any questions or concerns about our comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Gregory Bartle
Land Use Planner
B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, Food and
Fisheries
Phone: (778) 974-3836
Email: Gregory.Bartle@gov.bc.ca

Nadia Mori, P.Ag
Regional Agrologist
B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, Food and
Fisheries
Phone: (778) 576-1196
Email: Nadia.Mori@gov.bc.ca

Email copy: ALC Land Use Planner (North), ALC.North@gov.bc.ca