

# Diking & Drainage District #1

P.O. Box 74

Freeland, WA 98236

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Commissioners: Steve Arnold Ray E. Gabelein John Shepard

To: Vicky Didenhover  
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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
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From: Diking and Drainage District #1  
P.O. Box 74  
Freeland, WA 98249

Vicky,

Please find below the answers to your questions. We had the assistance of Phil Cohen from Island County Public Works in answering your questions.

Q. 1. The drawings show 2 feet of substrate were excavated under the pump house to give clearance to the intake for the pipe and an additional foot was excavated for construction of the new weir. Was this excavation work done?

A. Yes, excavation was performed.

Q. 2. Please explain how .75 feet was set. For instance: .75 feet was set from the bottom of the pond subsurface? .75 elevation datum?

A. 0.75 NAVD 1988 Datum represents the historic lower level of a 0.75 to 1.6 pumping range of the north pond. The term historic refers to the use of the pond by the Useless Bay Golf and Country Club & course drainage facilities since the 1960's.

Intermittently, since that time, water from the Diking District's main drainage ditch also drained through an existing 36" culvert located in the N.E. corner of the north pond. Water from the main ditch also drained into the north pond through side ditches and channels during high water events.

The culvert has since been replaced by the newly constructed weir.

Q. 3. If the pump was set at the new excavated ground level, didn't this increase the storage capacity in the pond and allow for additional water to be pumped out of the pond?

A. We estimate that approximately 60 cubic yards were excavated from the north pond in connection with recent construction. Approximately 20 cubic yards of the material came from pump sumps and the

other 40 yards came from the banks and the channel area adjacent to the flow control weir. The 60 cubic yards can be considered as additional pond storage. The water level in the pond is controlled by the off and on pump control floats.

Q. 2nd #3. In reading the BE, it states that "the water will be pumped during the winter months for flood events". Our understanding of "winter months" is December 21st to March 15th. I am receiving phones call that the pumps are still pumping water as of this month and have been running almost constantly since last September when the work was completed. Please explain why the pumps are still pumping water out of the area.

A. 2nd #3. We are assuming that the B.E. referred to is the Informal E.S.A. consultation with a date of October, 2007. (see attached) Item 13, "Effects Analysis", of this document in the last paragraph (page 4) mentions that the 6,000 G.P.M. new pump will be run during the winter months.

We installed hour meters and event counters on both pumps in March of 2009.

For the 6,000 G.P.M. pump we show total usage of 2.5 hours between April 23 and May 21, 2009. Since that time no additional usage of the 6,000 G.P.M. pump has been indicated.

Incidentally, the 6,000 G.P.M. pump went on line in December of 2008.

We have enclosed some photos of the area with dates, locations and explanations noted on them.

Please let us know if you need any further information and/or clarification and we will provide it.

