



File: 11300-04

August 3, 2005

Dr. Bruce Fraser
Chair, Forest Practices Board
PO Box 9905 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 9R1

Dear Dr. Fraser:

Please accept this letter as the Ministry of Forests and Range's response to the board's first recommendation in its special investigation report *FSR Bridges Inspections and Maintenance (May 2005)*. As requested by the board, we will respond to the second recommendation by the end of December.

Recommendation One

MOF should address the remaining five bridges with structural deficiencies identified in the investigation as not having been adequately managed, so that the risk to user safety is minimized.

Ministry's Response

Outstanding structural deficiencies associated with five bridges identified in the board's report have been addressed as follows:

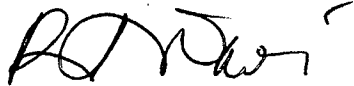
Bridge	Actions taken / planned
K-750 (Headwaters)	Load rating signs posted; no industrial use
K-1051 (Headwaters)	Load rating signs posted; no industrial use
G3-060 (Headwaters)	Repairs (change riser and one section of curb rail) being completed by licensee this field season; no industrial use
N7-114 (Kootenay Lake)	Load rating signs posted
N7-196 (Kootenay Lake)	Load rating signs posted



Dr. Fraser

If the board has any questions about the actions taken and planned for the above-noted bridges, please contact Tom Volkers, District Manager, Headwaters Forest District (250-587-6700), or Garry Beaudry, District Manager, Kootenay Lake Forest District (250-825-1101).

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Davis". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Ron Davis, P.Eng.
Chief Engineer
Resource Tenures & Engineering Branch

pc: Tom Volkers, District Manager
Headwaters Forest District

Garry Beaudry, District Manager
Kootenay Lake Forest District



File: 97150-20/2004-09

August 17, 2005

Ron Davis, P.Eng.
Chief Engineer
Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch
7th Floor, 727 Fisgard Street
Victoria, BC V8W 9C2

Dear Ron Davis:

Re: Special Investigation Report "FSR Bridges – Inspections and Maintenance"

The Board concludes that the Ministry of Forests has fulfilled the requirements of the report's first recommendation.

The Board has reviewed your letter dated August 3, 2005, describing the actions taken or planned to address the Board's recommendation in the May 2005 Special Investigation Report "FSR Bridges – Inspections and Maintenance" to address deficiencies associated with five bridges located in two forest districts. Through this letter you have notified the Board of appropriate steps to implement the Board's recommendation.

The Board considers that you have met the first recommendation in the report. We will await your response to the second recommendation and, pending an assessment of the response, will consider closure of the file at that time.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Fraser".

Bruce Fraser, PhD
Chair

cc: Tom Volkers, District Manager, Headwaters Forest District
Garry Beaudry, District Manager, Kootenay Lake Forest District



April 18, 2006

Dr. Bruce Fraser
Chair, Forest Practices Board
PO Box 9905 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 9R1

Dear Dr. Fraser:

Please accept this letter as the Ministry of Forests and Range's (MFR's) response to the board's second recommendation in its special investigation report *FSR Bridges Inspections and Maintenance (May 2005)*.

Recommendation Two

The MFR should communicate to the board how it will ensure it can deliver the results required for bridge maintenance under the *Forest and Range Practices Act*.

Ministry's Response

I apologise for the delay in this response. We have been awaiting release of our updated 2006 Engineering Manual, which has taken longer than anticipated. The updated manual, intended for MFR staff only, was released April 14 via our internal web site. It communicates ministry expectations for achieving bridge inspection and maintenance requirements under FRPA.

For the board's information, I have attached selections from the manual that provide direction and guidance on: the types of bridge and major culvert inspections; identifying and correcting structural deficiencies; determining the appropriate frequency of inspections; preparing inspection reports; and, scheduling maintenance works.



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Ministry of Forests and
Range

Resource Tenures and
Engineering Branch

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PO Box 9510 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9C2

Tel: (250) 387-8300
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Dr. Fraser

If the board has any questions about this response or the attached selections, please contact me directly.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Davis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ron" and last name "Davis" clearly distinguishable.

Ron Davis, P.Eng.
Chief Engineer
Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch

Attachments

pc: Kristine Weese, Forest Practices Liaison, Okanagan Shuswap Forest District



File: 97150-20/2004-05

May 8, 2006

VIA FAX to (250) 387-6455

Ron Davis, P.Eng.
Chief Engineer, Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch
2nd Floor, 1675 Douglas Street
Victoria, BC V8W 9C2

Dear Ron Davis:

Re: FSR Bridges Inspections and Maintenance Special Investigation

I make reference to the following recommendation in the above named special investigation:

2. MOF should communicate to the Board how it will ensure it can deliver the results required for bridge maintenance under FRPA.

The Board requests that the Ministry of Forests report to the Board on this recommendation by December 31, 2005.

The Board concludes that the Ministry of Forests and Range has fulfilled the requirements of this recommendation and the special investigation file is now closed.

The Board has reviewed your letter dated April 18, 2006, and the attached sections 7.7 and 7.8 of the newly created Ministry of Forest and Range Engineering Manual 2006, detailing the internal procedures in place with respect to bridge inspections, inspection reports and scheduling maintenance works that have been put into place since the Board's recommendation in the May 2005 report. Through this material you have adequately notified the Board of the steps that have been taken in relation to the Board's recommendation.

Ron Davis
May 8, 2006
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The Board considers that you have met the recommendation in the report and the file is now closed.

I would like to thank you again for the co-operation shown by you and your staff during this audit.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Fraser".

Bruce Fraser, PhD
Chair

cc: Kristine Weese, Forest Practices Liaison, Okanagan Shuswap Forest District
fax: (250) 549-5485