

---

**Fortress Mountain Holdings**

4 messages

---

**Neil Warren** <neilwarrenskiguiding@gmail.com>

Tue, Feb 4, 2020 at 12:18 PM

To: Pauline.Scofield@gov.ab.ca

Hey Pauline,

My name is Neil Warren. I'm an Alberta citizen and am concerned about the recent water licence amendment that was granted to FMH to allow them to sell up to 50million litres per year via tanker truck.

I'm currently working with local activism groups to try and have this decision reversed.

Pauline, I've done significant research into this matter and have a blunt question for you. I'm hoping you're able to answer it.

It seems the facts in this case point strongly towards the water amendment being denied, yet it was approved. My question is this: Do you know if political pressure 'from above' pushed this licence amendment through against the wishes of you and your department?

I'm happy to chat on the phone should you wish to talk off the record. my cell is 403.700.4741

Cheers and thanks for your time

Neil Warren

--

ACMG Ski (& Splitboard) Guide

CAA Professional Member

[www.neilwarrenskiguiding.com](http://www.neilwarrenskiguiding.com)

403.700.4741

[neilwarrenskiguiding@gmail.com](mailto:neilwarrenskiguiding@gmail.com)

---

**Pauline Scofield** <Pauline.Scofield@gov.ab.ca>

Thu, Feb 6, 2020 at 8:21 AM

To: "neilwarrenskiguiding@gmail.com" &lt;neilwarrenskiguiding@gmail.com&gt;

Cc: Debbie Reich &lt;Debbie.Reich@gov.ab.ca&gt;

Hello Neil!

I do appreciate you taking the time to express your thoughts regarding a recent decision that resulted in the amendment to an existing licence issued to Fortress Mountain Holdings Ltd.

For the purposes of that file/application, I was the Water Act coordinator assigned to process the application. As with all applications, my role is to ensure that there is adequate information contained within an application to enable the Designated Director under the Water Act to make an informed decision.

With any decision, there are a number of things that are considered prior to a decision such as relevant policy, existing Water Management Plans, impacts to the aquatic environment, other licensees, registrants, etc., as was the case with the decision regarding the most recent licence amendment for Fortress Mountain Holdings Ltd.

The licence amendment application submitted by Fortress Mountain Holdings Ltd. was processed using the same steps, as with all applications which included (in summary) review for completeness, technical review of the application, public notice of the application (mechanism to appeal contained at this stage) and decision by the Director.

Information contained on the file established for the Water Act application contains public information and can be requested and obtained by contacting the FOIP office at: <https://www.servicealberta.ca/foip/making-a-foip-request.cfm>. Alternatively, you are welcome to contact Debbie Reich, Records Management at 403-297- 5943 to arrange a time for public viewing of any record.

Regards, Pauline

[Quoted text hidden]

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager. This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual named. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail.

---

**Neil Warren** <neilwarrenskiguiding@gmail.com>  
To: Pauline Scoffield <Pauline.Scoffield@gov.ab.ca>  
Cc: Debbie Reich <Debbie.Reich@gov.ab.ca>

Thu, Feb 6, 2020 at 8:48 AM

Pauline,

Thank you for your reply.

I have already obtained the Information contained on the file established for the Water Act application. I've reviewed the information in great detail; hence my question for you.

Items that seam, to me, to point towards the amendment being denied are:

- 1) There were unanswered questions from Fisheries biologists about downstream impacts of the water removal.
- 2) Statements of Concern from persons who were clearly 'directly affected' yet their letters were deemed not relevant.
- 3) Concerns for year round activities (as FMH has always been winter use only).
- 4) Water being sold to a facility in either Calgary or Olds, AB makes no sense as the river will flow there anyway.
- 5) Your own Water Act guidance states: To promote conservation of Water: An application for amendment for change of purpose may only apply to water that is being used under the licence at the time of application, or, to promote conservation of water, has been used by the licensee in the previous 3 years, or is identified as a quantity of water that has been used and subsequently conserved by an identified project initiated after January 1, 1999." **FMH has not used water in the last 3 years. Why was your own guidance ignored in this case?**

The facts do not point to the granting of the Fortress Mountain Holdings water licence amendment being a reasonable decision. So, again, I respectfully ask: Was political pressure the reason this amendment was granted?

Thank you for your time Pauline

Neil

[Quoted text hidden]

---

**Neil Warren** <neilwarrenskiguiding@gmail.com>  
To: Pauline Scoffield <Pauline.Scoffield@gov.ab.ca>

Fri, Feb 7, 2020 at 9:08 AM

Pauline,

I understand your reluctance to answer my questions. I'm not looking to get anyone in trouble. My singular goal here is to keep the water in the creek. Your answering my questions will help me do that.

Thank you in advance for your answers to my previous questions.

Cheers

Neil

[Quoted text hidden]