

Daniel M. Park
Watermaster, Water District 95-C
E. 1900 Sturgeon Road
Rathdrum, ID 83858
(208) 687-1484

October 25, 1995

Mr. John Eixenberger
Commission Chairman
Twin Lakes Rathdrum Creek Flood Control District No. 17
164 W. Idaho Avenue.
Rathdrum, ID 83858



Dear Mr. Eixenberger:

Due to a situation that occurred on Saturday, October 21, I must lodge a complaint with you in regard to the operations of the Twin Lakes Dam.

Apparently, Mr. Mike Pierce in his duties as gate tender has been regulating flow to control flooding. I had agreed that if the situation warranted releasing excess waters, that Mr. Pierce should operate the dam since that is not in my purview as Watermaster. But I also ordered him not to release less water than what was required to reach the Sylte Ranch.

On Saturday morning, I received a call from Mr. Gordon Sylte informing me that there wasn't any water at his ranch and that he had called Mr. Pierce. He was told that Mr. Pierce was out of town for two days. Mr. Sylte then requested that I open the dam so that he could receive water since I was still active as Watermaster. I then proceeded to readjust the flow of Rathdrum Creek to the appropriate flow rate. Mr. Sylte also noted that there were large releases a few days prior to his subsequent loss of water. The same situation occurred this spring causing my premature activation as Watermaster.

During this process, I discovered that the power to the gate control motor had been left on. As you know, this was a subject of my concern at an earlier flood control meeting and it was decided that the power should remain locked off except when actual operation was taking place since when the power is on the controls can be operated without unlocking the cover or the hand wheel. I wish to reiterate that a simple press of one button and the motor will continue to run until turned off or until the gate reaches a fully open or fully closed position. This poses a significant liability to the Flood Control District should someone climb the fence, press a button and then leave failing to shut the control off. Since the meeting, in my office as Watermaster, I issued an order that the power was to remain off at all times and provided a written reminder of this at the dam site. This reminder has been obliterated.

October 25, 1995

Page 2

I respectfully request that appropriate action be taken to provide for proper operation of the dam. I have deep concerns about the operation of the dam now that I am no longer active as Watermaster. I was officially deactivated as of today due to the fact that there is ample water supply to provide for all users and to allow the lake to fill.

It should be noted that in the day to day operations of the dam, that at no time does the gatetender have the right to reduce the flow of Rathdrum Creek below the minimum flow required to reach the Sylte Ranch.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Daniel M. Park". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Daniel M. Park

Water Master, Water District 95-C

cc. Mr. Gordon Sylte, Mr. Mike Jackson, Mr. Jerry Wilkinson, Ms. Renee Miller and Mr. Allen Beardslee, Department of Water Resources of the State of Idaho.