

Options

March 4, 2016

- Pull a temporary smaller liner through the siphon (if workers can enter the work area)
- Turn on domestic wells to fill the irrigation distribution system – a **BOIL WATER ADVISORY** or **NOTICE** would be required for the duration of this process for all domestic water users
- Turn on the CPR and Lion's wells to provide additional volume; not a preferred option due to high Uranium levels at these closed wells
- Pump water into or around the damaged area of the canal; will require use of generated power a larger temporary pipe
- Open the damaged siphon to fill the canal; may create additional issues such as leaking or more damages

What happened and where?

On January 25, 2016 a significant rock slide occurred at Gallagher Lake which impacted a siphon on the canal irrigation system which provides irrigation water to the Town of Oliver, Electoral Area C (rural Oliver), and Osoyoos Indian Band. The break is near station 2+055 on the flume section at Gallagher Lake.

What has been accomplished?

Town of Oliver has been actively working with engineering consultants and geotechnical engineers to assess the damage to the siphon and the stability of the rock where the slide occurred.

Rock scalers have been working at the location to bring down the hazardous material; weather permitting. Safety of workers is the Town of Oliver's primary concern with the instability of the rock face. Residents are asked to stay away of rockfall area and construction site, please obey all signage and barricades.

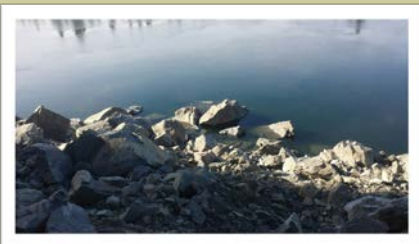
Osoyoos Indian Band has kindly provided emergency access to the site through their traditional lands and is allowing the Town of Oliver to access lands to commence work of repair to the irrigation canal. set up a construction staging area.

Replacement pipe has been ordered and ready for delivery. Also a local contractor has been hired to improve the roadway to the work site. Work at the site cannot occur until the rock face is stable.

Current events

As of Monday, February 29, 2016 geotechnical engineers and rock scalers located significant fractures in the mountain elevating the risk to those working in the area.

Pictures



To make the work area safe, rock scaling work could take an additional 6 to 10 weeks before repair work to the flume can take place. This additional work could extend beyond the normal irrigation water turn on date, typically scheduled for early April. With additional rock falling there is the possibility of additional damage to the siphon.

Town of Oliver is working on a number of options to supply water and reduce the impact to Oliver Water System users.

Communication with Provincial Ministries and agencies is ongoing.

Mayor and Council are lobbying the Province of British Columbia for funding assistance for this natural disaster.

At the March 3, 2016 Special Open Meeting Council directed staff to allocate \$475,000 from its capital water reserves to fund this project. It is anticipated that the repairs could exceed the initial budgeted amount.

Council also directed staff to correspond with Minister Mike de Jong to request financial assistance.

Communication

All communications and updates will be through the Town of Oliver website www.oliver.ca, click on **Gallagher Lake Rock Slide – Quick Link** on the Home Page.

Background

This section of siphon was installed in 1997 to help minimize and eliminate damages to the existing canal system. It is a 1950 mm (78") diameter reinforced concrete pipe buried over with approximately 3 m of fill. It was engineered to withstand a great force if more debris were to fall. The fill was unable to withstand the force and direct damage occurred.