

APPENDIX B

**SUMMARY STATEMENT
O.B.W.B. HEARINGS
MARCH 1972**

SUMMARY STATEMENT ON BRIEFS SUBMITTED AT
OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HEARINGS MAY 26 TO NOV. 23, 1971

(PREPARED BY O.B.W.B. MARCH, 1972)

DESCRIPTION

During the period, May 26, 1971 to November 23, 1971, the Okanagan Basin Water Board sponsored a series of six public meetings to hear the views of local residents relating to water management. Meetings were held in Vernon, Penticton, Princeton, Kelowna, Osoyoos, and Enderby. Total attendance for these meetings was 590 persons.

One hundred and ten written and verbal presentations were made by a variety of organizations and individuals.

Since briefs submitted on behalf of organizations represent the views of many individuals within the group, it is likely that opinions expressed during the meetings represent a much larger population than merely the number of briefs presented or the number of persons attending. The large number of individuals who prepared briefs to express their own views without the guidance of a group are to be commended.

The views expressed during these public meetings were unprompted, and therefore a wide variety of statements relating to water resource management were received. This technique provides for a liberal expression of public opinion; but on the other hand, does not lend itself to statistical analysis as does a planned questionnaire based on random sampling techniques. The results of public meetings will, therefore, be analyzed and provide good complimentary information to statistical data gathered through a resident survey undertaken by the Okanagan Basin Study.

Key phrases or statements indicating various viewpoints have been placed under appropriate headings, such as - water quality, water quantity, etc., on the following pages. Each brief presented was reviewed, and the number of briefs expressing views similar to each of the key statements were tabulated.

The number of briefs expressing a given view should provide an indication of the relative public concern related to each statement.

SUMMARY STATEMENTS:

NO. SUPPORTING
STATEMENT

WATER QUALITY

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1 - Water quality is a local problem | 23 |
| 2 - Stricter controls for waste should be researched and enforced. | |
| Waste discharge to streams and lakes should be stopped. | 31 |

SUMMARY STATEMENTS: NO. SUPPORTING
STATEMENT

WATER QUALITY (cont'd.)

3 - A high level of water quality should be maintained	20
4 - Water quality is important for local industries, tourism and domestic use.	1
5 - Water standards must be maintained to meet health requirements	3
6 - There are water quality problems in upper domestic reservoirs due to recreation, development and other activities which should be controlled, e.g. logging, mining, grazing, etc.	8
7 - Do not feel there is any water pollution in the Valley at present.	-
8 - Water pollution is restricted to relatively small areas at present	-

WATER QUANTITY

1 - Increasing water demand is a local water resource problem	10
2 - The water resource is of prime importance.	4
3 - Domestic drinking water supply is a local resource problem.	4
4 - Population has outgrown available water supply.	1
5 - Water quantity should be managed more carefully.	24
6 - Water should not be diverted simply to aid developers.	1
7 - Opposed to diversion from the Shuswap.	5
8 - Wish to have more flood control.	4
9 - Water should be diverted from watersheds where it is in excess	1

QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT

1 - The Okanagan is a good place to live. Climate, rural atmosphere, scenery, lakes and fruit growing, etc., add to the attractiveness and uniqueness of the Valley.	15
2 - The Okanagan has environmental problems.	2
3 - The present environment of the Okanagan should be maintained or improved.	15
4 - Preserving the environment is more important than achieving higher incomes, economic growth, or more employment in the Valley.	2
5 - Economic growth and preservation of the environment are equally important.	1

SUMMARY:

NO. SUPPORTING
STATEMENTSQUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT (cont'd.)

- 6 - Protecting the environment is of secondary importance. -
- 7 - A change in human attitude and life style is required
to correct environmental problems. 6

TOURISM

- 1 - Tourism should be encouraged. 6
- 2 - Tourism should be restricted. Too many tourists are
causing crowding and are adding to local problems 5

AGRICULTURE

- 1 - Express concern regarding loss of agricultural land. 3
- 2 - Wish to see agricultural land retained in agricultural
use. 17
- 3 - Subdivision and development should be planned to protect
agricultural land. 14
- 4 - Agriculture should be assisted to maintain agricultural
land use. 11
- 5 - There is no need to control subdivision of agricultural land,
at least in the near future. -
- 6 - It would be wrong to support agriculture with public funds or by
controlling subdivision. -
- 7 - Agriculturists should have the privilege of subdividing. 3
- 8 - Agriculture is becoming less economic. 4
- 9 - Fresh fruit and irrigated landscapes are unique features
and contribute to tourism. 5
- 10 - Agriculture contributes greatly to the economy. 5
- 11 - Large quantities of easily available water are required
for a viable agricultural industry. 2
- 12 - Studies should be done on land use. 1

INDUSTRY AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- 1 - More industry should not be encouraged in the Valley. 4
- 2 - Only light, clean industry should be allowed in the Valley. 15
- 3 - Large industry is permissible if sewage is properly treated. 1

SUMMARY STATEMENTS:

INDUSTRY AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (con'td.)

- | | |
|--|----|
| 4 - Industrial growth and/or urban development should be slowed down and planned or it will destroy the Valley. | 19 |
| 5 - The average person does not gain by the increased industrialization and development. Only developers gain. | 1 |
| 6 - Industrial growth is necessary, but should be planned. | 7 |
| 7 - Service and recreational industries should be encouraged. | 4 |
| 8 - By curtailing industry other values will be attained, i.e., increased tourism, higher property values, culture, etc. | 2 |
| 9 - There should not be any controls on Industrial Development. | - |

POPULATION

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1 - Population growth should be controlled. | 10 |
| 2 - Population increases should be confined to urban areas. | 2 |
| 3 - Population should be stopped until there is planned growth with proper sewage treatment. | 3 |
| 4 - There are already plenty of people in the Okanagan. Population should not be allowed to increase. | - |
| 5 - There is no need to regulate population growth presently, but it should be regulated in the future. | - |
| 6 - There is no need to regulate population in the Valley at any time. | - |

WILDLIFE

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1 - Animal and bird habitats are threatened. More public effort and management should be directed to protecting fish and wildlife. | 10 |
| 2 - Wildlife should be protected if it doesn't cost too much. | - |
| 3 - No more protection of wildlife is needed. | - |

PARKS. MINING. GRAZING AND FORESTRY

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 - Logging practices, road construction, and/or mining, have resulted in damage to watersheds. | 4 |
| 2 - Logging and/or mining practices should be more closely controlled. | 7 |

SUMMARY STATEMENTS

NO. SUPPORTING
STATEMENT

PARKS. MINING. GRAZING AND FORESTRY (cont'd.)

- 3 - Areas of unique and natural beauty should be conserved
(ecological reserves). 8
- 4 - Recreational areas and parks should be planned and maintained. 17
- 5 - Watershed management is important to preserve water
quality and quantity. 6
- 6 - Sustained yield and coordinated forest management meets
the objectives of best land use and water management. 1

SOCIO-ECONOMIC

- 1 - Education and culture should be encouraged. 3
- 2 - The public should be informed and consulted regarding
water management. 3

INSTITUTIONAL

- 1 - A local water management authority is required. 1
- 2 - The Okanagan Basin Water Board should become a local
water management authority. 5
- 3 - There should be a better way of financing water systems. 2
- 4 - A valley-wide planning organization is needed. 1
- 5 - A form of authoritative Water Board is required to carry
on after the Okanagan Basin Study is complete. 2