November 30, 2018

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
300 6th Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

RE: Perrine and Unnamed Tributary Drainage Basins Design Contract Amendment – PW091118-11

Good Afternoon Members of the City Council

On December 3, 2018 the City Council will be acting on item **PW091118-11** – Authorize Mayor and Finance Office to Sign an Agreement between the City of Rapid City and FMG Engineering for Professional Engineering Services for Perrine and Unnamed Tributary Drainage Basins Design Plans (DBDPs) Amendment – Phase 2, Project No. 18-2430 / CIP No. 51189.2, in the amount of $146,196.00

We have been working with City staff on Major regional drainage issues that we have discovered while designing the Johnson Ranch Affordable Housing Development. Our concerns were related to inter-basin transfer which endanger the public safety and welfare. The City retained FMG to evaluate our numbers and conduct additional basin analysis. We have no issue with the City signing any contract with FMG or any other consultant.

We have major concerns with the Phase I report which is the basis for this amendment. Our concerns are related to:

1- Construction costs for any drainage that is beyond the adopted unnamed Tributary Drainage Basin Plan. This adopted drainage basin plan was utilized by the City and the state to construct drainage infrastructure downstream from Johnson Ranch including culvert crossings under Elk Vale Road and a Major Drainage Channel in Orchard Meadows Subdivision. Any Additional inter-basin transfer from outside the basin will damage these public improvements and will damage private property and endanger public safety. Carrying any flow beyond the adopted drainage basin plan will require improvements beyond the requirements of the City of Rapid City as adopted by Resolution in 1989 and
as per the Drainage Criteria Manual Section 4.1.2 and Section 4.1.5. We have requested the City to pay for any costs associated with oversize drainage costs beyond the adopted Unnamed Tributary Drainage Plan. Our request was recently rejected verbally by City staff. We are also very concerned with the amount of off-site drainage being diverted into the Johnson Ranch beyond the flows identified in the Adopted Unnamed Tributary Drainage Basin Plan and far exceeding the capacity of the newly constructed downstream drainage improvements.

2- We have major concerns with the Phase I report due to the location of detention pond 221. This location will result in the removal of a structure, irrigation pumping station, irrigation pipe, spring fed pond, corrals, power lines, automated heated livestock watering device. This location will cause financial losses which will be paid for by tax payers.

3- We have major concerns with flow crossing Valley Drive near Homestead Street intersection. The proposed drainage plan shows drainage element 21 diverts flows that would have crossed Valley Drive into our property. This diversion will result in hundreds of thousands of dollars in additional development costs. This may be the most economical route to convey this water. This alignment will save the City millions of dollars but will result in huge costs to us and will result in a devaluation of our property. We request that a fair arrangement for the easements and construction costs be worked out with the City prior the finalization of any drainage basin amendments.

Obviously, getting the Amendment to the Unnamed Tributary and Perrine Drainage Basins corrected and completed in a manner safe for our citizens and fair to property owners in the basins is of critical importance. We respectfully request that the council actively monitor this process and that the council request that the consultant and City staff address the concerns listed above and others that may arise during the study with an opportunity for input from us and other affected property owners at appropriate times. We would love to discuss these items with you and share with you our concerns on the ground as your time allows. Please contact us if you wish to discuss this further or if you wish to join us on a site visit prior to the City Council meeting.

We will continue to work with the City to protect public safety and welfare in a fair manner to all parties involved.

Regards,

Hani Shafai, PE

Cc: Joel Landeen, Dale Tech, Edward Carpenter