



Bulletin

Date: October 16, 2017

File: 3500-20/Climate Chan-RAC02

Re: Amendments to Sections 3.5 and 3.6 of the Provincial Flood Hazard Area Land Use Management Guidelines

On January 1, 2018 the amendment to Sections 3.5 and 3.6 of the Province's "Flood Hazard Area Land Use Management Guidelines" will come into effect. This amendment is based on a technical report commissioned by the Province and published in 2011, which demonstrated how projected sea level rise (SLR) should influence setbacks and flood construction levels in coastal areas and recommended incorporating sea level rise into planning and development to ensure a standard of public safety into the future. The amendment can be found on the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources and Rural Development's (FLNRORD) website:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/drought-flooding-dikes-dams/integrated-flood-hazard-management/flood-hazard-land-use-management>

The amendment recommends coastal communities to allow 1.0m SLR by 2100 and 2.0m SLR by 2200 (relative to the year 2000 and considering regional uplift and subsidence). The amendment provides recommended flood construction levels (FCL) and setbacks that local governments are required to consider when making bylaws for designated SLR planning areas. The definition of, and methodology for the determination of, flood construction levels and setbacks for coastal areas has also been modified for the purposes of this amendment.

The consultation process began in 2013 with input from experts within BC's flood hazard management community, and the formation of a technical working group in 2014 made up of twenty local government professional staff and representation from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities to provide feedback to the Province on the wording and implementation of the proposed amendment. Coastal and tide water First Nations were contacted in 2017 and invited to review and provide comments for consideration. Engineers and Geoscientists of BC provided qualified professional review and input.

We invite you to post this information on your website and share with your members.

Sincerely,

Mitchell Hahn, P.Eng.
Inspector of Dikes

