

NPDPL (6 May 77) 1st Ind  
SUBJECT: Skagit River Levees and Channel Improvements

DA, North Pacific Division, Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 2870,  
Portland, Oregon 97208 24 June 1977

TO: District Engineer, Seattle

1. I concur with your views that we must be responsive to current needs which would include consideration of higher levels of protection. Assuming the Avon Bypass is not deauthorized, your report must include a "last added" analysis of each element of the overall protection plan of the basin.

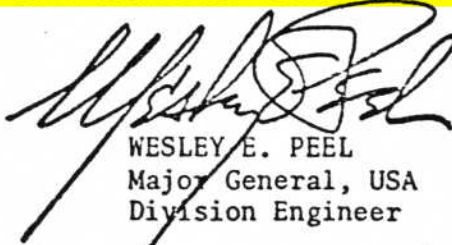
2. Your proposal to extend the study scope upstream through the areas of Mount Vernon, Burlington and Sedro Woolley does create a separate set of problems. I have no doubt that extension of the project upstream is desirable and may be justified. However, based on a review of the authorizing document and assuming such extension is justified and desired by local interests, extension of the project that far via a phase 1 report would require a significant Post Authorization Change report requiring Congressional action. As the project would have to be considered in its entirety, such a procedure would not permit the development of two phase 1's as proposed.

*V/S levels  
are auth.  
no part of  
Avon Bypass  
we never  
asked for  
2 phase 1's*

3. An alternative course of action would be to proceed with a GDM report covering the general project area reconsidering the degree of protection to be provided. At the same time preauthorization studies could proceed on the area upstream under the authority of the PS&AW study or under Section 216. Such a procedure would permit early construction capability and at the same time cover the full flood control needs of the area.

*not needed  
Sec 216  
development  
projects*

4. Based on information you furnished me, in my FY 1978 Budget testimony, I expressed a capability to complete a combined phase 1 and 2 GDM. The House mark-up contains \$800,000 or full capability. Assuming we get the full capability I would propose that we complete the combined GDM as recorded in the Budget Testimony. Accordingly, I would propose that you proceed on the alternative course of action. Should additional funds be needed under the PS&AW authority, I would be receptive to such requests together with any recommended fund transfers within your district.

  
WESLEY E. PEEL  
Major General, USA  
Division Engineer

*Rebuttal to letter re request for Plan of Study  
situate levee portion of Avon Bypass*