

Responses to Comments in Letter 4 from David Davidson, City of Sumas

Note: The responses listed below are numbered to correspond to the numbers shown in the right-hand margin of the preceding comment letter.

1. Thank you for your comments.
2. Section 3.2 of the Final EIS references Kohut's (1985) interpretation that the long-term lowering trend in the aquifer in the vicinity of Sumas and Abbotsford is the result of well interference rather than mining of the aquifer. Whereas this revision does not change the conclusion that there is insufficient information to evaluate whether groundwater extraction for this project would impact water levels in the aquifer, it does provide an expert opinion that, as of the mid-1980s, groundwater extraction was not exceeding recharge.
3. Section 3.2 of the Final EIS reflects the new information that the City of Abbotsford has significantly reduced its groundwater use, and that this reduction will, more than likely, compensate for any potential cumulative impact that could result from the additional groundwater extraction required from the City of Sumas well fields to supply water to the S2GF project. The letter from the City of Abbotsford that provides the basis for this revision has been included in Volume 1, Appendix J.
4. Table 3.1-14 has been revised in the Final EIS.
5. Additional information has been provided in the Final EIS comparing annual emissions from the proposed project to area-wide emission inventories.
6. Additional information has been provided in the Final EIS comparing annual emissions from the proposed project to area wide emission inventories.
7. Additional information has been provided in the Final EIS comparing annual emissions from the proposed project relative to other facility emissions.