



Agricultural Land Commission
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December 15, 2009

Reply to the attention of Simone Rivers
ALC File: 50501

John Peterson
Box 456
Valemount, BC V0E 2Z0

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Re: Application to Subdivide land in the Agricultural Land Reserve

Please find attached the Minutes of Resolution # 1646/2009 outlining the Commission's decision as it relates to the above noted application.

Yours truly,

PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL LAND COMMISSION

Per: 

Erik Karlsen, Chair

Enclosure: Minutes/

cc: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (ALC 1.0)

SBR/
50501d1



A meeting was held by the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission on November 18, 2009 at the offices of the Commission located at #133 – 4940 Canada Way, Burnaby, B.C.

PRESENT:	William Norton	Chair, North Panel
	Denise Dowswell	Commissioner
	Erik Karlsen	Chair, ALC
	Simone Rivers	Staff

For Consideration

Application: 50501
 Applicant: John Peterson
 Proposal: To subdivide a 4 ha lot from the 60 ha property
 Legal: PID: 007-871-279
 The fractional North East ¼ of DL 5337, Cariboo District, Except Plans 21079, 23536, and 30411
 Location: Plantway Road, Near McBride

Context

The proposal was weighed against the purposes of the Commission as stipulated in section 6 of the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* (the “Act”). They are:

1. to preserve agricultural land
2. to encourage farming on agricultural land in collaboration with other communities of interest, and
3. to encourage local governments, first nations, the government and its agents to enable and accommodate farm use of agricultural land and uses compatible with agriculture in their plans, bylaws and policies.

Discussion

Assessment of Agricultural Capability

The agricultural capability of the soil of about half of the subject property is 100% Class 3D and of the other half is 60% Class 3D – 40% Class 4WD

Class 3 – Land in this class has limitations that require moderately intensive management practices or moderately restrict the range of crops, or both.

Class 4 – Land in this class has limitations that require special management practices or severely restrict the range of crops, or both.

Subclasses

D	undesirable soil structure	W	excess water
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The subject property has been cleared and improved for agricultural use and the Commission believes that the subject property has agricultural capability and is correctly designated as ALR.

Assessment of Agricultural Suitability

The Commission assessed whether external factors such as encroaching non-farm development have caused or will cause the land to become unsuitable for agriculture. The Commission does not believe there are external factors that render the land unsuitable for agricultural use. The property is located in an agricultural area where surrounding lands appear to be cleared and improved for agricultural use.

Assessment of Impact on Agriculture

The Commission also assessed the impact of the proposal against the long term goal of preserving agricultural land. The Commission, when it considers applications for subdivision generally takes the view that subdivision is not consistent with long term agricultural activity and productivity. The Commission believed that the subject parcel has more agricultural potential as a single unit and that subdivision would negatively impact the agricultural opportunities available to the subject property in the long-term.

Conclusions

1. That the land under application has agricultural capability and is appropriately designated as ALR.
2. That the land under application is suitable for agricultural use.
3. That the proposal will impact agriculture.
4. That the proposal is inconsistent with the objective of the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* to preserve agricultural land.

IT WAS

MOVED BY: Commissioner Norton
SECONDED BY: Commissioner Karlsen

THAT the application be refused.

AND THAT the applicant be advised of the provisions of Section 33 of the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* which provides an applicant with the opportunity to submit a request for reconsideration.

- S.33 (1) *On the written request of a person affected or on the commission's own initiative, the commission may reconsider a decision of the commission under this Act and may confirm, reverse or vary it if the commission determines that*
- (a) evidence not available at the time of the original decision has become available,*
 - (b) all or part of the original decision was based on evidence that was in error or was false.*
- (2) *The commission must give notice of its intention to reconsider a decision under subsection (1) to any person that the commission considers is affected by the reconsideration.*

AND THAT the applicant be advised that a revised proposal does not constitute new information and will not be considered as a basis for reconsideration and the time limit for submitting a request for reconsideration is one (1) year from the date of the decision letter.

CARRIED
Resolution # 1646/2009