



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
CONCORD 03301

June 13, 1968

JOHN W. KING
GOVERNOR

John Albert Heinlein, M. D.
18 Russell Woods Road
Great Neck, New York

Dear Doctor Heinlein:

This is in further reference to your letter of May twentieth, concerning the problem of pollution at Stocker Pond in Grantham.

Some disturbance of water quality is, in many instances during highway construction, almost inevitable, especially on projects the magnitude of 1-89.

I am aware of the stringent requirements relating to the control of water pollution contained in our road-building contracts.

I am, by a copy of this letter, requesting Mr. Robert H. Whitaker, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works and Highways, who is already familiar with the problem at Stocker Pond, to rigidly enforce all conditions of the contracts and to do all that is reasonable and possible to speed stabilization of the highway banks and restore the water clarity in the pond.

The Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission, as well as the other departments involved, have known of this predicament since the spring thaw and early rainstorms created them. They are reasonably certain that the pond can be clarified. However, the treatment is estimated to cost about \$11,000 for chemicals alone for each application. It is, therefore, their judgment that treatment be delayed until the construction is completed including the grading and seeding of all slopes now contributing to the problem. Once the construction is finished and land areas stabilized, the condition will be eliminated. Present construction schedules mean that the disturbance will be ended this year.

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In answer to your specific questions, we wish to submit the following:

1. Can the part of the highway construction involved in the run-off be completed without delay to prevent future damage?

The highway construction is being accelerated as much as possible including resort to weekend work. All of this is designed to stabilize slopes at the earliest feasible time. Heavy shower activity which occurred frequently this month has been a problem since it produces high run-off rates and correspondingly greater amount of soil erosion.

2. Can a settling basin and sand filter be interposed where the water enters the lake to minimize further pollution?

Settling ponds have been utilized to minimize turbidity effects at the Pond, but there are appreciable quantities of clay subsoils involved and these materials do not readily subside because of their colloidal nature. Sand filters are not considered practical for such situations because of substantial flows involved.

3. Can a precipitating agent be used to reduce the existing turbidity?

The use of chemicals to reduce turbidity has been investigated and the cost is substantial - approximately \$11,000 for chemicals per treatment, and it is certain that more than one application would be required. Our preference would be to defer the process until the highway work is completed.

I know that you cannot enjoy using Stocker Pond at this time. I also know that where similar problems have occurred during highway construction that the lakes and ponds have recovered completely within one season or less. I know, too, that fortunately no health hazards are involved.

I will do all that I can to speed the recovery of Stocker Pond.

Sincerely,

John W. King

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JWK:nb

cc: William A. Healy
Robert H. Whitaker