

AUGLAIZE COUNTY

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Douglas Reinhart COUNTY ENGINEER

Mark A. Droll, P.E. Kohli and Kaliher Associates, Inc. Lima, Ohio

December 12, 2012

In re: AUG-66-10.24

Dear Mark;

Auglaize County does not have any water, sanitary or stormwater lines in the vicinity of the above mentioned bridge on SR# 66.

However, as the County Flood Plain Coordinator, I do have an issue with the calculated 100-year flood elevation as shown on page 5/12 of 862.01 (NAD88).

Since 1989, this office has implemented FEMA flood plain standards and have helped individuals with flood plain certifications all across Auglaize County. The 100-year elevations that we have used for the St. Marys River at the site of this bridge is based upon an intensive study completed by the US Soil Conservation Service and US Department of Agriculture and published in 1992. Along with this study we have over 35 years of actual flood elevations taken all across the county during major events. Dozens of storms, especially those occurring in 1957, 1980, 1993 and recently in February of 2011 have helped verify the accuracy of the 1992 study.

The 100-year elevation shown on page 5/12 is 862.01 (NAD88). The certified elevation we have been using at this site is 866.7 (NAD1929) comes from the 1992 study and has been field verified during major flooding events.

Enclosed is a photo, taken by the adjacent landowner in February of 2011 where we experienced several inches of rain within a few minutes, compounded with frozen ground and snowpack. Based on past statistics I would qualify that even as a 50-year storm. The photo shows the water against the side of the existing bridge, where a 50-year event should be cresting at and not four feet lower as shown on your plans.

I realize that in the calculations used to determine open channel elevations for major events, the variables you can possibly use, can change the height of that event by a considerable amount. I did not accept the study we have used just because it was completed by the federal government. It was only after those elevations were field verified during other major events, did I feel this study best represented the effects of a 100-year storm in Auglaize County.

I am not suggesting that the proposed design for the capacity and deck elevation be changed to accommodate a 100 - year event, just the elevation of that event in case someone uses these plans when designing other structures or improvements nearby.

Douglas Reinhart, P.E., P.S.

Auglaize County Engineer

Auglaize County Flood Plain Coordinator

Cc: Scott Boyer, P.E., ODOT