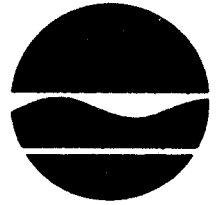


New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12233



Robert F. Flacke
Commissioner

August 13, 1980

Mr. Fred B. Abele, Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners
McKownville Fire District
1250 Western Avenue
Albany, New York 12203

Dear Mr. Abele:

Re: McKownville Reservoir

This will acknowledge your inquiry concerning the effect on the classification of the McKownville Reservoir which might result from the proposed consolidation of the Westmere and McKownville Water Districts.

We cannot conceive of any effect whatsoever.

First, any reclassification could not occur without a separate and specific application for reclassification. No such application has been received, nor have we any information that any application is in preparation, or even contemplated.

Next, any such application must, by our published rules, result in a public hearing prior to the granting of such a request. At the hearing, testimony would be taken from all interested parties, both pro and con.

Finally, it is the policy of this Department that no reclassification of waters to an inferior level will be made in the absence of overwhelming evidence that such a lower classification will indeed benefit all parties concerned.

Thus, to reiterate, we do not expect the consolidation to have any effect whatsoever on the present classification of the waters of the McKownville Reservoir.

Very truly yours,

Stuart M. Dean
Chief Permit Administrator

SMD/kw

cc: Carl J. Walters, Supervisor
George B. Elliott - Region 4 (w/incoming)