Design Flood Hydrology in the Resource Sector Northern B.C. Case Studies





Paul Mysak, P.Eng. June 23, 2020





Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

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1. Hydrology as part of a General **Arrangement Design**

- 1. 2. Hydrology is one part of all that goes into a General Arrangement Design Full Design Process (Abbreviated):
 - **Review requirements**
 - Short vs Long Term 1.
 - 2. Environmental Considerations
 - Materials and Structures Available
 - Site Survey

1.

- 2.3. Geotechnical Investigation
 - Rarely subsurface 1.
- **Design Flood Calculation** 4.
- 5. Road Design
- 6. Foundation Design
- 7. Substructure Selection (MFLNRORD Standard Drawings)
- 8. Superstructure Selection (MFLNRORD Standard Drawings)
- 9. Hydraulic Design
- 10. Riprap Design
- 11. **Overall Constructability & Timing**
- 3. 50-100 + Designs a Year
- Typical Time Ăvailable for Hydrology: 1-4 hours 4.





- 55°18'04.1"N,
- 122°40' 30.8"W
- Beside Highway 97
- 2 hours North of PG
- Area: 320 km2
- Length: 40km
- Peak Elevation: 1960m
- Crossing Elevation: 750m
- Watershed Slope: 3%
- Stream Gradient at Site:
 0.4%



Upstream Sept 6 2017



Upstream Sept 14 2017



Woods to Town Sept 6 2017



Downstream Sept 14 2017



- Regional Analysis with check with channel capacity
- Similar Type and Size Gauged Watersheds in the Same Hydrologic Zone & Subzone (7)
- Pine (50 years data)
- Sukunka (33 years data)
- Carbon (14 years data)

Inventory of Streamflow in the Omineca and Northeast Regions



February 2015

Ashfaque Ahmed, P.Eng. Knowledge Management Branch



Ministry of Environment

Inventory of Streamflow in the Omineca and Northeast Regions A. Ahmed, BC MOE, February 2015



Inventory of Streamflow in the Omineca and Northeast Regions

A. Ahmed, BC MOE, February 2015



Inventory of Streamflow in the Omineca and Northeast Regions

A. Ahmed, BC MOE, February 2015



Inventory of Streamflow in the Omineca and Northeast Regions A. Ahmed, BC MOE, February 2015



Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks

Streamflow in the Omineca-Peace Region



W. Obedkoff, P.Eng.

Water Inventory Section Resources Inventory Branch September 2000 Streamflow in the Omineca-Peace Region

W. Obedkoff, BC MOE, September 2000

Previous Report & Method

Peak flow from an ungauged watershed in the Omineca-Peace region can be estimated by use of the regionalized information presented in this report. The general procedure would consist of locating the topic watershed on a map (Figure 1), identifying the subzone and its design curve and then estimating its peak flow from Figure 3. If the basin of interest is located near or within one of the observed watersheds more weight would be given to this point and a parallel line would be drawn through it (or close by) in the graph to the projected area of the basin. If the basin straddles a subzone boundary the point would be located between the subzone curves in proportion to the areas within each subzone. Peak flow estimates based on the above procedure would be for a 10-year recurrence interval; estimates for other recurrence intervals could be made by reference to the frequency relationships in relevant data sheets of the BCSI report.



Figure 3 Watershed Peak Flow (continued)

Streamflow in the Omineca-Peace Region W. Obedkoff, BC MOE, September 2000

From Pine Gauged Watershed:

- $Q_{10} = 380 \text{ L/s/km}^2 * 320 \text{ km}^2$
- Q10 = 121,600 L/s/km²
- Q10 = 121.6 m^3/s
- Q100:Q10 Ratio for Pine River = 2.1
- $Q100 = 255m^3/s$
- Assumption:
 - Similar Style Watershed
 - It is reasonable to scale off that watershed
 - Q2:Q10:Q100 multipliers are valid for design watershed
 - Is this reasonable going from 12,100km² to 320km² watersheds?
- However...

Streamflow in the Omineca-Peace Region W. Obedkoff, BC MOE, September 2000

Inventory of Streamflow in the Omineca and Northeast Regions



February 2015

Ashfaque Ahmed, P.Eng. Knowledge Management Branch



Ministry of Environment

Inventory of Streamflow in the Omineca and Northeast Regions A. Ahmed, BC MOE, February 2015

In contrast to the previous version of this report, hydrologic zone design curves are not included for the various streamflow indices. Despite the substantial effort that went into delineating zones with similar streamflow characteristics, significant variability still exists within each zone. In many cases when using this report, professional judgment is required to decide which stations are most representative of the ungauged watershed in

question. In addition, because the frequency analyses in this iteration used all available data, the record period is not the same for all stations. Therefore, the relative position of a particular station's streamflow metric (e.g., peak flow) on the plots is influenced in part by the length of the record period analyzed, and so all stations are not necessarily directly comparable. Finally, several stations included in the original report have been decommissioned, resulting in fewer data points from which to draw a regional curve.

In short:

- Previous method is no longer valid for Omineca and Northeast Regions
- Carbon (14 years) vs Pine (50 years)

- How scale from gauged watershed?
- $Q_2 = Q_1 (A_2/A_1)^n$
- RTAC Drainage Manual Volume 1, n =0.6 to 0.75 (1982)
- n = 0.6 to 1.0 (linear), 0.75 on average in BC Eaton et al (2002)

Hydro-	Watershee	t t	Drainage	Median	Norma	l Annual					Mon	thly D)istrib	ution	(%)				Annual	Flow Ratio	Peak	Flow
logic	Stream	Hydrometric	Area	Elevation	Ru	noff ¹	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	10-Year	: Avg Year	10 - Year	Ratio
Zone		Station	(km²)	(m)	(mm)	(m ³ /s)													High	Low	(m ³ /s)	100-Yr:10-Yr
7	Carbon	07EF004	736.6	1345	525	12.25	1	1	1	2	26	36	13	4	5	5	3	2	1.44	0.62	255.06	1.96
	Cutbank	07GB001	840.8	1138																	326.43	2.94
7	Dickebusch	07FB004	84.8	1053	215	0.58	1	0	1	8	27	21	20	9	6	4	2	1	1.62	0.43	57.71	6.43
7	Flatbed	07FB009	478.7	1129	270	4.09	1	1	1	10	31	22	15	7	6	4	3	2	1.43	0.61	141.51	3.09
7	Moberly	07FB008	1521.7	938	235	11.34	1	1	1	5	24	32	16	7	4	4	3	2	1.38	0.63	122.10	1.79
7	Murray - mouth	07FB002	5554.3	1162	471	82.96	2	1	2	5	22	26	15	7	6	7	4	2	1.25	0.75	959.18	1.53
7	Murray - Wolverine	07FB006	2385.4	1303	755	57.07	2	1	2	5	21	27	15	7	7	7	4	2	1.21	0.78	615.93	1.63
7	Pine	07FB001	12138.1	1125	475	182.66	2	1	2	5	25	27	13	6	5	6	4	2	1.24	0.76	2664.47	1.91
7	Quality	07FB005	26.3	1087	233	0.19	1	1	1	14	23	17	17	9	6	4	2	1	1.66	0.43	11.26	3.86
7	Sukunka	07FB003	2591.3	1198	671	55.08	1	1	2	6	29	27	12	4	5	7	4	2	1.22	0.78	730.82	1.36

- Using n = 1.0 , n=0.75, 0.6,
- Carbon: $Q100 = 217 : 267 : 303 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$
- Pine: $Q100 = 78 : 333 : 574 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} \dots \text{ before } 255 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$
- Sukunka: Q100 =127 : 207 : 283 m³/s ... before 187 m³/s

(737km², 14 yrs) (12,138km², 50 yrs) (2,591km², 33 yrs)

- Range: 207 to 574 m^3/s or even 78 to 574 m^3/s
- ... is equation valid ... are n values even reasonable Previously n = 0.85?

Inventory of Streamflow in the Omineca and Northeast Regions

A. Ahmed, BC MOE, February 2015

- Either Sukunka or Pine for Q100
 - Primarily Sukunka as closer in watershed size and potential scaling issues
 - $Q100 = 250 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$
 - Unit Q100 = $0.78m^3/s$ per km²

In B.C. there are 675 hydrometric stations with maximum daily discharge records (excluding large river, multizone stations) and 285 maximum instantaneous discharge records with adequate lengths for frequency analysis. These station totals (tallied in 1984) include at least eight years record but stations with at least five years have been used for short recurrence interval estimates. The criteria arbitrarily adopted for extending the recurrence interval of frequency estimates beyond the sample record length are listed in Table 2. These criteria are used in the regionalization procedures described in Section 7.4.

TABLE 2. Recurrence Interval Extension Criteria From: Manual of Operational Hydrology in BC 2nd Ed. 1991

Simplified	Procedure	Preliminary Design				
Record Length	Estimate Limit	Record Length	Estimate Limit			
		5-7	10			
8-14	25	8-10	25			
15-20	50	11-15	50			
21-50	100	16-19	100			
> 50	200	> 19	200			

Manual of Operational Hydrology in British Columbia Coulson, C.H. (& W. Obedkoff for Peak Flow Studies), 1991

- Alternative Q100 Calculations
 - Download stream data from gauged stations and perform own statistical analysis
 - World of statistics is complex, none of us at OEL are experts in the field and we typically rely on procedures established by others
- Isolines
 - 80 m³/s/100km * 320 km = 256 m³/s



- Initial Q100 = $250m^{3}/s$
- Climate Change increase of 20% (EGBC Guideline; Design 2017)
- $Q100 = 300m^3/s @ 2m/s$
- 1.5m Q100 clearance
- 48.768m (160') Steel Girder Concrete Composite Deck Bridge on **Driven Piles**







- Average Design Velocity can be as critical as Q100
- Used Manning's formula for uniform flow within open channels

$$Q = AV = \frac{1}{n} A R_h^{2/3} \sqrt{S_e}$$

- Q = flow in m³/s
- V = velocity in m/s
- A = water area in m²
- Rh= Hydraulic Radius in m = Water area (a) / wetted perimeter (P)
- Se = Slope of the energy grade line which can be assumed to be S_o = slope of channel for uniform flow
- n = Manning's roughness coefficient
- Can use design cross section for geometry
- For n:
- If there was more flow at time of survey, back calculate & solve
- Comparison with calculated streams
 - USGS Paper 1849
 - Hicks and Mason Roughness Characteristics of New Zealand Streams (1991)
- Equations (Cowan, 1955; Jarrett, 1985 USGS Report 4004)

2. Misinchinka River (320 km²) Misinchinka Sept 6, 2017

USGS Paper 1849



- n = 0.04, velocity = 2.8 m/s
- n = 0.06, velocity = 2.2 m/s
- n = 0.08, velocity = 1.8 m/s
- n expected to be closer to 0.04 to 0.06,
- v = 2.0 m/s is conservative debris, obstructions in river
 - V=2.8m/s 2.5m clearance above Q100



Design Check:

- Highway is approximately 6m above stream bottom see truck for scale
- BCMOTI river has never overtopped highway at this location
- Even when Bijoux Falls falling directly onto highway
- Frequent flooding, washouts in Pine Pass



Design Check

- Oct 25, 2017
- At top of Woods Bank
- Flow Area = 48.6m² (from Survey)
- Velocity = 1.5 m/s (From Approximate Surface Velocity Measured from Highway)
- Solved for:
- Flow = $73m^3/s$
- Manning's n = 0.058
- Peak Flow in Pine River during event = 1,500m³/s (https://wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/search/real_time_e.html)
- Pine River Q2 = 1,449 (Streamflow in Region 7)
- Pine Q100:Q2 = 3.54
- Misinchinka Q100 = $263 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$

Summary

- Estimate Design Flood using 3 very different sized streams/rivers
 - Pine (12,138km², 50 years data)
 - Sukunka (2,591km², 33 years data)
 - Carbon (737km², 14 years data)
- Is the method reasonable?
 - Very subjective
- Q100 Range 207 to 574 m³/s
- Velocity Range 1.8 to 2.8 m/s (for chosen Q100)
 - Based on Manning's Formula
- How take Climate change into account?
 - IDF_CC Curves?
 - For a large watershed?
 - Average or extreme daily/monthly increase in rainfall?
 - Other?





54°30'10.3"N, 126° 9'10.9"W

Area: 18.8 km2 Length: 10.2km Centroid-Site: 4.7km Peak Elevation: 1400m Crossing Elevation: 890m Watershed Slope: 5%

Swamp/Lakes: 1.3km²

Stream Gradient at Site: 0.4%



Nov 13, 2018

From Upstream Looking Down To Crossing



Nov 13,

2018 From

Nov 13,

Crossing Looking Downstream



Nov 13, 2018

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From Crossing Looking Upstream

2018

From Woods to Town

 $Q100 = 5.2 m^3/s$

 $Q100 = 9.6 \text{m}^3/\text{s}$

 $Q100 = 11.7 \text{m}^3/\text{s}$

- Regional Analysis:
- 08EE009 Richfield (173km²):
- 08EE004 Bulkley (7,360km²):
- 08EE008 Goathorn (149km²):
- Rational Method
 - RTAC Drainage Manual Volume 1 (1982)
 - Rural areas up to 25 km²
 - Urban Drainage up to 13 km²
 - Manual of Operational Hydrology in BC (1991)
 - Up to 25 km²
 - BCMOTI BC Supplement to TAC Geometric Road Design (2019)
 - Under 10km²

Q=0.28CIA

- Where: $Q = peak discharge in m^3/s$ C = runoff coefficient
 - I = rainfall intensity in mm/hr

A = drainage area in km²

- Runoff Coefficient C
 - Interior Watersheds: 0.25 to 0.45
 - Local Experience
 - RTAC Drainage Manual Volume 1 (1982)
 - 5 Options (0.25, 0.30, 0.35, 0.40, 0.45)
 - 3 Consistently (0.30, 0.35, 0.40)

Table 2.4.1 - Typical rural runoff coefficients

		Land use	e
Soil description	Crops	Pasture	Wooded
Tight clayey soils, good surface drainage	0.55	0.45	0.40
Medium textured loams, well drained	0.40	0.35	0.30
Shallow medium textured loams overlying limestone bedrock; open loams and sand loams	0.30	0.25	0.20
Coarse well drained sands and gravels	0.25	0.15	0.05()

b) For storms having return period of more than 10 years, increase the listed values as follows, up to a maximum coefficient of 0.95.

25-yr.	_	add	10%
50-yr.	_	add	20%
100-yr.		add	25%

= 1.40 hours

= 3.05 hours

= 0

= 3.7

hours

hours

- Time of Concentration Tc
 - Needed to get rainfall intensity
 - Loukas (Modified Snyder) = 2.24 hours
 Modified Snyder = 2.37 hours
 - Modified SnyderSCS Curve Number
 - Hathaway Method
 - MOE (Coulson Graphical)
 - Total travel time
 - Overland Flow (0.6 hours)
 - Stream Flow (3.1 hours)
 - 6 Options: 1.40 to 9.0 hours
 - BCMOTI BC Supplement to TAC Geometric Road Design (2019) example shows average
 - Prefer selecting one for a specific reason





- IDF1077500 Smithers Last Data: 2002 Years Data: 31
- IDF1076638
 Quick
 Last Data: 1994
 Years Data: 13
- IDF1091169
 Burns Lake
 Last Data: 1990
 Years Data: 21
- IDF Ungauged at Site

IDF_CC Tool 4.0



IDF for: BURNS LAKE ID:1091169

Station Info IDF historical data ?

IDF under climate change 👔

Station name: BURNS LAKE

ID: 1091169

Latitude: 54.23

Longitude: -125.77

Starting year: 1969

Ending year: 1990

Number of years (with data): 21

IDF for: BURNS LAKE ID:1091169

Station Info IDF historical data 💽 IDF under climate change 😰

Gumber

Tables Plots Interpolation Equations

The table below provides coefficients for the interpolation equations fitted to the IDF curve using the GEV distribution.

T (years)	Coefficient A	Coefficient B	Coefficient to
2	8.3	-0.670	0.028
5	12.4	-0.717	0.035
10	15.9	-0.758	0.044
20	19.9	-0.801	0.056
25	21.3	-0.816	0.059
50	26.2	-0.864	0.072
100	31.7	-0.909	0.082

Use the coefficients provided in the table above with the following equation:

$$i\Big(rac{mm}{h}\Big) = A \cdot ig(t+t_0)^h$$

Where:

i is the precipitation intensity rate in $\displaystyle rac{mm}{h}$

A, B and t_0 , are the coefficients for each return period (T) in years t, the time (duration) of the precipitation event in hours (h)

- IDF Curves
 - 4 Possible Options
 - Burns Lake Nearby, similar area but 21 years data, 30 years old
 - Smithers has most data and most recent (2002!) but surrounded by mountains
 - Quick is closest but only 13 years data
 - Ungauged at location, but how is it interpolated?
- Also Rainfall Atlas of Canada (1986)
 - But is data actually that much older?
 - Still referenced BCMOTI
- Rational Method 120 possible combinations (5 Cs x 6 Is (from Tc) x 4 IDF Curves)
- Selected:
 - C= 0.30
 - Tc = 3.7 hours (total flow, it is mainly streamflow)
 - I = 9.5 mm/hr from Burns Lake (close and similar)
 - Burns Lake = 9.5 mm/hr
 - Smithers = 9.2 mm/hr
 - Quick = 38.3 mm/hr
 - Ungauged = 11.0 mm/hr

- Rational Flow = $15.0 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$
 - Reduction factor of 0.80 due to 7% lake/swamp area in upper portion of basin
- Q100 = $12.0 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$





Figure 2.4.6 — Peak discharge adjustment for storage (10)

Climate Change from IDF_CC Curves ٠

F for: BURNS LAKE ID:1091169					
Station Info IDF historical data 😰 IDF under climate change 💽					
Climate Model Selection Scenario RCP 2.6 😰 Scenario RCP 4.5 😭 Scenario RCP 8.5	Comparison Graphs 🔡				
Select the time period to update the IDF curve under climate change. The tool will use Climate Model data for the selected range. The available range is 2006 to 2100. Please select at least a 30 year projection period.					
From 2020 to 2100					
. Select a Climate Model to see results. Climate models are listed by name:					
Raw GCMs OPCIC - Bias Corrected (Version 2)	IDF for: BURNS LAK	E ID:1091169			
All Models					
Insemble, Ensemble	Station Info IDF his	torical data 😭 IDF under	dimate change 😰		
Calculate IDF for Future Export all Results	Climate Model Selection	n Scenario RCP 2.6 👔	Scenario RCP 4.5	Scenario RCP 8.5	Comparison Graphs
	Tables Plots I	nterpolation Equations Bo	x Plot - Uncertainty	a	
				RCP8.5: Representative	
	The table below pro	vides the coefficients for	the interpolate	Concentration Pathway resulting in radiative forcin	P
	nitted to the average	TDF for facare scenario	ACP 0.5	of 8.5 W/m ² by 2100, and	o.
	T (years)	Coefficient A	Coeffici	where radiative forcing	o
	2	9.8	-0.6	continues to rise beyond	
	5	14.7	-0.7	2100. This RCP provides a	l
	10	22.8	-0.8	future concentration scenar	rio
	20	23.3	-0.7	that would lead to the mos	st
	25	25.0	-0.8(severe climate change	
	50	30.8	-0.84	impacts, when compared t	0
	100	37.4	-0.8	all other PCPs. See Liser an	d
	Lise the coefficients provi	ded in the table above with the	following equation:	Tachnical manuals for mor	
	$i\left(\frac{mm}{h}\right) = A \cdot (t+t)$	$(a)^{B}$	following equation.	detail.	
	Where:				
	tridio.	873 875			
	i is the precipitati	on intensity rate in $\frac{mn}{b}$			
	4 D				

A, B and t₀, are the coefficients for each return period (T) in years t, the time (duration) of the precipitation event in hours (h)

- Climate Change from IDF_CC Curves
- From Interpolation Equations, I = 11.4mm/hour (T= 3.7 hours, 222 minutes)
- But there is a large range

tion Ir	nfo	IDF historical data	DF u	nder climate c	hange ?			
imate Ibles Total	Model S Plot PPT (r	s Interpolation	erio RCP 2.6	Scenari Box Plot - Ui n/h)	o RCP 4.5 😭	Scenario RCP 8.5 😰	Comparison Graphs	1
		I	DF Graph	: Intensi	ty – GEV	- RCP 85 - BoxF	Plot	=
400 200 100 40 200	0 0 0 0 0	Station: BI		E:1091169,	Series: T: Duration: Low: 15.3: Q1 (25%): Median: 1 Q3 (75%): Upper: 23	100 year 120 min 5 (mm/h) 17.36 (mm/h) 8.84 (mm/h) 20.38 (mm/h) 18 (mm/h)	 Series: T: 100 y Duration: 360 r Low: 5.77 (mm/ Q1 (25%): 6.58 Median: 6.89 (n Q3 (75%): 7.45 Upper: 8.33 (m) 	rear min (h) (mm/h) (mm/h) (mm/h) m/h)
	4					<u>.</u>	Ξ Ę	
6	1		10		10	00	1 000	10 0

- Q100 with Climate Change:
 - C= 0.30
 - Tc = 3.7 hours
 - I = 11.4 mm/hr from Burns Lake (close and similar)
 - Increase of 20% (vs 9.5mm)
- Rational Flow = $18.1 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$
 - Reduction factor of 0.80 due to 7% lake/swamp area in upper portion of basin
- $Q100 = 14.5 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$... used original 15.0 m³/s to be slightly conservative
- Unit flow = $0.80 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$

- Q100 range from Rational (120 combinations)
 - Extreme & Unrealistic (no reduction)
 - C = 0.25, tc = 9.0 hours, I = 5.2mm from Smithers
 - Q100 = $6.9 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$
 - C = 0.50, tc = 1.40, I = 44.7mm from Quick
 - Q100 = $75.7 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$
 - Reasonable Range
 - C = 0.30 to 0.40
 - Tc = 3.0 to 5.0
 - I from Burns Lake (8.8 mm/hr) & Ungauged (13.1 mm/hr)
 - $Q100 = 13.9 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} * 0.80$
 - Q100 = $11.1 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$
 - Q100 = 27.5 m3/s * 0.80
 - $Q100 = 22.0 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$
- Selected Q100 prior to Climate Change = 12.5 m3/s
 - Reasonable Range = $11.1 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ to $22.0 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$

• 12.192m (40') All Steel Portable Bridge on 2 High Lock Block Abutments



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Bottom of girders above ground on town side

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Summary

- Estimated Design Flood using rational method due to size
- Q100 = $12.5 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$
- Reasonable Range = $11.1 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ to $22.0 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ (100%)
- Did not discuss design checks, channel & site characteristics.
- Regional Analysis:
 - 08EE009 Richfield (173km²):
 - 08EE004 Bulkley (7,360km²):
 - 08EE008 Goathorn (149km²):

- $Q100 = 5.2m^3/s$
- $Q100 = 9.6 \text{m}^3/\text{s}$
- $Q100 = 11.7 m^3/s$
- Used IDF_CC Tool for Climate Change (20% increase)
- $Q_{100} = 14.5 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} \text{ (used } 15.0 \text{ m}^3/\text{s})$
- Assumes increase in streamflow due to climate change is directly correlated to increase in Rainfall calculated by IDF_CC Curves

4. Summary

- Design Flood Hydrology is complex with possible wide range of calculated flows
- Site & stream characteristics can be as important as "standard" design flow calculations
- In remote resource applications there is limited data available
 - Gauged watersheds
 - Similarity (size and characteristics)
 - Proximity
 - IDF Curves
 - Old, limited data
 - Proximity

4. Summary

• Climate change is not being added to a very defined calculation



5. Questions/Comments

"The person who should take responsibility for the calculated design flow should absolutely be the most experienced, knowledgeable, and skilled engineer ... who has yet to be sued" Dr. Rollin Hotchkiss, P.E., D.WRE, F.ASCE

