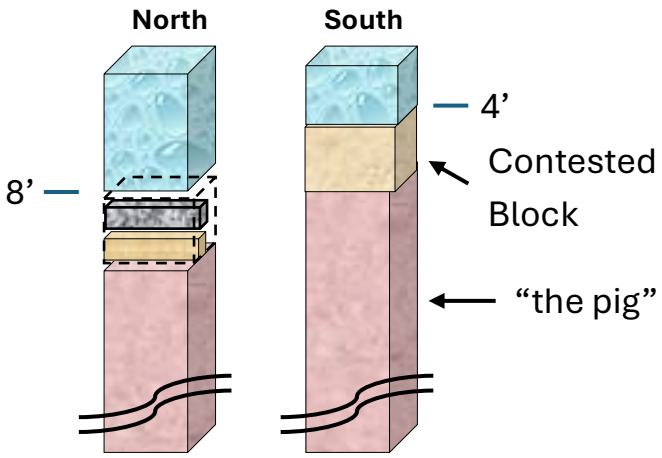


Everything on

ONE PAGE

- 4’ is not needed for “greater public access” because kayaks float on 8’ too
- 4’ creates a difficult-to-clean tough in North that makes water quality worse
- 4’ removes the possibility for other beneficial uses in favor of more chemical storage
- 4’ permanently dedicates a Bay Resource (the contested block) to protect chemicals
- 4’ is impractical to dredge, so South will become an unused mudflat in time

BCDC does not need to buy ‘the pig’ but you (the Commissioners) must act to prevent it. Discuss 8’ versus 4’. Ask questions of the applicants, staff, and public. Why 8’, why 4’, what’s necessary and what’s optional, what are the tradeoffs? Then make a motion, second and vote on adding this condition to your approval of the permit:

Chemical storage is permitted provided that a minimum depth of 8’ MLLW is restored and maintained for beneficial use throughout Gashouse Cove, both North and South, at all times.

Gashouse Cove is a small marina with a sewer outfall in one corner and toxic chemicals all around it. The idea of a kayak play area might sound nice but it’s really lipstick meant to mask the applicant’s true goal: clean up a minimal amount of chemicals and share in the cost savings. If the condition is not added, South will end up with no purpose other than protecting the chemicals under it. You (the Commissioners) are responsible for the Bay, you have the authority but you cannot remain passive. Act now:

Hold the line at 8’ MLLW for beneficial use.