



To: J. C. Foweraker, Head
Groundwater Section
Water Management Branch
Ministry of Environment

Date: June 5, 1985

File: 92G1

Re: Water Level Trends in Observation
Wells, Abbotsford Area

During the period 1970 to 1982 water levels in Observation Wells WR 4-62 and WR 13-62 located in the recharge area of the Abbotsford Aquifer exhibited a high correlation with cumulative precipitation departure data. This is evident in Figure 1 attached. Since 1982, water levels have not responded favourably in spite of the above-normal precipitation recorded. This suggests that groundwater withdrawals since 1982 have been exceeding the natural recharge to the aquifer. This may be due in part to pumping for the Sumas Prairie water system. Water levels have remained relatively steady since 1982 close to previously recorded minimums. It is likely that when precipitation falls below normal in future years that new minimum water levels will be recorded in the Abbotsford Aquifer. Additional major groundwater development of the aquifer may lead to an accelerated mining situation.

A. P. Kohut
Senior Geological Engineer
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APK:nh
Attach.
cc: P. M. Brady
~~J. W. McCracken~~
~~R. A. Sparrow~~

JK
6/6/85

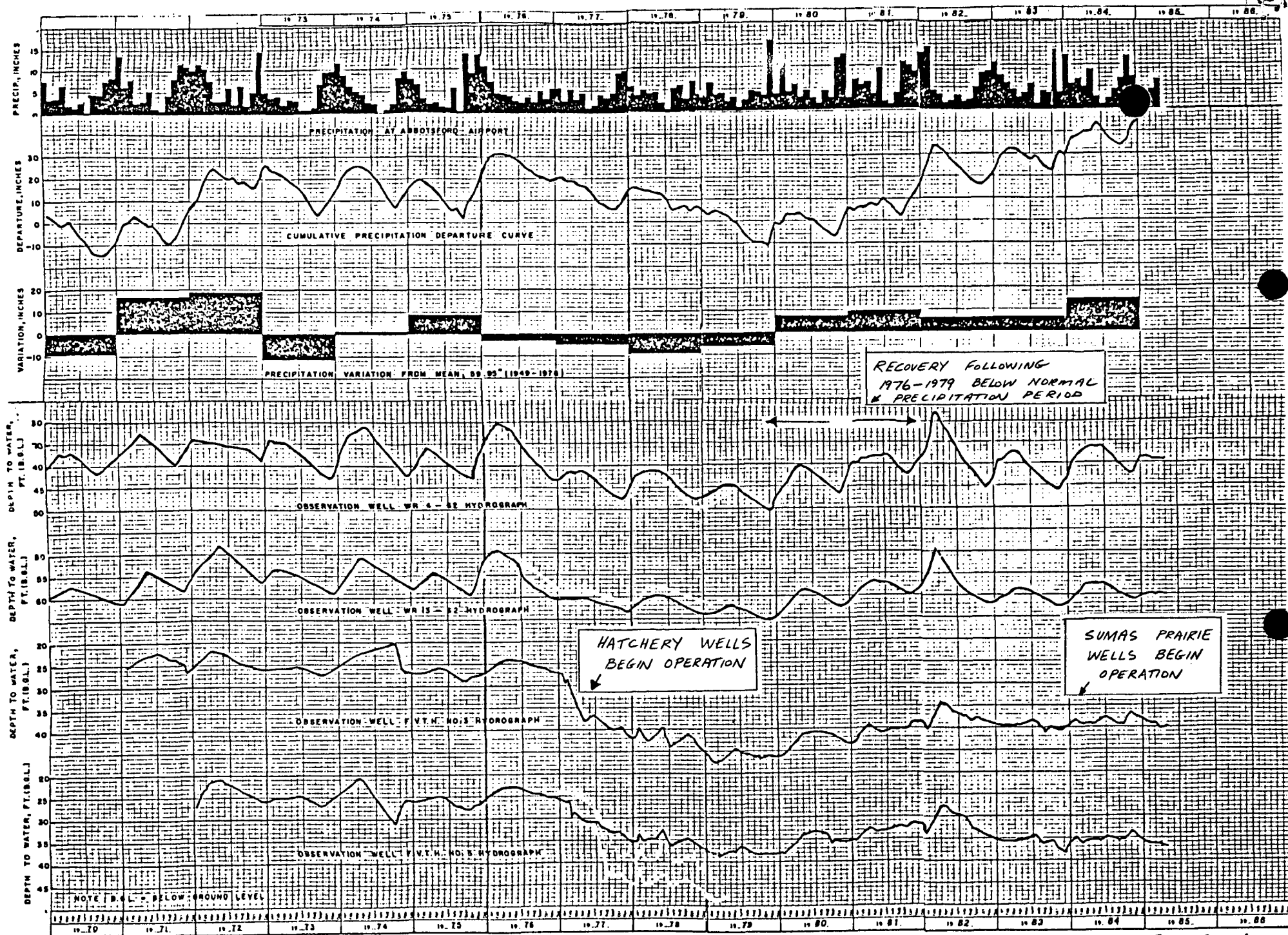


FIGURE 1