

Canadian Environmental Law Association L'Association canadienne du droit de l'environnement

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15 December 1981

The Honourable Keith Norton Minister of the Environment 135 St. Clair Avenue West Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P5

DELIVERED

Dear Mr. Minister:

Re: Ontario Hydro - Plan Stage Environmental Assessment - Southwestern Ontario

We are writing on behalf of the Ontario Coalition to Preserve Foodlands with respect to the above matter.

We understand that your Ministry's review of the environmental assessment submitted by Ontario Hydro will likely be released for public comment on Tuesday, 15 December 1981. Section 7 of the Environmental Assessment Act states in part that written submissions from members of the public are to be received within 30 days of the giving of a notice announcing, among other things, the completion of the review, "or within such longer period as may be stated in the notice".

It is our respectful submission that the complexity of this matter, coupled with the fact that the review will be released shortly before the Christmas holiday season, necessitates a period longer than 30 days for the public review. We would suggest that the period stated in the notice be at least 90 days.

A period longer than 30 days has to our knowledge been specified at least once previously by your Ministry. For example, a notice announcing the completion of the review of the Remote Northern Airport Program was given on 16 May 1980 while the deadline for filing submissions was 8 August 1980.

We thank you in advance for your consideration of our request.

Yours very truly, CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

Robert Timberg

Counsel

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c.c. Hearings Registrar, Consolidated Hearings Board Environmental Assessment Section, Ministry of the Environment