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of the
Environment

Ministère
de
l'Environnement

Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

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ENV1283MC-2005-5551
ENV1283MC-2005-5613

January 5, 2006

Ms. Theresa McClenaghan
Counsel
Canadian Environmental Law Association
130 Spadina Avenue, Suite 301
Toronto ON M5V 2L4

Mr. Mark Winfield
Director, Environmental Governance
The Pembina Institute
124 O'Connor Street, Suite 601
Ottawa ON K1P 5M9

Dear Ms. McClenaghan and Mr. Winfield:

Thank you for your letters dated December 15, 2005, regarding the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) Supply Mix Advice Report, released December 9, 2005, and the Integrated Power System Plan to be developed by the OPA in the coming months. I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Minister of the Environment.

The Ministry is considering your request to make the OPA Integrated Power System Plan subject to the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA) and to a Joint Board hearing of the Ontario Energy Board and Environmental Review Tribunal. Among several factors, the previous decision by the Government to subject the Ontario Hydro Demand/Supply Plan in 1989 to the requirements of the EAA and to a hearing process will be considered as part of our decision-making process.

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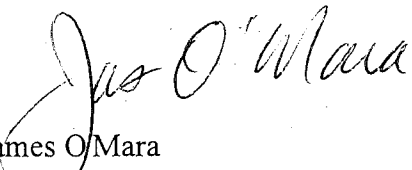
Ms. McClenaghan and Mr. Winfield

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As the ministry responsible for the Environmental Registry posting of the OPA Supply Mix Advice Report (Posting No. PO05E0001), the Ministry of Energy shall be able to respond to your request regarding an extension to the public comment period. We appreciate that your request was made on behalf of the Canadian Environmental Law Association, the Pembina Institute, as well as representatives of the Sierra Club of Canada, Citizens Environmental Alliance, Northwatch and the Provincial Council of Women.

Should you have any questions relating to environmental assessment matters associated with the OPA Supply Mix Advice Report or Integrated Power System Plan, please contact Samantha Kassel, Project Officer of this Branch, who is available to assist you. She may be contacted by telephone at 416-314-8214, or email at samantha.kassel@ene.gov.on.ca.

Yours sincerely,



James O'Mara
Director

Environmental Assessment & Approvals Branch

c: Mr. Dan McDermott, Ontario Chapter, Sierra Club of Canada
Mr. Derek Coronada, Citizens Environmental Alliance
Mr. Brennain Lloyd, Northwatch
Ms. Milica Kovacevich, Provincial Council of Women
Hon. D. Cansfield, Minister of Energy