

16 October 1974

Hon. Eric Winkler,  
Chairman, Management Board,  
Frost Building South, 7th Floor,  
Queen's Park,  
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Winkler:

RE: Ministry of the Environment Legislation on  
Environmental Impact Assessment

Our association and those groups and individuals who support our position are seriously concerned about the content of the legislation which is soon to be introduced on environmental impact assessment.

In your capacity as a member both of the Cabinet Committee on Legislation and the Policy and Priorities Board of Cabinet, we would ask that you review this legislation in light of the principles outlined below, principles which many citizens, including the subscribing groups listed on the enclosed page, feel are crucial to the implementation of an adequate environmental assessment procedure.

- a) There must be established an independent and powerful environmental review board.
- b) Public access to information about proposed projects must be guaranteed, and must be available sufficiently in advance to be useful.
- c) There must be early notice of proposed projects to all those interested and likely to be affected.
- d) Public or private funds should be made available to objectors acting in the public interest.
- e) Any citizen should be able to require the Board to consider whether a project needs an environmental assessment.

We respectfully request that you bear these principles in mind when the legislation is reviewed by the Committee and by the Board.

Yours very truly,  
CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

John E. Low

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