

March 17, 1976

Mr. Joe Clark
Leader of the Opposition
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Joe:

I am writing to you because I do not know the name of the new environment critic for the Conservative Party. If you could pass on this letter to him or to her, I would appreciate it.

CELA is very concerned about the Task Force which is to enquire into the events leading to the radon gas hazards in Port Hope. The Task Force was announced by the Federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, and has members from Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan.

We would like to be able to persuade the Government of the following:

1. There should be lay representation on the Task Force, preferably someone from Port Hope.
2. There should be a recognized environmentalist on the Task Force.
3. All information the Task Force receives, or considers, particularly from the ACEB, should be available to the public. It is rumoured that the ACEB has an 1961 study of Port Hope showing breaches of the licence conditions -- we would like to know if this is true, and if yes, what it says.
4. The Task Force report itself should be made public as soon as it is finished.
5. Whatever recommendations are made for clean up in Port Hope should be discussed at a public meeting in Port Hope.
6. A list of the Task Force members should be made public.

Ideally, CELA would like the Task Force to hear submissions from the public, but since environmental groups would have to be funded to participate (we are all very poor this year), I am sure this would not happen. Ideally, we would have preferred

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a public inquiry, with participants allowed to subpoena information from the AECB.

I would appreciate hearing the views of the environment critic.

Yours very truly,

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

Heather Mitchell
Counsel

by