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Royal Commission
on the Northern
Environment

November 16, 1977.

Manulife Centre
55 Bloor Street West
Room 801
Toronto M4W 1A5
965-9286

Mr. John Swaigen
Canadian Environ. Law Assoc.,
1 Spadina Avenue
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Swaigen:

I wish to thank you for attending the conference at Kempenfelt Bay held October 21st - 23rd. I trust that your efforts were worthwhile in helping to clarify the important role of public interest groups with respect to the work of the Royal Commission. I regret that I was unable to attend the conference myself but I do wish to keep up to date with the participation of groups such as yours, either personally or through my Executive Assistant, Judy Hay, whom you met at the meeting. I hope you will feel free to contact Judy, Greg Morley or myself with any problems or questions you may have related to your participation in the work of the Commission. Where there are questions related to the policy of the Commission regarding funding for public participation groups I would ask that you contact Judy Hay directly.

It is our desire to know as much as possible about the various public participation groups in order to ensure that we can jointly work effectively over the next two to three years. With this in mind I would appreciate, very much, having as much material as possible on your organization. Perhaps you could send a letter to Judy Hay which would include more specifics about the structure of your organization, the objectives and the type of projects which you have undertaken recently. We would also like very much to know what your specific interests are as regards the terms of reference of the Royal Commission. Finally you might indicate the principle contact person who we would deal with on a day to day basis.

I should also point out to you that we are considering very carefully the need for a meeting in Toronto to follow the present six weeks of hearings being held in Northern Ontario. I hope to have this matter clarified within the week and we will be back to you at that time. Such a meeting would be in large measure designed to obtain input from the various public interest groups, such as your own.

I wish to thank you very much for the interest you have shown in the work of the Royal Commission, and I hope that we will have a productive working relationship over the next couple of years.

Yours truly,

O.M. Berg
Executive Director.