

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

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15 December 1981

Mr. B.E. Smith  
The Chairman of the Joint Board Hearing  
1 St. Clair Ave. W.  
5th Floor  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4V 1K7

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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

The Canadian Environmental Law Association is writing to notify the Board that we are representing the Ontario Coalition to Preserve Foodlands at the hearings into Ontario Hydro's application for a transmission line through southwestern Ontario.

Elbert van Donkersgoed, the representative of the above Coalition, was present at the December 2nd meeting on this matter. At that time he identified himself as the spokesman for several farmers' organizations including the Ontario Coalition to Preserve Foodlands. Acknowledging that there may be some confusion as to whether the Coalition has been identified on the record, we are now officially requesting party status for the Ontario Coalition to Preserve Foodlands.

The Board should also be made aware that we have requested, under section 7 of the Environmental Assessment Act, a 90-day period for preparation of public submissions on the Ministry of the Environment's review of the Hydro's environmental assessment. A copy of our letter pertaining to this matter to the Honourable Keith Norton, Minister of the Environment, is enclosed for your information. Given the length of time this hearing will take, the complexity of the issues that will be raised throughout the hearing, and the fact that the scheduled release of the Ministry's review will occur during the Christmas season (December 15, 1981), it is our opinion that a more reasonable period of review is necessary.

We would also like to notify you that the Ontario Coalition to Preserve Foodlands intends to make representations concerning the two-stage process Ontario Hydro has undertaken in this assessment.

It is also the intention of the Ontario Coalition to Preserve Foodlands to request public funding so that they may fully participate throughout the hearings and bring the witnesses that may be required.

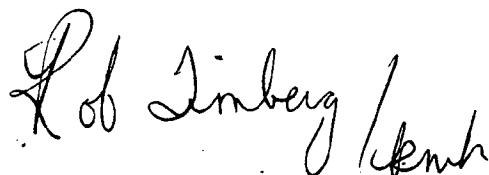
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Mr. B.E. Smith  
14 December 1981  
Page two  
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We would therefore request that the Consolidated Hearings Board not issue an Order as to the commencement of the hearings or the scheduling of other procedural items pertaining to this matter until the Canadian Environmental Law Association has had an opportunity to make written or oral submissions before the Board on behalf of the Ontario Coalition to Preserve Foodlands.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and reply.

Yours very truly,  
CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rob Timberg" followed by a vertical line and the initials "kh".

Robert Timberg  
Counsel

RT:kh