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Ministry
of the
Environment

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l'Environnement

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STRONGER AIR POLLUTION LAW PROPOSED

A fundamental reform of Ontario's air pollution law was proposed today by Environment Minister Jim Bradley.

Mr. Bradley released a discussion paper, inviting the general public, environment groups and industry to comment on the package of proposed reforms.

"The old regulation is outdated and provides inadequate protection for the people and environment of Ontario. We need a law that cuts pollution at the source. Our reforms address problems such as the long-range transportation of air pollution, and the ability of some of these chemicals to persist in the environment, accumulate in living things and climb the food chain," Environment Minister Jim Bradley said.

The proposed reforms would:

- Require significant air polluters to cut contamination to the level attainable by the appropriate level of pollution control technology. Sources emitting the most hazardous contaminants would meet the most stringent pollution reduction levels.
- Adopt as a second line of defense, an air quality approach with enforceable ambient air standards to replace the current point-of-impingement system.

"Our air pollution proposal is designed to deliver Ontario an ever-cleaner environment," Mr. Bradley said. "It joins two other basic reforms: MISA, which aims to stop water pollution at its source, and Bill 112, which makes it cheaper to comply with our environmental laws than to pay the dramatically higher penalties for polluting."

"Our goal is to cut air pollution drastically at source by putting in place legally enforceable rules that remove the loopholes of the past," he said.

The Minister asked all interested Ontarians to examine the proposals, and tell him what they think of them.

"Your advice, your comments and your criticisms are essential if we are to get the most effective and workable cleanup of our air underway quickly," Mr. Bradley said.

Written submissions on the proposal to reform Regulation 308 under the Environmental Protection Act should be sent to the Minister at 135 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario, M4V 1P5 by March 31, 1988.

Copies of the discussion paper, in English or French, are available on request.