

SEP 10 2010

Ministry of
the Environment

Source Protection Programs
Branch

8th Floor
2 St. Clair Ave. West
Toronto ON M4V 1L5

Ministère de
l'Environnement

Direction des programmes de protection
des sources

8^e étage
2, avenue St. Clair Ouest
Toronto (Ontario) M4V 1L5



ENV1174IT-2010-205

August 25, 2010

Robert Bedggood
Chair
Upper Thames River Source Protection Committee
1424 Clarke Road
London, Ontario
N5V 5B9

Dear Mr. Bedggood:

Thank you for your letter of June 18, 2010 regarding your concerns related to a proposed wind power development in one of your Intake Protection Zones and the potential impact to drinking water sources in vulnerable areas. I am glad to hear your perspective on this particular issue as it helps us understand the local concerns with this activity.

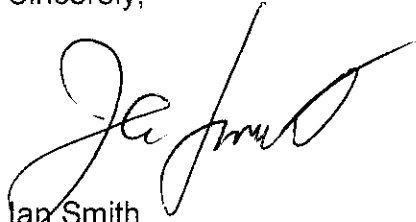
I have also received similar correspondence from Tom Fuerth of the Essex Region highlighting his concerns regarding the proposed wind power development. Our source protection technical team has evaluated Tom's comments and provided a response to him.

The province is in the initial stages of public consultation on the approval requirements for the off-shore wind projects under the REA and has an initial posting on the Environmental Registry at <http://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/> (number 011-0089). This initial proposal was posted on the Environmental Registry on June 25, 2010. The comment period will end on September 7, 2010. The posting highlights several of the concerns you have raised in your letter. All submissions received during the comment period will be considered before any policy decisions are made. Moreover, public and industry consultation sessions will also be held starting in the fall. Dates and locations will be available soon at www.ontario.ca/environment.

In the future, if the committees identify wind farms as a potential cause of turbidity and turbidity is a drinking water issue, they may request this be added as a local threat.

Thank you for bringing your comments and concerns to my attention. We agree that these matters require careful consideration, both in terms of the policy/regulatory development as well as any eventual consideration of an application. We will keep you apprised of any outcomes or new developments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Smith', written in a cursive style.

Ian Smith
Director, Source Protection Programs Branch
Ministry of the Environment

CC:

Thames Sydenham SPC
Stan Taylor, ERCA
Tom Fuerth, ERSPC
Sue Lo, ADM, Renewables and Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure
Eric Boysen, Director, Renewable Energy Program, MNR
Heather Malcolmson, Manager, Source Protection Planning, Ministry of the Environment
Barry Duffey, Manager, Renewable Energy, Ministry of the Environment
Dan Thompson, Department of Fisheries and Ocean