



December 15, 2009

The Honourable John Gerretsen
Minister of the Environment
Ferguson Block
11th Floor
77 Wellesley St.W.
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2T5

Dear Minister Gerretsen

Re: TransCanada Energy Ltd.'s Proposed Electricity Generating Plant at Ford of Canada's Oakville Site (the "Proposed Plant")

Minister, we need your help, now more than ever, as an independent, objective regulator. Your attention is urgently needed to prevent significant negative environmental impacts and a negative, regrettable legacy that would last for many decades.

I am writing to reiterate Citizens for Clean Air's (C4CA) request that the proposed Oakville power plant undergo an Individual Environmental Assessment (IEA) to determine the impact on the environment and the health and safety of the Mississauga and Oakville residents.

The process used by the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure and the Ontario Power Authority to select a site was fundamentally flawed. As such, it is not surprising that such a poor site was selected. The process focused on infrastructure and cost, and only allowed the consideration of a very limited number of private sites. The selection process ignored environmental impacts, including the existence of an established residential area with schools and homes immediately adjacent to the proposed site. Common sense makes it obvious that this site is not acceptable. At a minimum, we need your involvement in an Individual Environmental Assessment ("IEA") to ensure that all relevant matters are properly considered with meaningful, proper consultation.

Our counsel sent you a letter dated November 24, 2009 that described in detail, the need for an IEA. Recent actions by TransCanada (which we asked our counsel to document for you in a December 8, 2009 letter), and a December 4, 2009 decision by the Ontario Municipal Board ("OMB") confirm the urgent need for an IEA. The OMB, as an independent, objective body considered this matter and upheld the Town of Oakville's interim control by-law to allow time for a proper planning process to be undertaken. Without careful consideration, including your independent, objective direction and decision-making, we believe that a terrible mistake will be made which we would all have to live with for many years.

In addition to the flawed process used by the MEI and the OPA, the Electricity EA, which is suitable for a green energy project or a small (5-10MW) gas or biomass plant, is unacceptable for the proposed massive 900MW gas plant. Consider that even a single wind turbine could not be built at this site!

C4CA believes the proposed plant and its negative impacts are too important and too significant to be subject only to a self-directed environmental review process that does not include direction and oversight by you. Ontario prides itself on being a leader in environmental protection and sustainability, which is so important for all of us and our children.

Therefore, we respectfully request that you immediately order the proposed plant to undergo an Individual Environmental Assessment to determine the plant's impact on the environment and the health and safety of Mississauga and Oakville residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read 'Doug MacKenzie', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Doug MacKenzie
President

cc: Agatha Garcia-Wright, Acting Director, Ministry of the Environment
Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch
The Honourable Dalton McGuinty
The Honourable Gerry Phillips
The Honourable Donna Cansfield
The Honourable Deborah Matthews
Kevin Flynn, MPP
His Worship Mayor Rob Burton, Town of Oakville
Gary Carr, Regional Chair, Regional Municipality of Halton
Her Worship Mayor Hazel McCallion, City of Mississauga
Emil Kolb, Regional Chair, Regional Municipality of Peel
Terence Young, MP
Colin Anderson, CEO, The Ontario Power Authority
Hal TransCanada Corporation
Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited
Charles Sousa, MPP