

June 25, 2004

The Honourable Leona Dombrowsky
Minister of the Environment
12th Floor, 135 St. Clair Avenue West
Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P5
FAX: (416) 314-6748

RE: Red Hill Creek Expressway and Lake Ontario WaterKeeper's Request for
Reveiw Under Section 11.4 of the Provincial Environmental Assessment Act.

Dear Minister Dombrowsky,

I am a citizen of Hamilton who is deeply concerned with the well being of
my community. It has come to my attention that Mr. Mark Mattson, a lawyer
and Lake Ontario WaterKeeper submitted a request for review of the
controversial Red Hill Creek Expressway back in August of 2003.

Mr. Mattson argues under Section 11.4 of the Provincial Environmental
Assessment Act, that much has changed since the granting of the 1985 permit
to build this expressway. For example, the 1985 permit states that no cut
whatsoever will be made into the Niagara Escarpment to build this highway.
Yet today, the City of Hamilton is about to make the largest single cut in
the entire history of the Niagara Escarpment. In the opinion of many, this
fact alone is sufficient reason to review the 1985 permit. Mr. Mattson has
requested a response from your Ministry as to whether you agree or disagree
that such a review of this old permit should be made. Since August of
2003, Mr. Mattson has received no answer from your Ministry. Even though
you have responded several times that an answer will be given, no answer
has actually materialized.

It is disturbing that you would leave suspended such a critical request on
behalf of the citizens of Hamilton.

Thus I am writing that you and your Ministry be true to your own words and
give a "yes or no" response to Mr. Mattson's request. As a government body
it is your duty to oversee changes in the environment on behalf of the
people of Ontario. Thus a reply is in order. If the refusal to provide an
answer is continued, one can only conclude that you and your Ministry are
shrugging your responsibility to represent the people of Ontario. I hope
that is not the case and that a long overdue answer will be issued promptly.

I look forward to your reply on this very important matter to the citizens
of Hamilton.

Sincerely,

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