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Ministry  
of the Environment  
and Climate Change

Ministère  
de l'Environnement et de l'Action  
en matière de changement climatique

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Toronto ON M4V 1P5



ENV1180AC-2017-5

APR 13 2017

Andy Manahan, Executive Director  
Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario ("RCCAO")  
Unit #13, 25 North Rivermede  
Vaughan ON L4V 5V4

And

Paul Knowles, President  
Municipal Engineers Association (Ontario) ("MEA")  
1525 Cornwall Road, Unit #22  
Oakville ON L6J 0B2

Dear Mr. Manahan and Mr. Knowles:

**RE: Application for Review of the *Environmental Assessment Act*, Regulation 334 (General), Ontario Regulations 681/94 and 73/94 under *Environmental Bill of Rights, 1993* and all MOECC policies and guidance related to the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process.  
EBRO File No.: 17EBRO01.R**

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Thank you for your Application for Review dated January 31, 2017 (application) pursuant to section 61 of the *Environmental Bill of Rights, 1993* (EBR). We appreciate the time and effort that you have invested on this matter. Applications for review are taken seriously by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (ministry) and your application and supporting documentation have been carefully assessed. The decision on your application has been delegated by the Minister to me, as the Assistant Deputy Minister of Operations Division.

In your application, you requested a review of the *Environmental Assessment Act*, Regulation 334 (General), pertinent EBR regulations and all policies and guidance material published and used by the ministry related to municipal class environmental assessments. The ministry understands that you requested this review "in order to identify and implement reforms that are urgently needed and allow municipal proponents to complete municipal class environmental assessments in a reasonably timely, efficient and effective manner".

Andy Manahan and Paul Knowles  
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With due consideration on the reasons cited in your application, I have concluded that the public interest warrants the review you have requested. The ministry will be undertaking this review in parallel with commitments made to implement recent recommendations of the Auditor General and other initiatives to modernize the environmental assessment program.

The ministry has already begun working with Class Environmental Assessment holders, including the Municipal Engineers Association, as they have a critical role to play in the effective management of the Class Environmental Assessment process, including proposing amendments that could improve the Class Environmental Assessment.

As the ministry is taking a more comprehensive approach in looking at improvements to the environmental assessment program, completion of the review is expected by the end of December 2018. You will be advised of the outcome 30 days after the completion of the ministry's full review.

In the event that you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Dolly Goyette, Director, Environmental Approvals Access and Service Integration Branch at 416-314-8171.

Yours truly,



Paul Nieweglowski  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Operations Division

Attachment

c: Mr. Tyler Schulz, Environmental Commissioner's Office  
Scott Shaw, Environmental Bill of Rights Office, MOECC