



CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DU DROIT DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

June 10, 2009

Honourable John Gerretson
Minister of Environment
12th Floor, 135 St. Clair Avenue West
Toronto, ON
M4V 1P5

VIA FAX: 416-314-7337

Dear Mr. Gerretson,

Re: ODWAC Recommendation to Lower the Standard for Tritium in Drinking Water

We note that the expert advice provided by your Ontario Drinking Water Advisory Council recommends a substantial lowering of the standard for tritium in drinking water. As you will know, Ontario's Advisory Committee on Environmental Standards made a similar recommendation over fifteen years ago.

At CELA, we have long called for Ontario to move to a more stringent standard for this carcinogen in drinking water with a view to further phase-down and ultimate phase-out. This ODWAC recommendation reinforces our long-held position that nuclear power is a toxic and enormously expensive mistake that requires an orderly and determined phase out.

We appreciate the opportunity to see and review the advice you have received from ODWAC by way of your release of the report and posting it to the EBR registry.

We look forward to your continued leadership on environmental issues for Ontario. We urge you to continue to do so with swift direction to have the ODWAC recommendation formulated into a revised drinking water standard for Ontario and posted to the *Environmental Bill of Rights* Registry for public comment.

Yours truly,

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

Theresa McClenaghan
Executive Director and Counsel

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