

**Ministry of the Environment**

Environmental Assessment and  
Approvals Branch

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**Ministère de l'Environnement**

Direction des évaluations et des  
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ENV1283MC-2010-5080

December 15, 2010

Dr. Paulo Correa  
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee to Save Concord West  
42 Rockview Gardens  
City of Vaughan ON L4K 2J6

Ms. Josephine Mastrodicasa  
President  
Concord West Seniors Club

Ms. Maria Bacchin  
President, Concord West Ratepayers Association  
PO Box 79001  
7777 Keele Street,  
Concord, City of Vaughan ON L4K 1Y0

Dear Dr. Correa, Ms. Mastrodicasa, and Ms. Bacchin:

Thank you for your November 26, 2010 letter to the Minister of the Environment (Minister) about your concerns with the Ontario Ministry of Transportation's (MTO) proposed 407 Transitway in the Regional Municipality of York (Project). I am pleased to reply on behalf of the Minister.

The MTO issued its Notice of Commencement required under the transit project assessment process (TPAP), as set out in the Transit Projects and Greater Toronto Transportation Authority Undertakings, Ontario Regulation 231/08 (O. Reg. 231/08) on August 24, 2010. The TPAP is a proponent-led, self-assessment process. As such, the MTO is responsible for evaluating the potential impacts that the proposed Project may have on the environment.

Dr. Paulo Correa, Ms. Josephine Mastrodicasa, and Ms. Maria Bacchin  
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I understand that the MTO is currently involved in public consultation on this proposed Project. Under the regulation, MTO is required to consult on the preparation of its required Environmental Project Report (EPR) and any technical studies, which includes consulting on the assessment and evaluation of the impacts which you have identified. I encourage you to continue to work directly with the MTO and to stay involved in the MTO's public consultation process.

The Notice of Commencement was issued by the MTO, as such it has 120 days to issue a Notice of Completion for its EPR, under the TPAP. If significant outstanding concerns remain at the end of the 120-day planning and consultation period, members of the public will have a 30-day opportunity to submit an objection to the Minister.

The Minister will then have 35 days after the final 30-day comment period to form an opinion about the nature of the objection and will assess whether the objection may have a negative impact on a matter of provincial importance that relates to the natural environment or has cultural heritage value or interest. The Minister may also consider matters that have a negative impact on a constitutionally protected Aboriginal or treaty right.

I encourage you to continue to bring your concerns directly to the attention of Mr. Robb Minnes or Mr. George Ivanoff of the MTO who should respond to issues or concerns raised during this stage. Mr. Minnes can be reached at 416-235-5481 or by e-mail at [robb.minnes@ontario.ca](mailto:robb.minnes@ontario.ca) and Mr. Ivanoff can be reached at 416-235-5548 or by e-mail at [george.ivanoff@ontario.ca](mailto:george.ivanoff@ontario.ca).

Thank you for bringing your concerns to the attention of this ministry.

Yours sincerely,



Agatha Garcia-Wright  
Director  
Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch