

Ministry of the Environment

Environmental Assessment and
Approvals Branch

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Ministère de l'Environnement

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ENV1283MC-2011-168

February 1, 2011

Dr. Paulo Correa
E-mail: drpcorrea@abrisci.com

Dear Dr. Correa:

Thank you for your e-mail dated January 21, 2011, to the Minister of the Environment in which you raised an objection about the 407 Transitway project proposed by the Ministry of Transportation (proponent). I am pleased to reply on behalf of the Minister.

The proponent has been proceeding through the transit project assessment process, set out in Ontario Regulation 231/08, *Transit Projects and Greater Toronto Transportation Authority Undertakings* (Transit Regulation). On December 23, 2010, the proponent published its Notice of Completion of its Environmental Project Report (EPR) and supporting technical studies. Following the issuance of the Notice of Completion, members of the public had a 30-day opportunity, which ended on January 24, 2011 to submit an objection to the Minister.

The Minister can exercise the options of issuing a notice allowing the proponent to proceed with the project, issuing a notice requiring the proponent to further consider the project, or can attach conditions to the project if, in his opinion, the transit project may have a negative impact on a matter of provincial importance that relates to the natural environment or a cultural heritage value or interest. The Minister may also consider matters that have a negative impact on a constitutionally protected Aboriginal or treaty right. The Minister is able to exercise these options no later than 35 days after the end of the public review period of the EPR.

As required under subsection 12(4) of the Transit Regulation, the concerns forming the basis of your objection have also been forwarded to the proponent so that it can provide any additional information it believes will assist the ministry in its review of your objection. In addition, staff at this ministry and other relevant government agencies will review the issues and concerns you have cited as reasons for your objection. This information will be considered by the Minister when making a decision on whether to issue a notice requiring further consideration of the project or attaching conditions to the project. You will be notified in writing of the Minister's decision once it has been made.

Dr. Paulo Correa
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Should you have further questions please contact Lorna Zappone, Project Officer of the Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch, at 416-314-7106 or by e-mail at lorna.zappone@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

- c. Peter Shurman, MPP Thornhill
- Maria Bacchin, Concord West Ratepayers Association
- Josephine Mastrodicasa, Concord West Seniors Club