

Ministry of  
the Environment

Office of the Minister

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ENV1283MC-2011-210

**FEB 16 2011**

Mr. Peter Shurman, MPP  
Thornhill  
7368 Yonge Street, Suite 203  
Thornhill ON L4J 8H9

Dear Mr.  Shurman:

Thank you for your letter of January 20, 2011 with regard to the 407 Transitway project proposed by the Ministry of Transportation (proponent).

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 issuing 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.

I understand that you support the objection submitted to the Ministry of the Environment by the members of the Concord West Ratepayers Association and the Concord Seniors Club.

As Minister, I 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 my 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. I may also consider matters that have a negative impact on a constitutionally protected Aboriginal or treaty right. I am able to exercise these options no later than 35 days after the end of the public review period of the EPR.

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

Should you have further questions, please contact Ms. Lorna Zappone, Project Officer at the Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch, at 416-314-7106 or by e-mail at [lorna.zappone@ontario.ca](mailto:lorna.zappone@ontario.ca).

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Sincerely,



John Wilkinson  
Minister