



Proposed Hydro-electric Generating Station at the Bala Falls

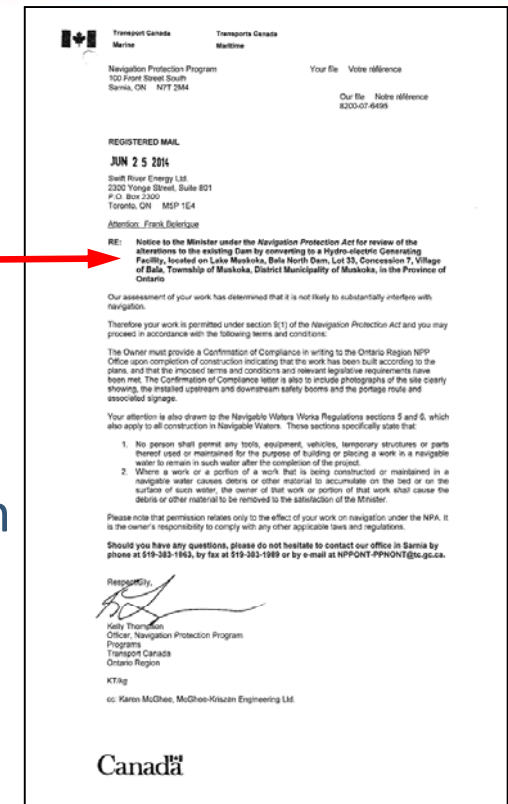
**Site should be protected until
all approvals have been issued**

Current Status

- Current status
 - Transport Canada
 - Ministry of the Environment
 - Ministry of Natural Resources
 - First Nations consultation
- Proposed Working Committee

Transport Canada

- Provided approval in 2014 under the Navigation Protection Act
- But this approval did not assess:
 - Flooding risk during proposed construction
 - Negative impacts to boating safety on Mill Stream and Moon River
 - Trespass and land ownership issues
 - ▶ Portage Street was never conveyed to the municipality – it is still owned by the Estate of Thomas Burgess
- Township has drafted a letter to Transport Canada
 - Hopefully Transport Canada will respond



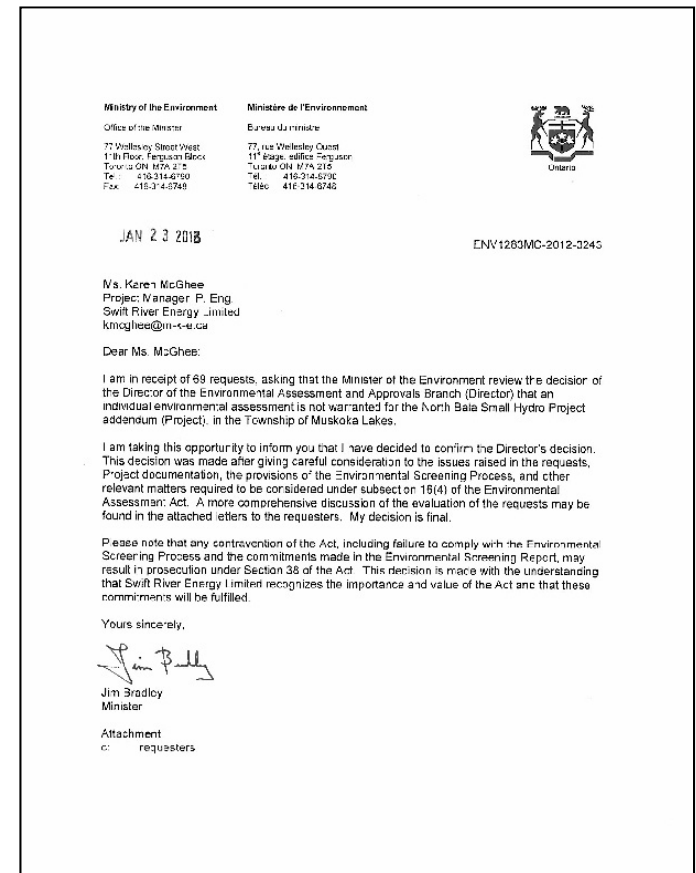
Ontario ServiceOntario

Municipal Information

Municipality	Date	Description	Status	Priority	Action
Municipality of Bala	2014-06-25	Notice to the Minister under the Navigation Protection Act for review of the alterations to the existing dam by converting to a Hydro-electric Generating Facility	Approved	High	Proceed
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Ministry of the Environment

- Provided approval in 2013
 - But proponent's plans include work for which they do not have environmental approval
 - ▶ Blocking off all of Bala north channel
 - ▶ Starting work six weeks early
- We continue to wait for a response from the Ministry of the Environment on this



Ministry of Natural Resources

- Initially expected to provide approval in 60 days
 - Has been ten months, still no approval
 - ▶ Clearly there are issues
- Proponent has not kept commitments they made in their original proposal
 - For example, said powerhouse would be below road level, but recent drawing shows would be 28' above Muskoka Road 169
- Many other issues
 - Need to make structural changes to the Bala north dam
 - Cofferdam would create high risk of flooding Lake Muskoka
- We continue to wait for responses from the MNR

First Nations Consultation

- Proposed project would permanently block the Bala Portage
 - Proponent's consultation was only for their now-abandoned previous proposals which would not have blocked the Bala Portage
 - ▶ Wahta Mohawks continue to wait for a response from the Crown
 - MNR's own actions of selecting this site for release also required First Nations consultation
 - ▶ We continue to wait for a response from the MNR

Our Request

- As the proposed project may never receive all approvals
 - The MNR should be requested to not allow any trees to be damaged or removed while the proponent does not have all required approvals
 - ▶ It would be a shame and a waste to cut down the trees if the project as proposed never proceeds to construction

Our request #1

That the Township of Muskoka Lakes send a letter to the Minister of Natural Resources asking that they not permit the proponent to damage or remove any trees from the proposed construction site before the proponent has all required approvals for construction, including the Work Permit and the Lease to Construct

Proposed Working Committee

- There are years of convoluted history to the commitments made by the proponent
- Some aspects of this proposed project are very technical

Our request #2

A representative of SaveTheBalaFalls.com should be a member of the committee

Also, the public must be allowed to attend meetings
(this is a project on public land using a public resource)