

March 20, 2018

Tom Teske  
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Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change  
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Hello Mr. Teske:

## **Re: Proposed hydro-electric generating station at the Bala falls**

While I continue to await responses to my January 23, 2018, March 6, 2018, and March 14, 2018 letters to your Ministry, I have a further environmental concern, as follows:

- 1) Section 5.2.2.1 of the proponent's 2009 Environmental Screening/Review report requires that fine sediment not enter the Moon River, and that silt fences be installed. As you can see from the photograph below, taken this morning, the proponent is directly dumping blast materials into the Moon River, both destroying fish habitat, and dumping fine particulate matter directly into the Moon River.



As you can see, there is no silt fence installed.

Furthermore, these materials would have residues remaining from the chemicals used for blasting.

These chemical residues and the fine particulate matter from the blasting is a discharge of a contaminant into the Moon River, and would cause an adverse effect, which is not permitted according to the Environmental Protection Act.

This area, which is not part of the proposed tailrace, and being in front of the Township's Portage Landing was not described as being affected for their environmental assessment.

Please respond with what actions you will take to prevent this harm to the environment continuing.

- 2) I also note that in the proponent's 2009 Environmental Screening/Review report:
  - a) Section 5.2.7.1 does not allow any in-water work from April 1 to July 15.
  - b) Section 5.2.7.2 does not allow blasting producing a peak particle velocity greater than 13 mm/s in a spawning bed between April 1 to July 15.

Please respond with whether the proponent is therefore required to stop such in-water work as of April 1.

Sincerely,



Mitchell Shnier, on behalf of SaveTheBalaFalls.com

Cc: Kathleen O'Neill, Director, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, Kathleen.ONeill@ontario.ca  
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