Mitchell Shnier

From: Sent: To: Subject:

MIN Feedback (MNRF) Thursday, March 7, 2019 3:12 PM mitchell@shnier.com Message from the Honorable John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Office of the Minister

Room 6630, Whitney Block 99 Wellesley Street West Toronto ON M7A 1W3 Tel: 416-314-2301

March 7, 2019



354-2018-918

mitchell@shnier.com

Premier Doug Ford has shared with me your emails about the North Bala Small Hydro Project.

Our government promised to drive efficiency in the electricity sector and to push energy costs down for all consumers. Most importantly, we promised to restore the public's faith in our electricity system.

As part of that commitment, our government has wound down more than 750 long-term renewable energy contracts for electricity that the system does not need at this time. Winding down these contracts is expected to avoid \$790 million in electricity system costs on a net present value basis.

Our government is not taking action to terminate the contract for the North Bala Small Hydro Project.

The North Bala Small Hydro Project is proceeding subject to the terms of its permits and approvals, which require the facility to operate in the most environmentally responsible way.

This includes a water management plan that requires minimum continuous flow to protect water quality and aquatic habitat and to meet Lake Muskoka's water level objectives.

I trust that this addresses your concerns. Thank you for writing.

Ministère des Richesses

naturelles et des Forêts

Édifice Whitney, bureau 6630

Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1W3

99, rue Wellesley Ouest

Bureau du ministre

Tél.: 416-314-2301

Sincerely,

John Yakabuski Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

c: Premier Doug Ford

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