

February 2010

Hon. Linda Jeffrey
Minister of Natural Resources
Whitney Block
6th Floor, Room 6630
99 Wellesley St W
Toronto, ON, M7A 1W3

Dear Minister Jeffrey,

We are writing to ask your Ministry, again, to defer any further action on the implementation of the “Lightening the Ecological Footprint of Logging” in Algonquin Park recommendations until a full economic impact analysis has been conducted (e.g. loss of fibre, loss of jobs, impact on local communities).

Both the Township of Madawaska Valley and the County of Renfrew have passed resolutions expressing concerns with recent provincial government actions, including the recommendations associated with Algonquin Park, that threaten the local and regional economies. In addition, the forest sector (both local companies and the Ontario Forest Industries Association) have stated numerous times that they do not support this initiative.

Minister Jeffrey – the only people that I have seen support this initiative is associated with special interest campaign organizations in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) that are using this issue as a fundraising campaign. I do not believe the report reflects the input of any organizations or communities that will be impacted by the recommendations and that will have to live with the results.

As a citizen of Ontario, and more specifically as a citizen that will be impacted by these recommendations, I am very concerned with the social and economic impacts of this initiative. As stated by the Algonquin Forest Authority (AFA), a co-author of the report, in the report itself *“The AFA has expressed reservations about the Proposal, as they are unable to say with certainty that this Proposal will not negatively impact the forest industry and local communities.”*

I do not support the recommendations in the report and request that a full socio-economic impact assessment be conducted prior to any further government action.

Name:

Signature:

Private Note: