Premier of Prince Edward Island



Premier ministre de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard

July 6, 2018

Honourable Catherine McKenna Minister of Environment and Climate Change House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Premier Stephen McNeil Government of Nova Scotia P.O. Box 726 Halifax, NS B3J 2T3

Dear Minister McKenna and Premier McNeil;

Thank you for your respective responses to my letter of January 23.

As you know, there continues to be significant concern expressed about Northern Pulp's plans for a new effluent treatment facility for its Pictou Plant and the impact on the environment, including the potential consequent effects on the commercial fishery and aquaculture industries.

I continue to hold these concerns, including the direct impacts in our province and on the eco-system of the Northumberland Strait. Given the amount of time that has passed and fresh uncertainty about the Northern Pulp proposal, I believe there is now an opportunity to take a more fully collaborative approach. To this end, I would request that a panel of experts and relevant stakeholders be established to review the project and to consider these impacts as well as to explore innovative approaches to dealing with effluent from the mill. It is imperative that this matter be seriously considered given the potential risks on an important habitat and on critical sectors, beginning with the fishery and tourism, in our region.

Further to my January letter, if the matter is still to be pursued through an environmental assessment, I would strongly urge that the federal process be engaged and that Prince Edward Island be fully consulted and engaged.

I appreciate your attention on this important matter. Our government is prepared to be part of an active response.

Sincerely,

Wade MacLauchlan

Premier of Prince Edward Island

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Cc: Hon. Richard Brown, Minister of Communities, Land & Environment

Hon. Robert Henderson, Minister of Agriculture & Fisheries