

Ministry
of the
Environment

Deputy Minister

135 St. Clair Avenue West
Toronto ON M4V 1P5

Ministère
de
l'Environnement

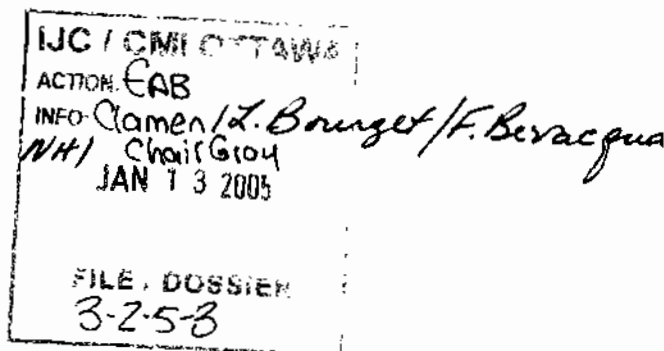
Sous-ministre

135, avenue St. Clair ouest
Toronto ON M4V 1P5



JAN 07 2005

The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray
Chair, Canadian Section
International Joint Commission
Canada and the United States
234 Laurier Avenue W., 22nd Floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 6K6



Dear Rt. Hon. Gray:

Thank you for your letter of December 13, 2004 inviting comments to the International Joint Commission on the 2004 Progress Report of the governments' Air Quality Committee under the Canada-United States Air Quality Agreement.

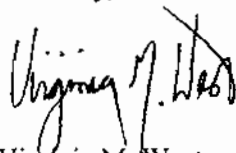
I am pleased to note that, as stated in this report, both Canada and the United States continue to fulfill their obligations under the Agreement and that human and environmental health have benefitted greatly from the progress made.

Air quality remains a top priority for the province of Ontario. Ensuring that we have good air quality along our border requires close co-operation with our neighbours to the south. The 2004 Progress Report reinforces this commitment.

We have found the 2004 Progress Report to be informative and factual.

I appreciate the work the IJC does in inviting public comments on each progress report and in preparing a synthesis report on these comments, and we look forward to receiving that report.

Sincerely,



Virginia M. West
Deputy Minister