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Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch

Thursday, November 23, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Imants Hausmanis, P. Eng

FROM: Hayley Berlin

RE: GO Transit Georgetown South Corridor Service Expansion and Airport
Transportation Link Terms of Reference
EA FILE NO. 02-06-03

Thank you for submitting the above mentioned Terms of Reference (ToR) to the Ministry of the Environment for review. Comments received from the public and government review team have been provided to you as they have been submitted.

As you are aware the Crown has a duty to consult with Aboriginal communities. Further we encourage proponents to consult with potentially interested Aboriginal communities throughout the environmental assessment process in order to identify and address any issues that they may have with proposal. The ToR outlines the consultation activities that have occurred during the preparation of the ToR, as well you have outlined an Aboriginal consultation plan for the EA process. The ToR outlines that Archaeological Service Inc. and Chief Kris Nahrgang of the Kawartha Nishnawbe First Nation identified the Mississaugas of New Credit, Mississaugas of Scugog Island and the Kawartha Nishnawbe First Nations as having a potential interest in the process. I am unsure how they have identified these communities. Please explain why or how these communities have been identified as having an interest in the proposal.

As the proposal is within the boundaries of Williams Treaty area, the ministry suggested that you contact the Aboriginal communities involved in those negotiations. Based on previous correspondence received from the Huron of the Wendat about the study area, the ministry also suggested that they be included during the review of the ToR.

It has now come to my attention that the Six Nations of the Grand River may have an interest in your proposal. The Six Nations of the Grand River have requested to be consulted on other transit projects within the study area. As such, the ministry has forwarded a copy of the ToR to the Six Nations and has asked them to indicate if they wish to be involved in the EA process. I recommend that you also contact the Six Nations to determine what level of involvement they may want to have in the proposal.

In my review of the ToR, I noticed that you did not contact OSAA or the three branches of INAC (i.e. Specific Claims, Comprehensive Claims and Litigation Management and Resolution Branches) to determine which Aboriginal communities may have an interest in the proposal. While a general INAC contact was part of the government review team, OSAA and the INAC branches were not contacted. As such, I have sent a letter along with the study area map to the branches and to OSAA and I have asked them to identify any potentially interested Aboriginal communities. When I receive a response, I will forward the information to you.

The ToR outlines that a Public Liaison Committee (PLC) has been established to ensure that the residents, businesses and other stakeholders can provide input into the EA process. Can you please explain how the members of the PLC were selected and the general composition of the PLC?

At this time, these are my only comments on the ToR. Should you have any questions, please feel to contact me at 416-314-7106.



Hayley Berlin

c: Dennis Callan, P. Eng – McCormick Rankin Corporation
Mike Bricks - Ecoplans