Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Agence canadienne d'évaluation environnementale

160 Elgin St., 22nd floor
Ottawa ON K1A 0H3

160, rue Elgin, 22e étage
Ottawa ON K1A 0H3

JUL 0 6 2012

Dear Madam or Sir:

A new *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012* (CEAA 2012) came into force on July 6, 2012 to replace the former *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (the Act). In addition, three regulations were also brought into force to support the implementation of CEAA 2012: the *Cost Recovery Regulations*, the *Prescribed Information for a Description of a Designated Project Regulations*, and the *Regulations Designating Physical Activities* (the Project List Regulations).

In regard to the Project List Regulations, the activities in the regulation include the projects described in the *Comprehensive Study List Regulations* of the former Act, with some modifications to reflect the provisions and structure of CEAA 2012. Over the coming months, the Minister of the Environment intends to seek comments on the Project List Regulations, with a view to consider potential amendments later in the year. I invite you to consult the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency) internet site at http://www.ceaa.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=9EC7CAD2-1 to obtain a copy of the Project List Regulations.

In light of your organization's interest in CEAA 2012, the Agency would like to provide you with an overview of CEAA 2012 and hear your organization's suggestions on potential amendments to the Project List Regulations. To this end, **the Agency will be hosting a half-day session with environmental groups on July 25, 2012 in Ottawa, Ontario.** You will find attached a meeting agenda which contains the logistical information about the Ottawa meeting, including video-conferencing arrangements for out of town participants. I would ask to confirm with Ms. Ann Clarke at **Ann.Clarke@ceaa-acee.gc.ca**, at your earliest convenience, the names of your participants at the meeting.

I regret any inconvenience caused by this short notification, particularly at this time of the year as the summer vacation period is upon us. If you are unable to participate in the meeting, I would be pleased to make other arrangements to discuss with you on a bilateral basis your suggestions for amendments.

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I also recognize that you may have to undertake consultations within your organization to confirm your formal views on amendments. As such, your organization will have up to August 24, 2012 to submit its written suggestions. I invite you to send your comments to Mr. John McCauley, Director, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs of the Agency at **RegulationsReglements2012@ceaa-acee.gc.ca**.

I look forward to our meeting and hearing your views about the Project List Regulations.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Cutts
Vice-President
Policy Development

Attachment

Distribution:

Canadian Environmental Law Association
Canadian Environmental Network
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
Canadian Wildlife Federation
David Suzuki Federation
Ducks Unlimited
Ecojustice
Environmental Defence Canada
Environmental Law Centre
Greenpeace Canada
Mining Watch
Nature Canada
Nature Conservancy of Canada
Pembina Institute
Pollution Probe
Sierra Club of Canada
West Coast Environmental Law
Wildlife Habitat Canada
World Wildlife Fund of Canada

Agenda

Environmental Non-Government Organizations Meeting on the
***Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012)**

July 25, 2012
1:00 pm – 4:30pm EST
Main Boardroom
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
160 Elgin Street, 22nd floor
Ottawa, ON

Item	Lead	Time
Introductions Purpose of the meeting: Seek suggestions for potential future amendments to the Designated Activities Regulations.	Agency and all	1:00-1:15 15 min
Overview of CEAA 2012	Agency	1:15-1:45 30 min
Question and Answers on CEAA 2012	All	1:45-2:30 45 min
Health break	All	2:30-2:45 15 min
Designated Activities Regulation	Agency	2:45-3:15 30 min
Roundtable	All	3:15-4:15 60 min
Wrap-up, next steps	Agency	4:15-4:30 15 min

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Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
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Ottawa, ON

Video-Conference Arrangements:

Interested organizations are invited to use the video-conferencing facilities of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency at the following locations:

Vancouver based organizations:	410-701 Georgia Street West Vancouver, BC Tel.: 604-666-2431
Edmonton based organizations:	CDI Building #425, 10115 - 100A Street Edmonton, AB Tel.: 780-495-2037
Manitoba based organizations:	101-167, Lombard Avenue Winnipeg, MB Tel.: 204-983-5127
Toronto based organizations:	55 St. Clair Avenue East 3rd floor, suite 907 Toronto, ON Tel.: 416-952-1576