

**Ministry of  
the Environment**

Environmental Approvals  
Branch

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**Ministère de  
l'Environnement**

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September 24, 2012

Ms. Karen McGhee  
Project Manager, P. Eng.  
Swift River Energy Limited

E-mail: [kmcghee@m-k-e.ca](mailto:kmcghee@m-k-e.ca)

Dear Ms. McGhee:

Between May 30, 2012 and June 30, 2012, I received 66 requests asking that Swift River Energy Limited (SREL) be required to prepare an Environmental Review or an individual environmental assessment (EA) for the Addendum prepared for the proposed North Bala Small Hydro Project (Project) in the Township of Muskoka Lakes.

I am taking this opportunity to inform you that I have decided that an Environmental Review or an individual EA is not required. This decision was made after giving careful consideration to the issues raised in the outstanding requests, Project documentation, the provisions of the Environmental Screening Process (ESP), and other relevant matters required to be considered under subsection 16(4) of the Environmental Assessment Act (EAA).

Please be advised that the conditions I placed on my previous decision and the commitments made by SREL through discussions with MOE staff, as documented in the Environmental Study Report (ESR) and through agreements with stakeholders, such as Ontario Power Generation (OPG), must be fulfilled prior to the implementation of the Project.

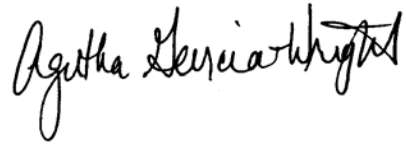
In accordance with the ESP, my decision will become final 15 calendar days after this notice of my decision is received, unless a request is made by one of the original requesters within that time that the Minister of the Environment (Minister) review my decision. This notice is deemed to be received on the fifth day after it is mailed. Please note that the details for requesting that the Minister review my decision are outlined in section B.4.1.2 of the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects.

If no request is made to the Minister to review this decision, SREL must submit the required Statement of Completion and may proceed with the Project, subject to any other permits or approvals required.

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Please note that the contravention of the EAA, including failure to comply with the ESP and the commitments made in the Project ESR and with OPG, may result in prosecution under Section 38 of the EAA. This decision is made with the understanding that SREL recognizes the importance and value of the EAA and that these commitments will be fulfilled.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Agatha Garcia-Wright". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Agatha Garcia-Wright  
Director  
Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch

c: Mr. Noel Boucher, Consultant Project Manager, Hatch Energy  
Requesters  
EA File No.EA06-07 North Bala Small Hydro Project