Dear Ms. Swanson,

Thank you for your letter dated February 3, 2012, requesting Health Canada’s review of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and licence application for the above project and to attend the initial panel orientation session.

In the context of subsection 12(3) of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, Health Canada currently has expertise in the following biophysical areas related to human health that may apply to the project:

- Air quality effects
- Contamination of country foods (e.g. fish, wild game, garden produce, berries, etc)
- Drinking and recreational water quality
- Radiological effects
- Electric and magnetic fields effects
- Noise effects
- Human health risk assessment (HHRA) and risk management
- Federal air, water, and soil quality guidelines/standards used in HHRAs
- Toxicology (multimedia - air, water, soil), and
- First Nations and Inuit Health

As requested, Health Canada will review the EIS and related technical documents. Health Canada’s comments will focus on the accuracy, scientific validity and completeness of, and use of appropriate methods and rationale for the conclusions made concerning human health effects in the environmental assessment. When Health Canada has expertise regarding actions that may be taken to mitigate the impacts, this too may be provided.
Health Canada will be attending the initial panel orientation session on February 21, 2012. A presentation detailing the department’s mandate, interest and expertise in relation to the project and potential environmental effects will be provided.

Should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

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cc: Lorie Whitcombe, A/Manager, Environmental Health Program - Ontario Region, Health Canada
    Nellie Roest, Manager, Environmental Assessment Division, Health Canada