



Coalition for
Equitable
Water Flow

June 10th, 2009

The Hon. James Prentice
Minister of Environment Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

RE: THE PANEL ON THE FUTURE OF THE TRENT-SEVERN WATERWAY and
THEIR REPORT 'IT'S ALL ABOUT THE WATER'

Mr. Minister,

Over a year has passed since the federally appointed Panel presented their comprehensive report 'It's All About the Water' to you.

Our membership of over 40,000 property owners on the reservoir and flow-through (RAFT) lakes of the Trent Watershed have been waiting for nearly five decades resolution to the water management practices of Parks Canada/TSW.

The Panel's recommendations made after receiving hundreds of written submissions, listening to organizations representing thousands of concerned citizens and examining several background studies clearly indicate the urgent need for political action at both the Federal and Provincial level. Our children and grandchildren are depending on you to ensure the future of the ecology, the environment and the communities we have come to love. The future of the Trent-Severn Waterway determines the future of hundreds of thousands of Ontario residents who depend upon its safe and efficient operation. Fresh water is our most precious natural resource and it is being wasted by the billions of litres every day. The \$21 million recently provided to the TSW is a very small start but provides for no long term planning.

The Coalition believes that the Panel has provided a strong foundation upon which to establish the Trent-Severn Waterway as a world class tourist destination throughout its entire 18,000 square kilometres. We believe that the creation of an independent water management agency and adequate permanent funding are the first and most important steps to take.

Mr. Minister, when will you respond to the expert Panel's recommendations?

Sincerely,

COALITION FOR EQUITABLE WATER FLOW – HALIBURTON SECTOR, TSW

Bonnie Fleischaker, Chair

Copy: TS Caucus: B. Devolin, MP Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Brock
J. Leal, MPP Peterborough; R. Johnson, MPP Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Brock;
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