



November 26, 2018

Honourable Catherine McKenna  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

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PREMIER  
27.11.18  
[Signature]

Dear Minister McKenna;

I write to follow up our previous correspondence regarding Northern Pulp's plans for a new effluent treatment facility for its Pictou County Mill. As indicated in my letters of January 23, 2018 and July 6, 2018, I continue to share the concerns of our commercial fishery and aquaculture industries, First Nations leaders and many Prince Edward Islanders regarding the potential for harmful consequences from this project.

As you know, the Northumberland Strait is a vital waterway and ecosystem for our province and our region. The inter-jurisdictional location of the Strait, the potential impact on shared resources and the perception of conflict if one jurisdiction were to determine, on its own, the environmental merits of the project all point to the need for leadership from the Federal Government.

While we are aware that the proponent is delayed in its submission, we understand there is suggestion that the location of the pipe may be changing, which all the more underlines the need for a full federal environmental assessment. I believe there remains an opportunity to explore alternative options such as a closed loop system to avoid the potential for detrimental implications to the marine environment, which would impact this critical ecosystem as well as vital interests in both Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, such as fisheries, aquaculture, population health, and tourism.

I look forward to more fulsome discussion on this soon. I continue to be confident that we share a strong commitment to the environment and also to the livelihood of thousands of families who depend on the ecological health of the Northumberland Strait. Our government remains committed to being a part of an active response.

Yours sincerely,

Wade MacLauchlan

Wade MacLauchlan  
Premier of Prince Edward Island

Cc: Hon. Stephen McNeil, Premier of Nova Scotia  
Hon. Dominic Leblanc, Minister of Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs and Internal Trade  
Hon. Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food  
Hon. Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and Canadian Coastguard  
Hon. Sean Casey, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and Canadian Coastguard  
Hon. Richard Brown, Minister of Communities, Land and Environment  
Hon. Robert Henderson, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries



July 6, 2018

Honourable Catherine McKenna  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Premier Stephen McNeil  
Government of Nova Scotia  
P.O. Box 726  
Halifax, NS B3J 2T3

Dear Minister McKenna and Premier McNeil;

Thank you for your respective responses to my letter of January 23.

As you know, there continues to be significant concern expressed about Northern Pulp's plans for a new effluent treatment facility for its Pictou Plant and the impact on the environment, including the potential consequent effects on the commercial fishery and aquaculture industries.

I continue to hold these concerns, including the direct impacts in our province and on the eco-system of the Northumberland Strait. Given the amount of time that has passed and fresh uncertainty about the Northern Pulp proposal, I believe there is now an opportunity to take a more fully collaborative approach. To this end, I would request that a panel of experts and relevant stakeholders be established to review the project and to consider these impacts as well as to explore innovative approaches to dealing with effluent from the mill. It is imperative that this matter be seriously considered given the potential risks on an important habitat and on critical sectors, beginning with the fishery and tourism, in our region.

Further to my January letter, if the matter is still to be pursued through an environmental assessment, I would strongly urge that the federal process be engaged and the Prince Edward Island be fully consulted and engaged.

I appreciate your attention on this important matter. Our government is prepared to be part of an active response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wade MacLauchlan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Wade MacLauchlan  
Premier of Prince Edward Island

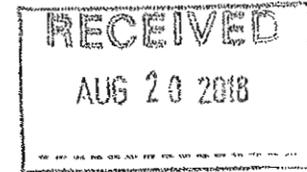
Cc: Hon. Richard Brown, Minister of Communities, Land & Environment  
Hon. Robert Henderson, Minister of Agriculture & Fisheries

Ministre de l'Environnement et  
du Changement climatique



Minister of Environment  
and Climate Change

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3



**AUG 16 2018**

The Honourable Wade MacLauchlan, M.L.A.  
Premier of Prince Edward Island  
P.O. Box 2000  
95 Rochford Street  
Charlottetown PE C1A 7N8

Dear Premier:

Thank you for your correspondence of July 6, 2018, regarding your concerns about the Northern Pulp Effluent Treatment Facility Replacement Project (the Project) and request for the establishment of a panel of experts or a federal environmental assessment to review the Project.

As mentioned in my previous letter sent on May 9, 2018, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency will be providing me with advice concerning whether to designate the Project for a federal environmental assessment under subsection 14(2) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*.

In early July 2018, the proponent announced that it has to do additional work regarding the pipeline route, which will delay submission of the provincial registration document until the fall 2018. The Agency has asked the Proponent for an updated Project submission so that any potential changes to the Project can be considered in the context of the designation request.

Upon review of this additional information and completion of its analysis, the Agency will provide me with advice to inform my decision on whether to require an environmental assessment of the Project.

I trust that you will find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.

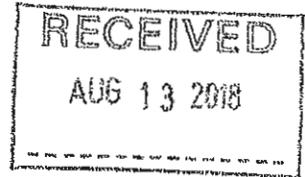
c.c: The Honourable Stephen McNeil, M.L.A.

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THE PREMIER  
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA  
B3J 2T3



August 7, 2018

Honourable Wade MacLauchlan  
Premier of Prince Edward Island  
[premier@gov.pe.ca](mailto:premier@gov.pe.ca)

Dear Premier *Wade* MacLauchlan:

Thank you for your letter dated July 6, 2018, regarding Northern Pulp's plans for a new effluent treatment facility for its Pictou Plant and the impact on the environment, including the potential consequent effects on the commercial fishery, and aquaculture industries. I appreciate you taking the time to share your concerns.

Over the last year, a significant amount of work has been conducted to obtain up-to date information and gain a better understanding of the effects that a new effluent treatment facility would have on the receiving water environment. There is still a significant amount of work remaining before a decision can be made regarding the new effluent treatment facility.

I can assure you that the Minister of Environment, Margaret Miller, will be closely monitoring this very important file. Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) will continue to allocate significant resources towards the oversight and enforcement of the various industrial approval conditions in accordance with the department's policies and procedures.

Once this project is registered for environmental assessment (EA) with the Department of Environment, it will be examined by several provincial and federal government experts, including Fisheries and Oceans Canada. More information about the EA process can be found at:

<https://novascotia.ca/nse/ea/docs/EA.RegistrationTimeFrames.pdf>.

As previously mentioned in my letter dated April 5, 2018, public input is a key component in decision making, and we encourage the Government of Prince Edward Island to provide input during the 30-day

public comment period that is required by Nova Scotia Environment's EA process once the EA is registered. You can sign up to receive notifications of EA registrations and decisions by joining our listserv at <https://novascotia.ca/nse/ea/joinlist.asp>.



THE PREMIER  
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA  
B3J 2T3

If you have further question about the EA process, please feel free to contact Helen MacPhail in our Halifax EA Branch at (902) 483-2696.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S McNeil'.

Honourable Stephen McNeil, M.L.A.  
Premier of Nova Scotia

Copy To: Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
Honourable Margaret Miller, Minister of Environment

BCC To: Frances Martin  
Adrian Fuller  
Lorrie Roberts  
Lynn Bowen  
Helen MacPhail  
Paul Keats  
Tanya MacKenzie