



John McCauley

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Director, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
160 Elgin Street, 22nd Floor
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3
Telephone: 613-948-1785
Fax: 613-957-0897

Email: john.mccauley@ceaa-acee.gc.ca / RegulationsReglements2012@ceaa-acee.gc.ca

We are writing in response to your request to selected ENGOs for their comments on the Project List Regulations, one of three regulations (the *Cost Recovery Regulations*, the *Prescribed Information for a Description of a Designated Project Regulations*, and the *Regulations Designating Physical Activities*) brought into force as a result of the repeal and replacement of the former Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA).

We are appalled at the way in which changes to environmental and other legislation were included in the omnibus budget bill (Bill C-38) which precluded any public debate or input. This calls into question whether the federal government will actually consider or incorporate input provided through this process.

Although we agree with the purposes of the CEAA, the way in which the former CEAA was repealed and replaced with the current CEAA contradicts two fundamental purposes of the Act:

- to promote communication and cooperation with aboriginal peoples with respect to environmental assessments
- to ensure that opportunities are provided for meaningful public participation during an environmental assessment

The changes to the CEAA will have profound impacts on water sources in Canada for generations to come. We are calling on the federal government to scrap this process and begin genuine public consultation on the repeal and replacement of the CEAA. We refrain from providing any input as this “consultation” process remains a hollow exercise until this matter is opened up to the public for debate.

Sincerely,

Emma Lui
Water Campaigner
Council of Canadians