

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq
Minister of Health
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Copy:

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper
Prime Minister of Canada
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David S. Michaud, PhD
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September 20, 2012

Dear Minister Aglukkaq,

Re: Health Canada Wind Turbine Noise and Health Study

On August 31, 2012, I made a submission to Dr. Michaud on behalf of a family affected by exposure to a transformer station associated with a wind energy facility. The transformer station is sited close to the family home and is part of the infrastructure for a wind energy project.

My original submission of August 30, and this submission of September 20, is intended to contribute to the consultation process and study design for the *Health Canada Wind Turbine Noise and Health Study*.

The August 30 submission provided substantial detail about the issues and attempts by the family to resolve their situation.

At the time of the August 30 submission, the family requested confidentiality. However, I am aware that on September 14, 2012, Mr. Kevin French, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ontario Ministry of Environment, wrote Dr. Michaud:

"The Ontario Ministry of the Environment (the ministry) has received numerous noise complaints as a result of the operation of wind turbines and step-up transformers (transformer station) in Grand Valley, ON, specifically the Melancthon Wind Farm and associated transformer station. The total project generates 200 megawatts with Phase I comprising 45 turbines and Phase II comprising 88 turbines. There are two transformers operating at a transformer station.

The ministry has already required a number of actions to be taken by the Melancthon Wind Farm which have reduced noise and vibrations. All tests done by the ministry (noise and vibration monitoring) and Hydro One Networks Inc. (harmonic distortion and stray voltage testing) have concluded that the transformer has been operating in compliance with the applicable standards or guidelines.

The residents nearest to the transformer station; however, have indicated to the ministry that they are influenced by something that they are referring to as electromagnetic frequency or dirty electricity, causing them to experience health concerns (e.g. headaches, disrupted sleep, ringing in the ears, etc.).

The Ministry of Environment does not have the expertise in the area of electromagnetic frequency. I understand that in addition to [*Identities removed*]; Mr. Ted and Mrs Cheryl Whitworth of Grand Valley, ON have also submitted a request to you to include in your study and I would ask that you consider their request to be involved to be included within the parameters of your study."

Due to my concern regarding these two families as well as others who may not yet identified themselves to Health Canada, and who are also reporting deteriorated health and quality of life issues, I respectfully request that Health Canada take action to resolve the issues.

I propose that resolution include emergency funding to relocate the families identified in Mr. French's communication of September 14, 2012, to an area to restore physical, mental and social well being as well as their financial status.

I am aware of other families reporting similar issues and propose an inquiry-investigation, to assist with resolving their health status and to contribute to the study design prior to its finalization.

I would appreciate any assistance that Health Canada could offer to many of those reporting health effects associated with the start up of operations of industrial wind energy facilities.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the family [Original submission of August 31, 2012],

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