AN INVITATION TO COMMENT ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED HIGHWAY 400-HIGHWAY 404 EXTENSION LINK (BRADFORD BYPASS)

THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT SECTION 7.1

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF MINISTRY REVIEW

An environmental assessment (EA) has been submitted to the Ministry of the Environment by the Ministry of Transportation for the Highway 400-Highway 404 Extension Link from Highway 400 east of Bradford in the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury (County of Simcoe) through the Township of King to the proposed extension of Highway 404 in the Town of East Gwillimbury (Region of York). Approval under the Environmental Assessment Act (The Act) is being sought for a four lane freeway to be constructed in stages corresponding to existing and future traffic demands.

Amendments to the Environmental Assessment Act came into force January 1, 1997. Under subsection 12.4(1) of the amended Act, this EA will be processed under the former Part II of the Act. The Ministry may, however, direct that certain new provisions of the Act apply to this EA under new subsection 12.4(3) of the Act.

By Notice of Submission dated October 18, 1998, the public were invited to comment on the environmental assessment and the application of provisions under the new Part II of the Act with respect to this EA. Approximately 35 submissions were received, 1 of which noted concerns with the application of new provisions to this EA.

After considering the submissions, the Ministry directs that the new provisions in section 7.1 and 7.2 regarding this Notice of Completion apply. The Ministry directs that the provisions in section 9 apply, so that the Minister may approve this undertaking without first accepting the environmental assessment. This will give you only one opportunity, after this Notice of Completion of Ministry Review is published, to make submissions. The Ministry also directs that sections 9.1-9.3, 11-11.3 and 12.2 of the amended Act (except for references to terms of reference in the aforementioned sections) apply with respect to this environmental assessment. Under these provisions, you may request the Minister to refer either the whole environmental assessment or only certain matters to the Environmental Review Tribunal for a hearing, and certain activities are permitted prior to approval with respect to the environmental assessment.

You can submit comments on the undertaking, the environmental assessment, and the Ministry review. You can also request that a matter be referred to mediation. You may also request a hearing by the Environmental Review Tribunal. If you request a hearing you must state whether you are requesting a hearing on the whole application or on only specified matters related to the application.

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How to Get the Information

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