



MICHAEL D. HESS, D.D.S.

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June 23, 2008

**International Joint Commission:
Irene B. Broocs
Chair United States Section**

I attended the meeting in Olcott, NY, on June 10, 2008 and I was pleased to see and hear what I have felt and dealt with over these past fifteen years was common place. One gentleman spoke of his experience with Rebecca of the DEC, this woman is one of the harshest, uncaring, insensitive persons that I have ever met. My wife and I are both professional members of our community and we deal with people and their needs all of the time in a caring and professional manner.

When I have a representative of the DEC standing on the deck of my home telling me that she "doesn't care if my house falls into Lake Ontario", as I am trying to get a permit to protect against shore erosion, it makes one think, how do you deal with someone that holds the future investment of your home in their hands with an attitude like that demonstrated by Rebecca. I did comply with Army Core of Engineers Design, as did my neighbor. It cost me \$30,000 - \$35, 000 to do this work, which was made even more brutal by this woman. I have been told that our property had an additional 50 feet in front of it in the early 1950's. Lifetime residents of the area have expressed to me that it was possible to walk the shoreline from Olcott to Wilson, and that there were beaches, which, do not exist anymore.

If the environmentalists and the Joint Commissioner want to truly be fair to all parties, they should look for a way to drain the lake with better control. It seems unfair that because a canal system was put up on the St. Lawrence River and, that development had occurred down stream from the canal system, (that needs to be protected) we on the South Shore of Lake Ontario have to suffer so dramatically.

Why don't they develop a canal around the Montreal Harbor that would come out past the harbor down stream so that it would not be in danger when we have high water, and need relief? I would think that one of the goals of the commission would be to try to recreate what has been so badly decimated by human management of the water levels and the International Commission.

I am against anything that does not restore what was, let alone subject us to more abuse.

Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Hess". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "M" and "H".

Michael D. Hess D.D.S.