

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
CANADA

Ottawa, December 3, 1955.

Dear General McNaughton:

I have for reply your letter of May 9, 1955, on the subject of Lake Ontario levels. I note that the International Joint Commission has reached agreement on a range of elevations for Lake Ontario, namely, 244 feet (navigation season) to 248 feet, as nearly as may be. I am pleased to inform you that this range of mean monthly elevations is approved by the Government of Canada.

In your letter of May 9, you also stated that the Commission recommended approval of the criteria for the operation of the regulatory works being built in the International Rapids section of the St Lawrence River, set out in your letter of March 17, 1955. I am pleased to inform you that the Government of Canada approves these criteria as recommended in your letter of May 9.

Copies of plan of regulation No 12-A-9, which had been developed within this range of elevations and according to these criteria, were enclosed with your letter of May 9. It is apparent that the plan of regulation will be modified in minor details from time to time, both during the construction stage and afterwards, particularly as the works in the other sections of the St Lawrence River are completed and come into operation. Accordingly, it is important to preserve the flexibility for adjustments and progressive improvements which, subject to specified requirements and procedure, is prescribed in paragraph (i) of the Commission's Order of Approval of October 29, 1952. It is important that the St Lawrence River Joint Board of Engineers and the power and seaway entities be provided with a plan of regulation in substitution for plan of regulation No 5 referred to in the Order of Approval, as the basis on which they may proceed with the determination of the critical profiles and the design for channel excavations, if the whole St Lawrence project is not to be delayed seriously. Therefore, the Government of Canada approves plan of regulation No 12-A-9 for the purpose of calculating critical profiles and the design of channel excavations.

The Government urges the Commission to continue its studies with

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Chairman, Canadian Section,
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a view to perfecting the plan of regulation so as best to meet the requirements of all interests both upstream and downstream, within the range of elevations and criteria herein approved.-----

Yours sincerely,

(sgd.) L.B. Pearson