



**Department of
Environment & Labour**

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Office of the Minister

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Rt. Hon. Herb Gray, P.C., Q.C.
Secretary, Canadian Section
International Joint Commission
234 Laurier Avenue West
22nd Floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 6K6

Dear Mr. Gray:

Thank you for the copy of the 2002 Progress Report on activities under the Canada-United States Air Quality Agreement. This agreement is very important for Nova Scotia, where air quality is strongly influenced by transboundary flows. Emission reductions in the United States are therefore crucial for the achievement of air quality improvements in this province. Improving air quality is one of our current environmental management priorities, and it is encouraging that progress is being made on reducing air emissions on both sides of the border.

As we are implementing our own air quality initiatives, we will continue to follow the Air Quality Committee's work with great interest. We also look forward to future studies on air emissions affecting the Atlantic Canada region.

The progress reports are a useful means for communicating updated information to stakeholders and to the public. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on this important report.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron L'Esperance".

Ron L'Esperance
Deputy Minister

cc: Honorable Dennis Schornack