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The Right Honourable Herb Gray, P.C., C.C., Q.C.  
Chair, Canadian Section  
International Joint Commission  
Canada and United States  
22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 234 Laurier Avenue W.  
Ottawa ON K1P 6K6

Dear Right Honourable Gray:

Thank you for your letter of December 15, 2006 along with a copy of the Commission's 2006 progress report on the Canada-United States Air Quality Agreement. I appreciated the opportunity to receive this report and have noted the highlights on the progress being made towards managing emissions of air pollutants as a step for improved air quality in the two countries.

Over the last years, the Manitoba Government has worked hard to address the various environmental challenges that confront us. Though air quality in our province is generally good and we do not face the many issues that arise in other regions of the continent, we remain vigilant to potential threats to preserve our air quality resources. Reports on air quality like yours provides an opportunity to review conditions and issues from a broader geographic perspective.

We welcome the opportunity to participate in the public review of the report. Any substantial comments that we have will be directed to the contact identified in your letter. Again, thank you for the invitation to participate in the review.

Yours sincerely,

Stan Struthers  
Minister of Conservation