



Monte McNaughton, MPP
Lambton-Kent-Middlesex

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April 20, 2017

The Honourable Glen R. Murray MPP
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Ferguson Block 11th Floor
77 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2T5

Dear Minister,

I have on several occasions drawn your attention, and the attention of other members of your government, to the concerns of my constituents in the former Dover and Chatham Townships in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent with regard to the safety drinking water drawn from wells in this area. In fact my first letter on this topic was written in 2012 to Cristopher Bentley, Minister of Energy in the government of the Hon. Dalton McGuinty.

Minister, while I am an advocate of the principle that citizens should stand up for their own rights, I also believe that the government should not by its actions cause harm to its citizens. Your ministry has given environmental approval for the construction of wind turbines on land where it may not be safe to disturb the aquifer either by subsurface pile-driving or by surface vibration. There is *prima facie* evidence that some drinking water drawn from wells in north Kent is no longer potable. I do not believe that under the circumstances in this case local water well owners should not be liable for the costs of their own well testing in wells which were pure.

I am aware that His Worship Mayor Randy Hope of Chatham-Kent is writing to you with a proposal for MoECC coordination of water well testing in north Kent. It is imperative that a standard of testing be agreed upon by all parties involved and I strongly support the proposals of His Worship the Mayor.

Yours sincerely,

Monte McNaughton MPP
Lambton-Kent-Middlesex

c. Ted Arnott MPP, Opposition Critic for Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
Rick Nicholls, MPP, Chatham-Kent

