



TransCanada

Robert J. Reid P.Eng.
President

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December 10, 1998

National Energy Board
444 - 7th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB
T2P 0X8

Attention: Mr. Michel L. Mantha, Secretary

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Hull, Quebec
K1A 0H3

Attention: Mr. Brad Parker, Senior Policy Advisor

Dear Sirs:

**RE: St. Clair Pipelines (1996) Ltd. ("St. Clair"), Dawn to Lake Erie
TransCanada Pipelines Limited ("TransCanada"),
Lake Erie Crossing
NEB Files 3200-T-1-15 and 3200-S15-1**

On November 27, 1998 I wrote to you, requesting that the Board and Agency reconsider its decision to refer the Lake Erie Crossing project for comprehensive study and adopt instead, on a trial or pilot project basis, the NEB substitute panel alternative outlined in Section 21 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* ("CEAA").

In the event this was unclear, what TransCanada is seeking is an immediate referral for review by a panel pursuant to Section 21 instead of a referral for comprehensive study. In addition, TransCanada asks that in making an immediate referral for review by a panel, the Board and the Agency exercise the joint panel review option given in Section 40(2) of CEAA.



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We look forward to your response and would be pleased to discuss our reasons for this request with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Bob Reid

cc: Brian Fowler, TransCanada
L.E. Smith, Bennett Jones Verchere
L. Ruemper, DFO
R. Dobbs, Environment Canada
R. Marttila, Counsel to GAPLO-St. Clair
W. Blake, Natural Resources Gas Limited
S. Grenier, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
A. Towell
L. Manning, Counsel to National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation
O. Stahl, Counsel to Eastern Lake Erie Fishermen's Association