



MANITOBA ECO-NETWORK

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Via Facsimile

Honorable Steve Ashton
Minister of Water Stewardship
Legislative Building
450 Broadway Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8

Dear Mr. Ashton:

We would like to congratulate you (somewhat belatedly) on passing the new Water Protection Act. We hope this legislation will make a difference. In this respect we are requesting you to "consider scientific and other information relating to groundwater and water body levels and in-stream flows, that are necessary to ensure that aquatic ecosystems are protected and maintained." These are consequential amendments made to the Water Rights Act through the Water Protection Act coming into force.

We would like this investigation to take place on the Little Saskatchewan River watershed. We believe that there has been an over allocation of water licenses on this aquatic ecosystem. We are also aware that Water Rights License No. 73-10, 75-35 and 62-19, all issued to the Town of Minnedosa, have expired and that there is a requirement for Minnedosa to supply 880 acre-feet annually to Husky Oil for the new ethanol plant.

This full scientific investigation must include the groundwater source intended to supply the industrial plant, as Environmental License No. 2698, issued to Husky Oil, did not consider the source and sustainability of the water required for this industrial process.

We also seek clarification on whether Water Rights License No. 73-10, 75-35 and 62-19 have been renewed and if not, whether an Environmental Act Proposal and Environment License will be required for the Town of Minnedosa to supply water to Husky Oil.

Thank-you for your consideration. Please keep us informed at the time the Town of Minnedosa intends to renew their Water Rights Licenses.

Sincerely

Glen Koroluk
Water Caucus Coordinator

cc Minister of Conservation