



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3

Patricia Merrilees

<Email address removed>

Dear Patricia Merrilees:

Thank you for your letter of April 24, 2021, in which you requested a regional assessment under the *Impact Assessment Act* (the IAA) for the Don Valley in the adjoining federal ridings of Toronto Danforth, Toronto Centre, University-Rosedale, Spadina-Fort York, Don Valley West and, Don Valley East.

Under the IAA, a regional assessment of the effects of existing or future physical activities in a region may be conducted. Upon receipt of your request, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) undertook a detailed review, taking into account considerations laid out in applicable guidance related to regional assessment requests, to inform my decision. Following careful consideration and analysis of your request, I have decided not to conduct a regional assessment of this area at this time, for the reasons described below.

While the importance of addressing the environmental, health, social and economic effects of infrastructure development in this region and associated public interest in these matters is certainly recognized, I am of the view that existing regulatory frameworks and other ongoing initiatives are well placed to do so. This includes programs led by the Toronto Regional Conservation Authority, Waterfront Toronto, and the City of Toronto, and include the Don Mouth Naturalization Project, Toronto Ravines Strategy, Waterfront Shoreline Project, and others. These programs are intended to help address key environmental issues through planning, mitigation and rehabilitation, and include considerable opportunity for public participation.

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50^e anniversaire d'Environnement et Changement climatique Canada
Environment and Climate Change Canada's 50th anniversary

150^e anniversaire du Service météorologique du Canada
Meteorological Service of Canada's 150th anniversary



In addition, project-specific impact assessments and permitting requirements are also important and effective means of identifying and addressing the potential effects of proposed infrastructure projects in this region. Any impact assessment of a designated project under the IAA, for example, is required to consider both project-specific effects and any overall, cumulative effects that are likely to result from physical activities that have been or will be carried out. It is also required to consider the purpose of and need for the project, as well as alternatives to it and alternative means of carrying out the designated project that are technically and economically feasible.

Thank you again for taking the time to prepare and submit this regional assessment request, and in advance for your participation in the various existing initiatives referenced above.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

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The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, P.C., M.P.