



**Public Hearing - Cornwall, ON
International Joint Commission, Canadian Section - LOSL Hearing
Proposal for Lake Ontario St. Lawrence River Regulation
July 19th, 2013**

Joe Comuzzi: Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. We're just a few moments late and we want to get started. I should caution you at the outset that this is the last day of six days of hearings that we've held started last Sunday. They've been continuous: Sunday morning, Sunday afternoon, Sunday evening, Monday, etc. etc. But this is what you would call, if you are playing baseball, a getaway day; and a getaway day means simply means that there are a whole bunch of us here that have different plane reservations and different accommodations that we have to get to. And as a result, we've got to adhere to the timelines that we have very accurately so if I should be just a little difficult on the timelines, I want to apologize at the outset. Now I am going to ask Commissioner Pollack from the United States to introduce her Commissioners and then I will introduce the Canadian Commissioners. Will you do that for me please?

Lana Pollack: I am happy to do that. First of all, I want to introduce Rich Moy who comes from Montana reminding us that IJC has responsibilities not just for the Great Lakes but for all the boundary waters shared by the two countries. Then Commissioner Dereth Glance is from Syracuse. I live in Michigan and my name is Lana Pollack. Thank you.

Joe Comuzzi: I was hopeful that you would say that... Let me introduce Gordon Walker who is from Toronto and he's one of the new Commissioners sitting alongside Benoît Bouchard from Quebec City. They are the two new Canadian Commissioners and they have been with us this week. I'm not so sure if they will stay with us next week... *(Laughter)* but I do hope they do because they are excellent additions and their knowledge about affairs that we have been talking about in the last few days have been very helpful...extremely helpful. So we have some rules to live by today and I am going to ask Dereth if you would summarize the rules for us.

Dereth Glance: Thank you very much Chair Comuzzi. I will definitely give you an overview of our expectations of the comment period today. But just before I do that, I want to give you a little overview of how we got to today. We're going to have a little video that will provide a brief overview of Plan 2014. But how did we get to this point?

It began a long time ago, few decades ago, so I am going to abbreviate the history to when the United States and Canada agreed to fund a significant study on the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence River system which occurred between 2000 and 2006. We had a Study Board and we had very active public information Advisory Group which many members in this region were particularly involved in. That Study Board came up with a variety of plans to consider, considering all interests and you will hear them: Plan A, Plan B, Plan D and between the plans they presented to the IJC were Plans D+ and Plans B+. The IJC in 2008 announced a Plan called 2007 which was a variation of the D+ Plan. This Plan met widespread opposition from all sectors pretty much. And so then the IJC decided to go back to the drawing board, wrote a letter to our respective governments stating that we would like to work directly with the jurisdictions; the province of Ontario, the province of Quebec and the State of New York, as well as the federal governments of Canada and the United States to do some additional recalibration and refinement to the Plan. So for the past couple of years, the Working Group members have been hard at work doing this. Last year you may remember our staff came out into the area with a public information session, what we called Plan Bv7. It's not a radio station as many folks might sound like but it was actually the 7th version of the B Plan and we heard your comments and there have been a few changes to what we are presenting today as Plan 2014.

This Plan is under comment period. We are bound by the Boundary Water Treaties to consider all interests and so what you say really matters, and we really look forward to your comments today. So following the presentation, you will have hopefully have signed that blue card out in the hallway and we'll call you up. We're going to ask you to keep your comments to about 3 minutes so everybody can get an opportunity to get on the record. If you feel that you have spoken to the Commission before this current comment period, please share your comments and insights again. With that Chair Comuzzi, I will turn it over to you.

Joe Comuzzi: You have done a marvellous job as usual. Thank you very much.

Dereh Glance: Thank you

Joe Comuzzi: We have simultaneous translations today in French and English. If you would prefer to hear your comments in the French language, we have these instruments in front of you and I think we have people in the audience from the IJC that will show you how to operate them. We also have two very important people with us here, not that they are not all important, but these are two important people with us, not that they're not all important. But these are two important people for this hearing and I want to introduce David Fay. David, would you stand please and Jean-François Cantin over at the back there. They are engineers and if there are technical questions that we can't answer, which we obviously can't, they are here to assist and they'll be hanging around for a little while after

the hearings in case people want to talk to them. So far, have I made any mistakes? No? Good.

I'm also disappointed that you don't have two of your favourite citizens here. You have a guy by the name of Ed Lumley that lives in Cornwall and he usually ends up showing up at these hearings and he may wander in late but I hope he does. And your Mayor Bobby Kilgore is not here; he's a great friend of mine, we sat in the House of Commons together for a number of years. He was a Speaker of the House and a former colleague and he is not here, is he? Anyway

Let's proceed with the PowerPoint presentation and it will tell you what we are trying to achieve and then we will have the intercessions of the people who want to make comments and I have the cards here.

(PRESENTATION IN PROGRESS)

Joe Comuzzi: Thank you. I don't know if this has been done this week but I wanted everyone in the audience to know that the speaker you've just heard, her name is Suzanne Lalonde who happens to be married to that guy standing at the back of the room, Bernard Beckhoff. I wish you would convey to Suzanne how much we appreciate the very fine work she has done on this. She has been well listened to. As a matter of fact Bernard, she has been listened to a little bit more than you. *(Laughter)* Will you pass that along to her, please and our thanks. Thank you.

Now we go to the individual interveners and I will give you three names and if you could prepare yourselves to be able to come up in a fairly hasty fashion. The first speaker will be Elaine Kennedy from the St. Lawrence River Restoration Council, the second will be Cliff Steinberg, I hope I have that right from Ault Island and the third will be Robert Graham, who belongs to nobody. Elaine?

Elaine Kennedy: Good evening, good afternoon, good morning, something or other. *(Laughter)* Commissioners, IJC staff, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Elaine Kennedy and I am here wearing several hats, and I am going to speak under several areas. First of all, as a member of the St. Lawrence River Restoration Council, this is the group that is looking after the Remedial Action Plan for this area of concern. And you folks are very aware of this fact that this area of concern has made its presentation to you about whether or not we are going to be delisted or in area of recovery. In looking forward to what's going to happen, whether we become an area of recovery or delisted, we're looking forward to expanding "the area of concern" to take in the whole River starting from Kingston and going right down to the Quebec border to start with and hopefully eventually to the

estuary. We are looking at trying to set up a River network to look at the concerns of the River and bring in all the various groups that are interested in the River. We are also thinking about whether or not we should try to go for making Lake St. Francis into a UNESCO biosphere. These are things that we are going to be looking at but we are also going to be looking at, of course, at the concerns that we still have locally and that we want to make sure that the governments are monitoring the proper things that we have put into our Plan, our delisting Plan and also to look at concerns as they come up in the future.

We are very much in favour of Plan 2014, and I am speaking here for myself. The St. Lawrence River Restoration Council has not considered these regulation plans because of our concern with our delisting situation and we have had that on our mind. But because I have been involved with the River and this area of concern since 1988 and also, as I will speak in a couple of minutes with the water level study from 2000-2005; I am very much in favour of Plan 2014 because of the environmental side and because of course as you can see, I'm looking at it from the environmental opposition. We need to even try to increase the coastal wetlands not just try to preserve them but also try to increase them because of their importance to all the natural fauna and flora. Locally, I would just like to make a comment that one of the concerns is that all the water intakes in this region that are coming from the River come from above the Dam. Of course this means people have the idea that there is an unlimited supply because Lake St. Lawrence has got so much water into it. So therefore, one of our problems is to educate people about the fact that they still need to conserve water because of what is going to happen in the future. We must be preparing now for the changes that are going to be made with climate change. We have already talked about the idea that these hot summers that we are having are giving more evaporation in the Great Lakes with our warmer winters and with the Great Lakes being open, we are having more evaporation, so of course we are having much less water going into it. However right now, I notice when I get my email from Rod Caldwell what the changes are going to be in the water coming out of the Moses Saunders Dam, we can see that it's up now because of the problems that happened in Toronto and it's finally making its way down here.

But we are going to have much more extreme weather and so we must be ready and we must look at what we need to do know what we need to do both through the water levels regulations but also through all other environmental issues that are important in our Great Lakes area, that we must be aware of these environmental changes that are going to happen with climate change and how to adapt to them.

And so therefore, now switching my hat to the fact that I am a Board member and I am Secretary to the Board of the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences and Dr. Jeff Ridal, our Executive Director apologizes but he had a previous meeting about water and the health of the water in this area with scientists that are making presentations on

their work this afternoon and so he wasn't able to be here. And so, I am passing on as a member of the Board, his interest in the idea of adaptive management and how important that is to wherever you go, whatever happens with 2014, which we hope of course is approved but we agree completely that adaptive management is important because that is one of the problems that has happened in the past with 1958 D, that although there were the deviations, there was no flexibility that adaptive management will give.

One of the things that Dr. Ridal wanted me to pass on is the idea that with the government's situations now with financial problems, both municipal, provincial and federal, that there is less money to put into environmental programs including I am quite sure you will find adaptive management. I am sure that you have been talking about that. And so therefore we would like to encourage that you use the expertise in groups such as the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences as well as any other expertise whether it is NGOs, whether it's in business, wherever you can find the expertise to help you with your adaptive management. Please make partnerships and get involved in the adaptive management.

And last but not least, I would like to make a small complaint. And my complaint is that as a member of the Public Interest Advisory Group for the water levels, once 2005 was finished, we seemed to have been finished as well. There seemed to have been a lack of respect towards us that gave our time and energy to this water level study and we never heard from the IJC again. And I resent the fact that you did not respect us enough to let us know, even with an email once a year saying that "we are still working on this" and that "we have a group working on and studying the various issues that you had trouble with and we're finding experts to help us along the way"; I resent the fact that you just dropped us. And the fact that I didn't know about this until Dr. Ridal forwarded to me the website where I could look up and find out where this was happening. And I didn't find out until Thursday, yesterday. And so therefore, I would just like to put in that complaint both from the River point of view and from the Restoration Council point of view. 2014 is a good Plan and we encourage you to put it into place as early as possible. Thank you.

Joe Comuzzi: Thanks Elaine. Do you think that we are getting better?

Elaine Kennedy: At what?

(Laughter)

Joe Comuzzi: It was a, you know...

Elaine Kennedy: Well what I am really pleased to find out is that we have three Canadian Commissioners now.

Joe Comuzzi: It's not an easy task, you know, in Canada.

Dereth Glance: I just want to let everyone know that we really do want to keep in touch with you, and we've recently overhauled our website and I encourage you to check it out. You can follow us on Twitter and Facebook. Some of our communications specialists have actually been live tweeting through this and so please, you can sign up for the email list and our revamped newsletter. So I apologize if you feel that you haven't got direct information in the past. That is definitely a priority of the Commission moving forward. Thank you.

Joe Comuzzi: Madam Chair Pollack?

Lana Pollack: I just want to rephrase that. It's a direct apology, not if you feel you didn't get it; you didn't get it. It was an oversight failing on the part of the Commission and we are sorry. We can't run the tape backwards but going forwards we'll do better.

Joe Comuzzi: Cliff, you're on.

Cliff Steinberg: Good afternoon. My name is Cliff Steinberg and I'm from Ault Island, which is located right across from Wilson Hill Island between Cornwall and Iroquois Dam. I am here representing approximately 68 homes on the water and been following this with David and Robin and these guys for a number of years now, so I am fairly familiar with what goes on and the impacts on all the decisions and how it impacts the different areas.

Couple of comments I would like to make. There is some uniqueness to our area for the simple reason that, if I remember correctly, for every inch that you fluctuate the Great Lakes, we fluctuate by about 15 inches here. Do I have it right, David? I'm pretty close? Roughly give or take. So you can just imagine the fluctuation in water levels that we are affected with and when you have a 2-inch adjustment, you are talking 30 inches here; add winds to that and you could be up in the neighbourhood of 4 feet. So you can just imagine the impact this has on our docks, on our shorelines, on our wildlife, on everything between Cornwall and Iroquois.

And, you know, as an example, let me just use a recent example, in June I believe it was, when we had the extreme high water levels and a sudden wind change. And the wind started to come in from the West and it fluctuated the water level in a few hours by about 3 feet. The damage that was done is thousands and thousands of dollars, just in a very small area. And I know I believe you will be talking a bit about that Dalton because Wilson Hill was affected exactly the same way. And my hope is, moving forward, and I do like what I see in this Plan, I think a more natural water level plan is a good thing. However, my hope would be that you will have the ability under this new Plan to react to these situations and to help us in this area. And, I think, when I use the word "react", meaning that if you look back on the June situation, the minute we were able to close the Iroquois Dam, we controlled the water, we brought the water level down to a more reasonable level in our area and if we could have closed the Iroquois Dam and reacted to those wind conditions,

we would have saved thousands and thousands and thousands of dollars in damage to everything from our shorelines to docks and boats and everything else that goes along with that.

So, if there is one thing that I want to leave you with today is exactly that point. I recognize that, as I said before, regardless what Plan you go with, it impacts every area differently but I just want to emphasize that our area is somewhat unique because of the situation that we are in here. Thank you.

Dereeth Glance: Can I ask a question? Is wind the primary factor? I understand the 15-inch but for the damage, do you think that wind is something that would be the part of the decision making matrix?

Cliff Steinberg: I think definitively wind will have the biggest impact on us, no ifs and buts about it. However, it's the huge fluctuations in a short period of time. I congratulate these guys, because they have done a tremendously good job in my opinion. They communicate and we have had some good communication. If we have had the opportunity to react to something, if we know the water levels are going to go up, we can try to adjust accordingly. But if out of the blue all of a sudden, you have a 3-foot fluctuation and you have boats out there on list, you can imagine the damage that happens and not to mention the damage that it does to the shoreline. So yes; wind conditions does have a major effect on that but also the huge fluctuation in water levels also has a major effect. Thank you very, very much. Keep up the good work.

Joe Comuzzi: Robert Graham... Tell us where you're from.

Robert Graham: I'm from Messina. I'll do that. Good afternoon to the Commission. I'd like to thank you not only for coming here to collect public comment as apparently the law requires, but also for your obvious sincere interest in hearing what people like us have to say. That said, I came to the room today prepared to listen and to not to say anything at all. I had nothing in mind but my wife said: "I think you better say something. You've got something to say, you better say something." By now, after 50 some years of marriage, I have learned to do as I am told. *(Laughter)*

As the Honourable Commissioner pointed out, I speak for no particular group in terms of an organized agency. However, I think I speak for a large segment of the local population; people who have grown up on the River, like myself, and who have never had the River far out of their thoughts for all the years from childhood to the present. And I am proud to count myself among that number. My own recollections go back to the days before the Seaway when growing up in Morristown near Ogdensburg and across from Brockville. I'm happy to say that I can clearly remember years when you couldn't take your boat anywhere because the water was low, and other years when you could take your boat to a lot of

places you normally couldn't and they were not necessarily good years. However, they were years when basically the population would suck it up and they would say next year would be different and we lived with those fluctuations dictated by Mother Nature at that time.

Since then unfortunately with the opening of the Seaway and the power projects and the imposition of Plan 1958D and DD, we have been, in terms of boat owners and lovers of the River, in a much less advantageous position. We have regularly suffered early periods of low water and it has affected boating, it's affected the allied industries such as marinas and it has gone on for a long time and it just seems to me like what could be more reasonable and logical than a Plan that attempts to return the River to its natural state. And I heartily endorse the proposed Plan that you are discussing today and think that this is the way to go. I also understand the concerns of those populations on the Lakeshore faced with possible changes in their property and also in the area between Montreal and Trois-Rivières, but would anticipate that there will be revenues from increased power production that might well be diverted to their benefit. And with that, again, representing nobody but myself, I guess and yet maybe a shadowy group out there who have, like me, spent 75 years loving this River, or nearly 74 actually I'm getting older by the moment here. I thank you for your time.

Joe Comuzzi: Any questions? I see you are a Michigan grad.

Robert Graham: Our grandson is a first year student there.

Joe Comuzzi: I don't have any high expectations for that football team this year.
(*Laughter*) It's not going to happen.

Thank you. Now we have Dalton Foster, and Lee Willbanks and Jeff.... Jeff isn't a good writer, is he? Where is Jeff? Not here? Let's go Dalton. Welcome.

Dalton Foster: Thank you very much for being here today. My name is Dalton Foster. I was just elected to my 16th consecutive term as President of Wilson Hill Association and I have been involved with this since the very beginning. I was on the original Study Board and served on it and I also was the first U.S. Chair for the P.Ag Group. I have been following it and very active in it. I am a retired scientist and a member of the New York Academy of Sciences. So I have been following this primarily from a technical point of view. But I think the idea of going to a natural state is the logical thing to do. It was logical from the very beginning. I was also one of the co-founders of the International Water Levels Coalition. And the first premise was to return to a natural state, because the natural seasonal rhythms that occur along the River and on Lake Ontario are very important.

Also from a viewpoint of politically, I think that it is as important from Hamilton, Ontario and down to the Gaspe. That's the important region, the entire region and having served through the Board and the P.Ag and all that, it was really disheartening to see all the political infighting that happened. This group wants this and this group wants that and they are fighting each other all the time rather than saying: "what's good for the entire basin?" And that's what I always thought we should be looking for, is what's good for the entire basin. There is one region, and I think Cliff brought it up as well, Lake St. Lawrence wasn't there. That's not a natural region. So, it's unfortunate how you regulate Lake St. Lawrence because there was no Lake St. Lawrence. That is the result of the project because it created a reservoir.

The other thing is that we talked about the changes, one of the problems and why the wind is the change, is because the Upper River is actually a bio-hydraulic. The narrowest point in the River coming down through there is just below Chimney Island where the old Glue Rapids began. Before the Seaway, the Glue Rapids started and went down to a series of rapids and it dropped, I think by 97-feet. And then when the Lake came in there and the dams came in, then all that came up. However, that point where the old Glue Rapids started is still a hydraulic point. And the problem is when you have a set rate, a weekly rate, because nature doesn't do it that way, nature does it on a second by second basis. And then suddenly the wind changes, and say for instance it's from the west or south west, and it raises the water levels in Kingston, then what happens is at the first hydraulic point, you force a lot more water into Lake St. Lawrence than you are letting out. And the same thing happened back in...

Joe Comuzzi: Well you may want to discuss that with David Fay.

Dalton Foster: David and I know each other very well and he's really great. I appreciate and I will also be submitting written comments in much more detail. But I think that one of the points is that we need to have a more dynamic Plan and we need to have it especially with the adaptive management. And I think that is the most critical thing here, is the adaptive management plan. We need to take advantage of what we can do now scientifically, because we can monitor all the levels on a second by second basis by satellite. We can interpret this data, collect the data, and in fact I have already talked to David about giving him more data. But we can do that; but I think 2007 was a bad Plan. 2014 I think is a good Plan, it is a Plan that moves us in the right direction and taking us back to a more natural flow. I think if people would stop and say: "this is what I want" but going back to say to say: "if you're going to compare something, compare it with the pre-project; with Plan E or with a Natural Plan". Because most people will find out they're having a great advantage with 2014 over the Natural Plan which would cause much more damage. I thank you very much. And I will be submitting written comments.

Joe Comuzzi: Thank you very much. Lee Willbanks, you are back. You are becoming quite a groupie.

Lee Willbanks: I appreciate your indulgence. I do have to commend you on your stamina. And I think it should be recognized publically that 6 days of hearings is a gargantuan task and I am surprised that you are still awake and attentive.

Joe Comuzzi: That's not going to get you any marks.

(Laughter)

Lee Willbanks: I am not here to reiterate our strong support for 2014. I am here with a very specific and hopefully short purpose. At the Oswego hearing, Chair Pollack asked a specific question or made a statement that we responded to, perhaps with misunderstanding. You were quoted in today's Watertown Daily Times. Having been quoted myself, we can probably debate whether or not they got it accurate but the quote is: *"People in groups with opposing views should overcome the distaste for each other";* I would take some issue with whether or not there is distaste... *and joining forces to have our governments fund such programs,* and we took it to heart before reading it this morning, but I wanted to come and say to you on the record a carefully written statement and I have also spoken to the groups we have worked with: World Wildlife Federation Canada, Fauna Canada and the Nature Conservancy. And they are in agreement and TNC has appended something to our statement. We thought it was important that you hear it while you are still on the road show: *Save The River is committed to working with community groups, other NGOs and any levels of government to find funding sources to assist efforts to build or rebuild coastal resiliency along the Lake and River, in the tributaries and to address the other contributors to erosion.*

In fact, we have started the process internally. We hope to emulate the Buffalo/Niagara River keeper model of assisting communities with planning, grant writing and oversight of implementation of green infrastructure within their jurisdictions. Nature Conservancy: add to that is that they have been committed for many years to the approach that I had just outlined. (Previous statement continued)...*of seeking to forge common cause with local communities and landowners to find solutions to the vulnerabilities of the shoreline and to find the funds to implement those solutions.* They, and we with them, have gone repeatedly to Albany, to Press State agencies and the Governor's office for funding and regulatory reform to address the issues the property owners have raised this week and prior.

As I said, they give us credit for participating with them. We've tried to get together with them to act by executive order to assemble existing resources for shoreline resilience. On the Southern shores during the last three years, we've had at least 20 meetings with Town Supervisors, groups of landowners, hunting and fishing organizations, individual

landowners and individuals whose name we won't relate here because we are still waiting for additional meetings and with the opportunity to speak again. We've tried to assemble a group of stakeholders, all stakeholders, not just the environmentalists and we remain committed to that.

Joe Comuzzi: Lana Pollock is going to respond to that.

Lee Willbanks: Okay, I wholeheartedly endorse that approach.

Lana Pollack: That's good news. I really appreciate the fact that much of this of course has been ongoing. It's not that people have been totally in their camps. But my point was that money was not the whole answer by any means, but it is needed; I think that if interests, I won't say who find each other distasteful, I should have said "*have been distrusting of each other*" would be working together in Albany and in D.C. Wait a minute, which country am I in? *(Laughter)*

Anyways... In Ottawa and in the provincial capitals... get together; tell them that it's not a matter of just paying... we can't buy our way out of it. Some investments will make a difference and those legislators, I used to be one, respond when they have unlikely coalitions coming and asking for things as opposed to the same old, same old divisions. Thank you.

Lee Willbanks: Well we think your comments may help quick start that process. Thank you.

Joe Comuzzi: The final intervener is Jeff Ridal. Oh he's not here.....Then are we all through then? Is there anyone else?

Dereh Glance: If there is no other person, can I speak? This has been an amazing adventure: 12 meetings in 6 days, 2 provinces, 1 State, a River and a Lake. It's just been amazing; we've talked to hundreds and hundreds of people and I really just need to take a moment to applaud our incredible staff who have the endurance even more than us and my amazing colleagues, especially my two brand new Canadian colleagues, this is Week 2 for them as we mentioned earlier so quite the initiation process. We have a lot more to do and this has just been an incredible process and we appreciate just being able to hear from all everybody who's been incredibly civil, very strong beliefs, an amazing amount of expertise in all walks of life. It has just been a great process to be part of this. So I just want to thank everybody.

Joe Comuzzi: Thank you very much. I will reiterate those comments that you were so kind in making Commissioner. Although a long week, it has been a most enjoyable week, most informative week. Some of the people that we have met and some of the locations that we've been to are absolutely superb and we would not, none of us on this Commission,

would have never had the opportunity to visit your places before. Although our people have done a superb job in putting this together, we want to thank the communities in which we were invited to visit and compliment them on being so active. It's really important that everybody has an opportunity to speak about those areas that are of concern to them and to have somebody at the governmental level, if that is what you would like to call us, is willing to listen. We see events as they happen and that's an important part of democracy. And what we have witnessed this week is a very important democratic process and I thank you all and I thank those people that aren't with us this afternoon, but have been with us over the last several weeks and making that fine contribution to the democratic process. So thank you all so much.

(Applause)

Benoît Bouchard: As a new Commissioner, that has been for me, of course, a particular wait, these first hearings. They started off very well; I mean after a couple of weeks with hearings and there's a lot of information in my mind dealing with that part of the River and the Lake. I didn't know very well. I have to be very honest because I was born on the South part of the system. Actually I am from Lac St-Jean so I'm not from the shore or the River.

From what I have seen and what I've learned, people are very concerned about their lake and their river. People who are still believers, they still believe that something can be done. The answer is not the same; different places where we were... it's different in South Western Lake Ontario; it's different here. In fact in Montreal the concerns are not the same. But what I will keep in my mind and I am trying to remember is all those people. I mean they want to keep what we call Mother Nature gave to this country. And I don't know what the Commission will be able to do. We all considerate so many things that are not so easy, but I wish, and I think that my colleagues will probably feel the same; we will do the best and if we are unable to do everything people want, I hope I are going to be able to tell you why honestly and that it will be possible for you to understand that the answer we give is probably the one which will serve the best for yourself and the country that we call Canada as well. Thank you.

Joe Comuzzi: Anyone else?

Rich Moy: I have to say one thing. Now the reason we held all these hearings in 6 days is because of me. *(Laughter)* And the thing is that it takes me a full day to get from Montana and I have to get on a stagecoach, and then 3 flights before I can get to where I need to be and then a full day to get back. I truly have to compliment the staff for really doing a great job of putting everything together for us. And everything worked just perfectly. The second thing is that the hearings turned out great. The people that we heard from were passionate, educated and emotional, and we listened very carefully. And I think they gave us a great idea where we need to go and I truly thank all of you and everyone else that gave

a presentation to us and hopefully within months, a few months, we'll have the recommendations out. Thank you.

(Applause)

Joe Comuzzi: I have just been told that the IJC staff can't go anywhere. You've got to stay put when the crowd leaves. Why, I don't know but that's a pronouncement from the Oracle of Delphi.

End of Transcript

Transcript