

**INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND CANADA**

**DENNIS L. SCHORNACK
CHAIRMAN, U.S. SECTION**



June 25, 2004

- **Database:** Main
- **Docket:** St. Mary and Milk Rivers
- **Type:** IJC Letter
- **Subject:** Letter to Secretary Colin Powell concerning St. Mary and Milk River Public Consultations
- **Action:**
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- **Hard Copies:** DS, AO, IB, Clamen, Gray (Ottawa Office)
- **File Hard Copy:** 9-3

The Honorable Colin Powell
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Powell:

In response to my letter dated February 26, 2004, the International Joint Commission (IJC) plans to hold public consultations next month to assist it in deciding how best to proceed with the request from Montana for changes in the Order that the IJC issued in 1921 to implement Article VI of the Boundary Waters Treaty.

The Commission has decided to hold these consultations in Alberta, Montana, and Saskatchewan at the following places and times.

July 26, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Montana State University - Northern
Ballroom, Student Union Building
300 11th Street West
Havre, Montana
(406) 265-3732

July 27, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Malta High School Auditorium
South 9th Street West
Malta, Montana
(406) 654-2002

July 28, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
T-Rex Discovery Centre Theatre
Eastend, Saskatchewan
(306) 295-4009

July 29, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Lethbridge Lodge Ballroom
320 Scenic Drive
Lethbridge, Alberta
(403) 328-1123

These meetings are not Commission hearings of the kind that the Commission normally holds before changing one of its formal decisions. The Commission will provide governments and all interested persons with further opportunities to make their views known to the Commission before the Commission considers any changes to its 1921 Order.

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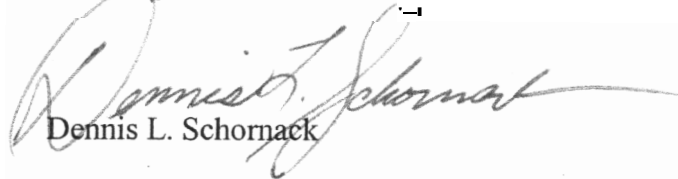
At this time, the Commission is looking for the best way to consider Montana's request, and the Commission would find it very helpful, in **this** context, to hear the views of all concerned **and** to obtain further background information that may be relevant to the questions that Montana has raised.

At the beginning of each meeting, a Commissioner will outline the IJC's responsibilities and the terms of the 1921 Order, and the Accredited Officers will speak about how they are implementing the Order and the situation in the St. Mary and Milk river basins as they see it. The meetings will then be open to everyone who is interested in this matter, and speakers will be recognized on a first-come-first-heard basis. **As** the time for each speaker will be limited, it would be helpful if you or your officials could provide their detailed comments in writing and be prepared to present a brief summary of those comments to the Commission at the consultation sessions.

To assist persons attending these meetings, the Commission is posting information on its website about Article VI of the Boundary Waters Treaty, the Commission's 1921 Order, and copies of correspondence which the Commission has received from governments and others with respect to this matter. If public access to the Internet is not available in any community where meetings will be held, this information will also be deposited in a library or other public place in that community.

Similar letters are being sent to the governments of Montana, Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Sincerely,



Dennis L. Schornack

Cc: The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray, P.C., C.C., Q.C., Chair, Canadian Section, IJC
Terry Breese, Director, Office of Canadian Affairs, U.S. Department of State

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DENNIS L. SCHORNACK
CHAIRMAN, U.S. SECTION



February 26, 2004

• Database: Main
• Docket: St. Mary and Milk Rivers
• Type: IJC Letter
• Subject: Letter to Secretary Colin Powell regarding apportionment of the St. Mary and Milk Rivers
• Action:
• Email: LB, JF
• Hard Copies: DS, AO, IB
• File Hard Copy: 9-3

The Honorable Colin Powell
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Powell:

As you are aware, the Commission **has been** considering the letters of the Governor of Montana requesting the Commission to review **its 1921 Order** with **respect to** apportionment of the St. Mary and Milk Rivers that was issued pursuant to the **Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909**. The Commission has also received correspondence regarding this matter from the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

This correspondence and other information raise several issues regarding water use and apportionment and planned water projects in the St. Mary and Milk River basins. **in order** to gather additional information regarding this situation and to help the Commission decide **how** best to proceed on all of the matters that have been raised in light of its responsibilities under the Treaty, the Commission has decided **to** hold a series of public consultations in the area during the coming summer.

While details of these consultations are not yet available, the Commission wants you to be aware of how it intends to proceed. Additional information on the timing, locations and format of these consultations will be provided in due course.

The Commission will also be keeping the **Governor of** Montana, the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, and the government of Canada **informed** regarding **its plans for** addressing issues related to the apportionment of the St. Mary and Milk Rivers.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Schornack

Cc: **Terry** Breese, Director, Office of Canadian Affairs, U.S. Department of State
The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray, P.C., C.C., Q.C., Chair, Canadian Section, IJC

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