



24 March 2000

Honourable David Anderson
Minister of the Environment (Canada)

Mtra. Julia Carabias
Secretary of the Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries (Mexico)

Ms. Carol M. Browner
Environmental Protection Agency Administrator (United States)

Dear Council Members:

I am writing to you on an urgent basis requesting your cooperation in bringing to a close the matter of the so-called "Revision 2" of the Guidelines for Submissions on Enforcement Matters under Articles 14 & 15 of the North American Agreement for Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC)

As we all recall, the subject of "Revision 1" preoccupied the Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC), the three National Advisory Committees (NACs) and the public at the June 1999 Council Session. Having taken the decision to proceed with revisions despite our advice and the public view to the contrary, you further announced a "Revision 2" process which, I respectfully remind you, was characterized as a matter of refining some minor procedural matters and not substantive.

At this time, JPAC members are highly concerned that any further discussion of "Revision 2" is impeding the submission process and eroding the credibility of the CEC. Accordingly, on behalf of the JPAC, I urge you to either set the discussion aside, a decision JPAC would support, or provide text to JPAC that can be used as a basis for public consultation.

Sincerely,

Regina Barba
JPAC Chair for 2000

cc. JPAC Members
CEC Alternate Representatives
CEC Executive Director