

15 May 1997

VIA FAX AND REGISTERED MAIL

The Honourable Sergio Marchi
Minister of the Environment
Government of Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Hull (Québec)
Canada K1A 0H3

**Re: Submission on enforcement matters under Articles 14 and 15 of the
North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation**
Submitter(s): B.C. Aboriginal Fisheries Commission et al.
Party: Canada
Date: 2 April 1997
Submission No.: SEM-97-001

Dear Minister Marchi:

On 2 April 1997, the Secretariat of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation received a submission pursuant to Article 14 of the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (“Agreement”) filed by Sierra Legal Defense Fund and Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund on behalf of B.C. Aboriginal Fisheries Commission et al. The submission alleges that the Government of Canada is failing to effectively enforce its environmental law, namely provisions of the Fisheries Act and the National Energy Board Act.

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The Secretariat reviewed the submission under Article 14(1) of the Agreement and determined on 1 May 1997 that the submission met the criteria of Article 14(1).

Pursuant to Article 14(2) of the Agreement, the Secretariat has determined that the submission merits requesting a response from the Government of Canada. Accordingly, the Secretariat requests a response from the Government of Canada to the above-mentioned submission within the time frame provided in Article 14(3) of the Agreement. A copy of the submission and of the supporting information is annexed to this letter.

Sincerely,

Commission for Environmental Cooperation - Secretariat

per: Victor Lichtinger
Executive Director

cc.: Ms. Carol M. Browner
Mtra Julia Carabias
Mr. Gregory J. McDade, Sierra Legal Defense Fund
Ms. Patti Goldman, Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund

Enclosures (2)