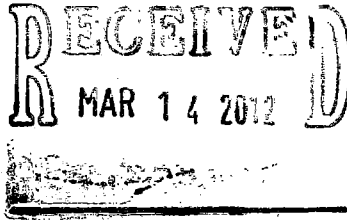




March 9, 2012

Iler Campbell
Barristers and Solicitors
150 John Street
7th Floor
Toronto, ON M5V 3E3



Attention: Laura Bowman

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

Re: Your March 1, 2012 Letter

Thank you for your letter, dated March 1, 2012, regarding our ongoing farming operations and our applications for the approvals necessary to operate a quarry on a portion of our lands in the Township of Melancthon. We are certainly aware of our obligations under the various elements of relevant legislation. We appreciate your client's comments and their active engagement in our ongoing approvals process.

The Highland Companies actively farms about 8,500 acres of land, including land in the proposed quarry license area. Our activities are consistent with normal farming practices which include activities like tilling the land, planting and harvesting crops, grass cutting and other land management activities to optimize our farming operations. We have over fifty employees operating dozens of pieces of equipment in preparation for the upcoming potato planting season. We also manage the largest potato packing facility and storages in Ontario where we store, market and sell about 100 million pounds of potatoes each year. Our plan is to continue farming during and after approval.

Possibly the best way to address any concerns would be to meet with your client. We would ask your assistance in facilitating a meeting between Highland and the executive of your client's organization. We would like to invite them on a tour of our site and facilities, and it will give us an opportunity to discuss our future plans and your client's concerns. Could you please help us to arrange such a meeting?

Further to your question regarding the commencement of the terms of reference process, we would note that we have not yet taken any formal steps to initiate the Environmental Assessment (EA) process. When the EA process is initiated, the public will be notified.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Lowndes".

John R. Lowndes

cc: Agatha Garcia-Wright
John Kus