

Ministry of Natural Resources

Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

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APR 10 2014

His Worship R. (Bob) Bratina
Mayor
City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West, 2nd Floor
Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Bratina:

Premier Kathleen Wynne shared with me your letter regarding fracking. I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Government of Ontario.

In early 2013, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and the Ministry of the Environment accepted an Application for Review under the Environmental Bill of Rights to review existing legislation related to high-volume hydraulic fracturing (fracking) and unconventional oil and gas resource development.

The review is still underway as there is a large amount of information to be analyzed, including sophisticated scientific and technical data. When the process is complete, any proposals for new legislation or proposed changes to existing legislation will be brought forward for public comment.

To date, there are no proposals by industry for the use of high-volume hydraulic fracturing in Ontario, and this process has not occurred in the province. Ministry staff continuously monitor and review such developments in other jurisdictions, including the legislative, scientific and technological aspects.

Ontario has a long history of exploring and producing conventional resources of oil and natural gas, with well-established and effective regulatory controls under the *Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act*, which is administered by MNR. My ministry remains committed to ensuring that all oil and gas related drilling and production activities are conducted safely without detriment to the public and the environment.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

David Oraziatti
Minister of Natural Resources

c: Premier Kathleen Wynne