Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Regional Operations Division

Room 6610, Whitney Block 99 Wellesley Street West Toronto ON M7A 1W3 Tel: 416-314-9075 Fax: 416-314-2629 Ministère des Richesses naturelles et des Forêts

Division des opérations régionales

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MNR7048MC-2018-82

His Worship Fred Eisenberger Mayor City of Hamilton 71 Main Street West 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5

## Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

Thank you for sharing your letter to Premier Kathleen Wynne and the Honourable Nathalie Des Rosiers regarding your Council's resolution requesting the Hamilton Conservation Authority take formal steps to request an enlargement of their jurisdiction. I also note your concerns related to the levy apportionment provisions in the *Conservation Authorities Act.* I regret the delay in responding.

Under the act, conservation authority jurisdictions are generally established on a common watershed basis which allows for more effective resource management. Some municipal jurisdictions span more than one watershed and as such, a municipality may belong to more than one conservation authority.

With regard to your enlargement request, the area of the proposed enlargement currently falls within the boundaries of other adjacent conservation authorities. As a result, this is not an appropriate use of the enlargement provisions under the act. If you would like to pursue a change to the boundary between conservation authorities, please contact Kathy Woeller, A/Director, Integration Branch at (705) 755-1620 or kathy woeller@ontario.ca.

Related to your concerns about the levies that have been apportioned to the City of Hamilton under the act, I understand that the City of Hamilton is currently seeking a judicial review of the Order of the Deputy Mining and Lands Commissioner made on December 21, 2017. As this matter is before the courts, it would be inappropriate to comment of the specifics of this case.

Please note, under the rules around elections and changes in government, correspondence to one Minister cannot be shared with a new Minister from a different government. This means that should there be a change in government following the June 7th provincial election, you may want to consider writing to the new Minister, once appointed, to bring your concerns to his or her attention as well.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Monique Rolf von den Baumen A/Assistant Deputy Minister

Regional Operations Division

c: Premier Kathleen Wynne

Kathy Woeller, A/Director, Integration Branch