



April 20, 2011

Mr. Mark Holmes
Xeneca Power Development Inc.
5160 Yonge Street, Suite 520
Toronto, Ontario
M2N 6L9

Dear Mr. Holmes,

On behalf of the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association (OVTA), I am writing to you regarding the proposed Big Eddy waterpower generating station on the Petawawa River in Petawawa, Ontario.

As you may be aware, the Ottawa Valley is renowned worldwide as the **Whitewater Capital of Canada**. We are home to the best whitewater rafting, kayaking and canoeing opportunities east of the Canadian Rockies. Each year, the Ottawa Valley, including the Town of Petawawa, hosts a number of paddling events and competitions on the Ottawa, Madawaska and Petawawa Rivers. Additionally, the area has produced a number of elite paddling athletes who have used the Petawawa River as training grounds prior to continuing on to compete at international events, such as the World Free-Style Kayaking Championships and the Olympics.

The Petawawa River plays an important role in the paddling, fishing and tourism industries in the Ottawa Valley bringing thousands of paddling enthusiasts and fishermen to the Town of Petawawa and the Ottawa Valley each year. The proposed damming of the Petawawa River will not only have major implications to the paddling and fishing industries, but also to the Town of Petawawa as a tourism destination.

As such, I am writing to request that a Socio-Economic Impact Study be included as part of Xeneca's Environmental Assessment of this proposed project. It is imperative that all potential impacts, both positive and negative, be carefully examined prior to moving forward with this proposal.

We trust that Xeneca Power Development Inc. will continue to work with the local community and various stakeholders, and we look forward to hearing from you as this project moves forward.

Yours in Tourism,

Charlotte Gebhart
President, Ottawa Valley Tourist Association

- C: Joanna Samson, Water Resources Coordinator, Ministry of Natural Resources
Vicki Mitchell, Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Ministry of Environment
Helen Kwan, Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Energy
Karen Cronier, Planning Technician, Town of Petawawa
Community Alliance to Save the Petawawa

Ontario's Adventure Playground!

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