



Ministry of Energy
and Infrastructure

3rd Floor, Hearst Block
880 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2C1

Ministère de l'Énergie
et de l'Infrastructure

Édifice Hearst, 3^e étage
880, rue Bay
Toronto (Ontario)
M7A 2C1

November 6, 2008

Ms. Colette McLean
RR5
1245 Gore Road
Harrow, Ontario
N0R 1G0

Dear Ms. McLean:

Thank you for your letter of October 24, 2008, to the Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, regarding stray voltage and wind generators. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

This Ministry has no record of previous correspondence from you to Minister Smitherman on this topic. I am aware of an e-mail from you to the Minister of the Environment on this subject, sent August 13, 2008; this Ministry was copied on the Ministry of Environment's response.

As noted in that response, stray voltage is not unique to distribution systems near wind farms; in fact, stray voltage occurs to a greater or lesser extent on almost all distribution systems in Ontario. Also, while stray voltage can adversely affect farm animals, particularly dairy cows, it is not considered hazardous to humans.

Please be aware that this Ministry does not have a mandate to investigate questions relating to possible health risks, or questions relating to electrical safety. For information on health issues, I would suggest you contact Health Canada (website: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca>). For information on electrical safety, you should contact the Electrical Safety Authority, which is responsible for electrical safety matters in Ontario (website: <http://www.esainspection.net>).

.../cont'd

I hope that this information will be helpful. Should you have any further questions of a general nature, please call the ministry's information line at 1-888-668-4636, TTY 1-800-387-5559.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosalyn Lawrence". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Rosalyn Lawrence, Assistant Deputy Minister
Office of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure