United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Case No. O-2017-17798
Requester: Patrick Picard

TO: EPA FOIA Officer
1200 Pennsylvania Ave.
2821T
Washington, DC 20460

FROM: Eric F. Stein, Director
Office of Information Programs and Services

SUBJECT: FOI/PA Referral for Review and Reply to Us

The attached material appears to be of interest to your agency. It was included in material sent to us by the Canadian Embassy for advice as to whether it may be released.

There are no perceived State Department equities in any of the 6 documents. We defer to your judgment on them.

We ask that you not delete portions of any document on non-responsive grounds. If you request withholdings on behalf of your agency, please provide appropriately marked copies.

Please review this material and send it back to us. The Embassy has requested that it be returned through Department of State channels.

If you have any questions, please call the reviewer, Mary Ronan, at 202-261-8508; or the case analyst, Keri Lewis, at 202-261-8304.

Attachments:
Copy of request letter
6 documents

FRUS
O-2017-17798

Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada
Affaires étrangères, Commerce et Développement Canada
125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0G2

CONFIDENTIAL(w/a)

Our File / Notre référence :
AC-2017-01501 / HJ

To / Destinataire	:	The Embassy of Canada to the U.S.A.
From / Expéditeur	:	Patrick Picard (DCP)
Date	:	SEP 25 2017
Subject / Objet	:	Consultation Request

We have received a request under the *Access to Information Act* for the following information:

"I would like to see all records, including memos, letters, e-mails or notes, sent between Minister Catherine McKenna and any employee of the United States Environmental Protection Agency between the period of Oct. 20, 2015 and Aug. 1, 2017.
I would also like to see all records sent between Minister McKenna and Acting Assistant Secretary {Judith G. Garber} of the Bureau of Oceans and International and Environmental Affairs during the same time period.."

The enclosed documentation, which is relevant to the request, originated within the Department of Environment and Climate Change Canada. The *Act* requires that information obtained in confidence from the government of a foreign state, or an institution thereof, must not be disclosed without the consent of that government.

We are therefore, requesting that you refer the enclosed documents to the appropriate officials to seek their consent to disclose them to the requester.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Hannah Jatau at 343-203-1362 or by email at Hannah.Jatau@international.gc.ca.

for Christine Moore
Patrick Picard
Director
Access to Information and Privacy Protection

Attachments: 10 pages (**A0493217_1 to 3, A0493218_1, A0493219_1, A0493220_1 to 2, A0493221_1, A0493222_1, A0493223_1**

VIP

THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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NO OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF STATE EQUITIES

REFERRED FOR CONSULTATION to EPA

The Honorable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Ottawa
CANADA K1A OH3

Dear ~~Madam~~ Catherine Minister:

It was very good to see you during your recent visit to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's headquarters. The EPA and Environment and Climate Change Canada clearly have much in common in our shared mission to protect public health in our communities and safeguard our shared natural resources. Both of our institutions are leaders in identifying practical solutions and shaping international discussions on global environmental issues as well.

Protecting and restoring the Great Lakes for all those who depend on them is an example of a shared imperative for the United States and Canada. Both countries signed amendments to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in 2012. At that time the evidence was mounting that it was critical to strengthen protections for Lake Erie, the most sensitive of the lakes. To achieve this, the two countries agreed to establish binationally phosphorus targets to restore the lake's health. The process for developing these targets with Canada, including collaborative efforts with states, provinces and many other partners, has been as important as the targets themselves.

The first step in our urgent work together to protect Lake Erie from toxic algae, harmful algal blooms and other effects of nutrient runoff is to establish these important limits. Accordingly, on behalf of the United States government, I am pleased to confirm the following revised phosphorus-reduction targets and phosphorus allocations:

- To minimize the extent of hypoxic zones in the waters of the Central Basin of Lake Erie: a 40-percent reduction (compared to a 2008 baseline) in total phosphorus entering the Western and Central basins of Lake Erie – from the United States and from Canada – to limit the annual loading to 6,000 metric tons (13,227,736 pounds) or less. This amounts to a reduction from the United States and Canada of 3,316 metric tons (7,310,529 pounds) and 212 metric tons (467,380 pounds), respectively.

- To maintain algal species consistent with healthy aquatic ecosystems in the nearshore waters of the Western and the Central Basins of Lake Erie: a 40-percent reduction in spring total and soluble reactive phosphorus loads from the following watersheds where localized algae is a problem. In Canada: the Thames River and Leamington tributaries. In the United States: the Huron River in Ohio, the Maumee River, the Portage River, the River Raisin, the Sandusky River and Toussaint Creek.

- To maintain cyanobacteria biomass at levels that do not produce concentrations of toxins that pose a threat to human or ecosystem health in the waters of the Western Basin of Lake Erie: a

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40-percent reduction in sp[redacted]ctive phosphorus loads from the Maumee River.

Establishing these targets is only [redacted]k together. We will continue to improve our understanding of the dynamics th[redacted]lgal blooms and that pose ecological, economic and public-health threa[redacted]eveloping domestic action plans and strategies to attain these targets, neither of o[redacted] take action. For example, in recent years we have doubled the amount of farml[redacted]practices to reduce nutrients.

We look forward to working with [redacted] develop allocations for Lake Erie's Eastern Basin later in 2016. I am eager fo[redacted] between our two countries to make this truly magnificent ecosystem cleaner, sa[redacted]rent and future generations. It will be a pleasure to see you again during [redacted]tawa next month.

[redacted]rely,

[redacted] McCarthy

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THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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The Honorable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Ottawa
CANADA K1A OH3

Catherine

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REFERRED FOR CONSULTATION to EPA.

Dear Madam Minister:

I enjoyed meeting with you during my recent visit to Ottawa and discussing issues important to the people of the United States and Canada. As you know, protecting and restoring the Great Lakes is an imperative for our countries, both of which signed an updated amendment to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in 2012. A key component of that agreement is Annex 3, which addresses Chemicals of Mutual Concern.

Annex 3 requires the parties to jointly designate Chemicals of Mutual Concern. Following such designation, the parties shall then target those designated Chemicals of Mutual Concern for action through a variety of mechanisms, including reducing the release of Chemicals of Mutual Concern into the environment.

Following an extensive, collaborative and transparent process, the Great Lakes Executive Committee recommended certain chemicals for joint designation by the governments of the United States and Canada. I am pleased to recognize that the two governments have jointly accepted the committee's recommendations and, on behalf of the Government of the United States, designate the following eight chemicals as the first Chemicals of Mutual Concern under the agreement:

- hexabromocyclododecane;
- polybrominated diphenyl ethers;
- perfluorooctanoic acid;
- perfluorooctane sulfonate;
- long-chain perfluorinated carboxylic acids;
- mercury;
- polychlorinated biphenyls; and
- short-chain chlorinated paraffins.

I know you share my excitement at completing this critical step under Annex 3, and I look forward to our continued work with Canada as we reduce chemical impacts to one of the world's greatest environmental resources: the Great Lakes.

Sincerely,

Gina McCarthy

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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The Honorable Catherine McKenna
Minister of the Environment and Climate Change
200 Sacré-Coeur Boulevard
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3
CANADA

Dear Madam ~~Minister~~ Catherine:

It was a pleasure to see you again at the recent G7 Environment Ministers Meeting in Toyama, Japan. The G7 can play an important role in maintaining the momentum of the Paris Agreement and in advancing the implementation of ambitious climate-change measures. Together we can demonstrate steady achievement toward the long-term goals established in Paris.

I want to thank you for your commitment to attend in the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties for the Montreal Protocol in Vienna. Our participation will show negotiators that we are committed to working together to resolve key issues and overcome any challenges to adopt an amendment in 2016. I also want to convey my gratitude for your leadership in reaching out to key countries that might need additional engagement to support the HFC amendment this year and encouraging them to attend the meeting.

As mentioned during the G7, I am sharing the link to a recent report, "The Impacts of Climate Change on Human Health in the United States: A Scientific Assessment." The report significantly advances what we know about the impacts of climate change on public health and the growing risk it poses to human health. It can be viewed at https://health2016.globalchange.gov/

I know that our teams are working closely on coordinating details but please feel free to share any thoughts you might have on what we can do, either together or independently, to foster success in Vienna.

In the meantime, I look forward to working with you and other ministers toward achieving action on this critical global challenge.

Sincerely,

Gina McCarthy

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The Administrator
Washington, D.C. 20460

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REFERRED FOR CONSULTATION to EPA.

The Honorable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Ottawa
CANADA K1A OH3

Dear Madam Minister: Catherine

I enjoyed seeing you during my recent visit to Ottawa, and I want to thank you again for being such a gracious host.

It is wonderful to join Environment and Climate Change Canada in taking a leadership role on climate, air quality, the Great Lakes and many other important environmental challenges. We can achieve so much together on these issues and in engaging our indigenous populations on environmental quality.

Please accept my gratitude for the beautiful computer bag. I had to keep a tight hold of it as several colleagues wanted it for themselves. I also appreciated receiving my first toque in honor of Canada's National Beaver Day. While I have had many knitted hats over the years, this will always be my first toque.

I look forward to seeing you later this month at the G-7 in Toyama, Japan, at the Commission for Environmental Cooperation in Mexico during June and at the Montreal Protocol meetings in Vienna in July.

Fabulous Trip!
See you soon -

Sincerely,

Gina McCarthy

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A0493219_1-000005

From: Moscoe, Adam (EC/EC)
Sent: Sunday, November 08, 2015 10:40 AM
To: Bluhm, Kate <Bluhm.Kate@epa.gov>; Raynolds, Marlo (EC/EC); Roulx, Richard (EC/EC)
Cc: Ministre / Minister (EC/EC)
Subject: Re: Phone call between Minister McKenna and Administrator McCarthy

NO OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF STATE EQUITIES

Good morning Kate,

REFERRED FOR CONSULTATION to EPA.

Thank you for your email, and I look forward to corresponding with your office.

Minister McKenna is in Paris for the preCOP meetings. I am CCing her Chief of Staff, Marlo Raynolds, who is traveling with her and can assess availability for a call tomorrow with Administrator McCarthy.

Many thanks, and best regards,
Adam

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Bluhm, Kate
Sent: Sunday, November 8, 2015 10:33 AM
To: Moscoe, Adam (EC/EC)
Subject: Phone call between Minister McKenna and Administrator McCarthy

Hi Adam,

My name is Kate Bluhm, I am the Director of Scheduling and Advance for U.S. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy.

Our international affairs office shared your email as the best point of contact to set up a phone call between Administrator McCarthy and Minister McKenna. If possible we would appreciate scheduling a call for tomorrow. Does Minister McKenna happen to have any availability?

Thanks so much,
Kate

Kate Bluhm
Director for Scheduling and Advance
Office of the Administrator | US EPA
Office: (202) 564-7021
Cell: (b) (6)

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THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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MAY 11 2016

The Honorable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Ottawa
CANADA K1A OH3

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Dear Madam ~~Minister~~: Catherine

I enjoyed meeting with you during my recent visit to Ottawa and discussing issues important to the people of the United States and Canada. As you know, protecting and restoring the Great Lakes is an imperative for our countries, both of which signed an updated amendment to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in 2012. A key component of that agreement is Annex 3, which addresses Chemicals of Mutual Concern.

Annex 3 requires the parties to jointly designate Chemicals of Mutual Concern. Following such designation, the parties shall then target those designated Chemicals of Mutual Concern for action through a variety of mechanisms, including reducing the release of Chemicals of Mutual Concern into the environment.

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- mercury;
- polychlorinated biphenyls; and
- short-chain chlorinated paraffins.

I know you share my excitement at completing this critical step under Annex 3, and I look forward to our continued work with Canada as we reduce chemical impacts to one of the world's greatest environmental resources: the Great Lakes.

Sincerely,

Gina McCarthy

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The Administrator
Washington, D.C. 20460

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The Honorable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Ottawa
CANADA K1A OH3

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Dear ~~Madam Minister~~: Catherine

Thank you for your kind invitation to speak at the 2016 Great Lakes Public Forum in Toronto. I regret that prior commitments will not allow me to participate in this event.

I hope that the meetings will provide exciting opportunities for the public to engage in recognizing all that we have achieved under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, especially since it was amended in 2012.

Indeed, these accomplishments have been important to the people of the United States and Canada and to the national and local governments that serve them.

I am sure the forum will be very successful, and I look forward to hearing about the celebration.

Sincerely,

Gina McCarthy

Sorry!

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

April 27, 2017

THE ADMINISTRATOR

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The Honorable Catherine McKenna
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
200 Sacre-Coeur, 2nd Floor
Fontaine Building
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3
CANADA

Dear Minister McKenna:

Thank you for your kind note. I, too, look forward to working together in the coming months and seeing you soon in Charlottetown, PEI.

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me during your visit to Washington.

Respectfully yours,

E. Scott Pruitt

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From Department of State A/GIS/IPS – SA-2, Room 8100 515 22nd. Street N.W. Washington D.C. 20522	TO – EPA FOIA Officer 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. 282 IT Washington, DC 20460

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