

***MAZINAW – LANARK  
FOREST INC.***

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February 13, 2020

Jennie Weller  
Environmental Assessment and Permissions Branch  
135 St Clair Avenue West  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Toronto , ON  
M4V 1P5  
Canada

Submitted Online Via the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#)

**Re: Support for Proposed amendments to General Regulation 334 under the Environmental Assessment Act to remove Regulatory Duplication of Forest Management requirements in Ontario, ERO# 019-0961**

Ms. Weller,

Mazinaw-Lanark Forest Inc. is a small, cooperative SFL in Southern Ontario with shareholders representing sawmills, a group of independent loggers and a pulp mill. Our shareholders are principally independent, family owned businesses whom have been operating on Crown land for generations. Our shareholders have broad representation in the communities within and surrounding the SFL boundaries. Over 785 people are employed by these operations and are dependent on wood produced from the forest.

As the general manager of Mazinaw-Lanark Forest Inc., thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Proposed amendments to General Regulation 334 under the Environmental Assessment Act to remove Regulatory Duplication of Forest Management requirements in Ontario, Environmental Registry of Ontario number 019-0961. I am writing to you today to express support for this proposal.

Our company agrees with the proposal which identifies the fact that the system for forest management in Ontario meet the same requirements of the EA Act. Our company which operates under the Crown Forest Sustainability Act agrees with the observation of this policy proposal that the declaration order process has not kept up with a changing forest sector in Ontario and has created extra burden and economic impacts for very little benefit to sustainable forest management or the public.

Mazinaw-Lanark Forest Inc. is familiar with the proposed changes to the regulated manuals under the Crown Forest Sustainability Act, supports the proposed changes and believes these manuals are a sensible approach to ensuring the intent of the EA Act approval is accounted for. Exempting forestry activities from the EA Act will fully acknowledge that forest management activities following the approved manuals ensures the forest continues to be managed appropriately for the people of Ontario and removes unnecessary duplication of environmental approvals for these activities on Crown lands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Mertins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matt" being more prominent than the last name "Mertins".

Matt Mertins, RPF  
General Manager  
Mazinaw-Lanark Forest Inc.

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