Order in Council

Appendix A

Order in Council
Décret

Ontario
Executive Council
Conseil des ministres

On the recommendation of the undersigned, the Lieutenant Governor, by and with the advice and concurrence of the Executive Council, orders that:

Sur la recommandation du soussigné, le lieutenant-gouverneur, sur l'avis et avec le consentement du Conseil des ministres, décrète ce qui suit :

A number of people have died or became ill in circumstances where Escherichia coli bacteria have been found in the water supply in that part of The Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton formerly known as the Town of Walkerton.

Under the *Public Inquiries Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 41, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by commission, appoint one or more persons to inquire into any matter of public concern, if the inquiry is not regulated by any special law and if the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers it desirable to inquire into that matter.

The Lieutenant Governor in Council considers it desirable to inquire into the following matters of public concern. The inquiry is not regulated by any special law.

Therefore, pursuant to the *Public Inquiries Act*:

Establishment of the Commission

1. A commission shall be issued effective June 13, 2000, appointing the Honourable Dennis R. O'Connor as a commissioner.

Mandate

2. The commission shall inquire into the following matters:

   (a) the circumstances which caused hundreds of people in the Walkerton area to become ill, and several of them to die in May and June 2000, at or around the same time as Escherichia coli bacteria were found to be present in the town's water supply;

   (b) the cause of these events including the effect, if any, of government policies, procedures and practices; and

   (c) any other relevant matters that the commission considers necessary to ensure the safety of Ontario's drinking water,
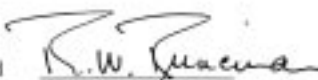
   in order to make such findings and recommendations as the commission considers advisable to ensure the safety of the water supply system in Ontario.

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3. The commission shall perform its duties without expressing any conclusion or recommendation regarding the civil or criminal liability of any person or organization. The commission, in the conduct of its inquiry, shall ensure that it does not interfere with any ongoing criminal investigation or criminal proceedings, if any, relating to these matters.

4. The commission shall complete this inquiry and deliver its final report[s] containing its findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Attorney General who shall make such report[s] available to the public.

5. The commission may make recommendations to the Attorney General regarding funding to parties who have been granted standing, to the extent of the party's interest, where in the commission's view, the party would not otherwise be able to participate in the inquiry without such funding.

6. Part III of the *Public Inquiries Act* applies to the inquiry and the commission conducting it.

Resources

7. Within an approved budget, the commission may retain such counsel, staff, investigators and expert advisers as it considers necessary in the performance of its duties. They shall be paid at rates of remuneration and reimbursement approved by Management Board of Cabinet. They shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with their duties in accordance with Management Board of Cabinet Directives and Guidelines.

8. The commission may obtain such other services and things as it considers necessary in the performance of its duties within an approved budget. The commission shall observe Management Board of Cabinet's Directives and Guidelines and other applicable government policies when it obtains services or things.

9. All ministries, Cabinet Office, the Premier's Office, and all boards, agencies and commissions of the government of Ontario shall assist the commission to the fullest extent so that the commission may carry out its duties.

Recommended _____
Attorney General

Concurred _____
Chair of Cabinet

Approved and Ordered _____ JUN 1 3 2000 _____
Date

_____
Lieutenant Governor