

Yvon Otis - SEM-08-002 (Air Pollution in suburban Montreal)

Questions:

	Yes	No	I don't know
Did the Citizen Submission procedure seem to be useful?		x	
Were you satisfied with the CEC's handling of your petition?	x		
Did the CEC's resolution of your petition seem technically and legally appropriate?	x		
Did the CEC's resolution seem just?	x		
Did the CEC's response time seem appropriate?	x		
How much time did the procedure take (in months)?	1		
How much money did you or your organization invest in preparing and following up your petition (in C\$, Mx pesos, US\$)?	20 \$can		

1. When and how did you learn about the citizen submission process?

I no longer remember when that was.

2. How difficult was it to gather information on how to use the SEM process? What institutions, organizations, resources, or establishments did you consult, if any, to learn about the SEM process and how to use it?

Non

3. Did you know about the "Guidelines for Submissions on Enforcement Matters under Articles 14 and 15 of the [NAAEC]" (the "Guidelines") published in the CEC booklet "Bringing the Facts to Light"? If so, did you consult them? How helpful was it? Was there any information not included in the Guidelines that might have helped you in preparing your submission?

Yes, I followed the instructions in the guidelines.

4. Did you contact the CEC Secretariat prior to preparing a submission, and if so, for what reason (i.e. information gathering, questions about procedure, etc)? Was the response of the Secretariat, if any, helpful? Why or why not?

Yes, I contacted the Secretariat for general information.

5. Why did you choose the SEM process for addressing the matters you raised in your submission?

To bring the problem to public attention.

6. What outcome did you expect from the SEM process at the time of your submission? Sanctions? Recommendations? Conclusions?

No, I only sought to bring the problem to public attention.

7. Did the processing of your submission in any way affect or impact the situation you were addressing, and if so, how? Was this impact consistent with your hopes and expectations?

Unfortunately, there was very little media coverage.

8. Has the outcome of the SEM process with respect to your submission helped you to understand the relevant environmental law(s) and the government's decisions with respect to enforcing those laws? If so, in what way?

Non

9. Did you pursue any domestic legal options regarding the matters raised in your submission? If not, why not? If so, why did you also file a submission?

Non

10. If the government Party filed a response to your submission, was the response helpful in understanding the Party's positions and decisions with regard to the matters you raised, and if not, why? Did the response provide information that you were seeking?

I received a response from the Ministry of the Environment of Quebec which said nothing substantive.

11. Did you have any contact with the government Party regarding the matters raised in your submission during or after conclusion of the SEM process, and if so, was this contact helpful? If not, would such contact have been helpful?

Non et non.

12. How long did it take for your submission to be processed? Include the time from the point that you submitted the petition to the factual record or other final decision. Do you believe that this is a reasonable amount of time for processing of submissions? If not, what recommendations would you make for improving the timeliness of the process?

About one month and my complaint was dismissed.

13. What action have you undertaken with regard to the matters raised in your submission after the conclusion of the SEM process? Do you expect or wish that the CEC continued to be involved following the conclusion of the process, and if so, how?

None. I don't know.

14. How costly was it for you to use the citizen submission process? Were the costs in line with the benefits you received from the process?

In total, it cost me less than \$20 Cdn.

15. What kind of assistance, if any, did you receive in preparing your submission? If you did not receive assistance, what kind of assistance do you wish you had received, if any?

No. None.

16. Approximately how much time went into the preparation of your submission?

25 hours.

17. Overall, was the citizen submission process a useful forum to raise the matters you highlighted in your submission? Why or why not?

The media didn't do their job.

18. Bearing in mind your experience with the article 14 and 15 process, do you think this mechanism needs to be revised and amended?

I don't know.

19. Do you have any other comment or recommendations regarding the citizen submission process?