



30 July 2010

BY E-MAIL & REGULAR MAIL

Mr. David McGovern

Assistant Deputy Minister
International Affairs Branch
Environment Canada
15-1540, 200 Sacré-Coeur
Fontaine Building
Gatineau, Quebec
K1A 0H3

**Re: SEM-09-005 (*Skeena River Fishery*)
Acknowledgment of receipt of Canada's response**

Dear Mr. McGovern:

We hereby acknowledge receipt of the Response of the Government of Canada to the above-captioned submission, received by electronic mail on 30 July 2010. We will update our electronic public registry accordingly.

I note that the Response includes an annexed document (Annex 8) that Canada has designated as confidential. The Secretariat will safeguard from disclosure this information, in accordance with NAAEC Article 39(1)(b), and Article 17.2 of the *Guidelines for Submissions on Enforcement Matters under Articles 14 and 15 of the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation* (the Guidelines). Canada may wish to provide a summary of such confidential information for public disclosure in accordance with Guidelines Article 17.3.

Canada was to have provided a response to the Skeena River Fishery submission within 60 days of delivery of the Secretariat's 18 May 2010 request. The response to submission SEM-09-005 was thus due on or before 19 July 2010. The Secretariat however received your Response on 30 July 2010.

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As you are aware, such delays are not foreseen in the normal course of the Articles 14 and 15 process. I note however, that this is the first instance of Canada not providing a Response within the time limit foreseen in NAAEC Article 14(3), and that there were extraordinary circumstances prevailing. In future, I trust that Canada's Responses will continue to be received within the Agreement's prescribed time limits.

Sincerely,

(original signed)

Dane Ratliff
Director
Submissions on Enforcement Matters Unit

cc: Mr. Enrique Lendo, Mexico Alternate Representative
Ms. Michelle DePass, US Alternate Representative
Mr. Evan Lloyd, CEC Executive Director
Ms. Marcelle Marion, Legal Officer, SEM Unit, CEC
Submitters