

Rochelle Silva

Subject: FW: Update: Proposed regulation regarding Minister's Permit and Review powers under the Conservation Authorities Act

From: ca.office (MNR) <ca.office@ontario.ca>

Sent: January 17, 2025 1:44 PM

To: ca.office (MNR) <ca.office@ontario.ca>

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** This email is being sent on behalf of Jennifer Keyes, Director, Development and Hazard Policy Branch **

Good afternoon:

I am writing to you today to notify you of a new regulation prescribing the circumstances under which the Minister of Natural Resources ("Minister") may make permitting decisions in the place of a conservation authority or review a conservation authority's permitting decision.

New provisions in the *Conservation Authorities Act* came into effect on April 1, 2024, that included powers for the Minister to 1) issue an order to prevent a conservation authority from issuing a permit and to take over the permitting process in the place of a conservation authority ("Minister's permit"), and 2) review a conservation authority permit decision at the request of the applicant ("Minister's review"). It is important to note that when making a permitting decision using one of these tools, the Minister is required to satisfy the same legislative criteria concerning natural hazards and public safety that are considered by conservation authorities.

The new regulation sets out the circumstances under which the Minister may use these powers as circumstances where the proposed development activity or other activity, in the opinion of the Minister, pertains to or supports a matter of provincial interest described in the regulation. Additionally, it includes a transparent process for individuals or businesses to request the use of these powers and sets out the information that must be submitted as part of such a request. This regulation came into effect on January 1, 2025.

A Decision Notice is available at the Environmental Registry of Ontario, posting #[019-8320](#) and supporting information describing the process for requesting the use of these powers is available [online](#).

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Ministry of Natural Resources at ca.office@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,
Jennifer

Jennifer Keyes
Director, Development and Hazard Policy Branch
Ministry of Natural Resources



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