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The Honorable Catherine McKenna
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

May 10, 2018

Dear Minister:

Re: Request for Designation for CEAA Federal Assessment - Northern Pulp Effluent Treatment Facility

On behalf of *Coldwater Lobster Association*, I am writing to support the request from fishermen's organizations from Nova Scotia, PEI and New Brunswick and Pictou Landing First Nation to have Northern Pulp's Effluent Treatment Project designated a project for Federal Environmental Assessment under Section 14 of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) 2012.

We are very concerned about the harm to fish and fish habitat that could result from Northern Pulp's proposal to discharge 70-90 million litres of treated effluent from a bleached kraft mill every day through a 10.5k pipe into the prime fishing grounds of the Northumberland Strait. In fact, a Federal government study recently concluded that even when meeting federal regulations, 70% of pulp mills in Canada continue to have harmful effects on aquatic life and habitat.

The Northumberland Strait is a rich and vital fishing ground. As Canada's number one seafood exporter, our province's seafood industry is valued at two-billion dollars and is built on the reputation of seafood harvested from clean, cold, pristine waters off our province's rugged coastline. Thousands of families from all three provinces, including First Nation communities within those provinces, make their living from the Northumberland Strait. Many fishermen come from families which have fished for generations. They have made changes to help keep our waters clean, so that their children and grandchildren can fish also. Owner-operator fishermen are an important part of our regional economies. Fishermen generate many jobs in our communities. They buy their supplies locally, and they spend their profits locally.

The provincial government's past handling of effluent from this mill has resulted in one of the most contaminated sites in Canada, Boat Harbour. *Coldwater Lobster Association* would like to see a strong, science-based review of this project which will protect the present and future health of the Northumberland Strait and the economy which depends on healthy waters.

To this end, I would like to stress that although Northern Pulp does not operate in the direct waters where our members [*Coldwater Lobster Association*] fish, this issue affects ALL commercial fishermen and their livelihoods. The lack of proper management and scientific monitoring of Northern Pulp Effluent Treatment Facility's activities in our coastal waters is a disgrace and will ultimately impact Nova Scotia seafood's reputable image.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bernie Berry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bernie Berry - President
Coldwater Lobster Association

cc:

Dominic Leblanc, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, Room 420-N,
Centre Block, Parliament Hill, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A2

Iain Rankin, Department of Environment, 1894 Barrington Street, Suite 1800, P.O. Box 442,
Halifax, NS, B3J 2P8

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency NS Regional Office, Northern Pulp file, 200-1801
Hollis Street, Halifax, NS, B3J 3N4