



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

REF

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## GARRISON DIVERSION: REVISED PLAN

The Department of External Affairs announces that it has been informed by the Embassy of the United States that the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Andrus, has released a proposed revised plan for the Garrison Diversion project. A summary of the plan provided by the Embassy is available on request. Details of the proposal including a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) and other technical reports issued concurrently are being forwarded to Ottawa through diplomatic channels.

The Embassy's communication indicates that the proposed plan includes irrigation of approximately 24,000 acres of land in the Hudson's Bay drainage basin, from which run-off flows would reach Canada through the Red River. Canadian technical experts will be examining the detailed proposal carefully to assess the exact impact on Canada of such a development.

Discussions with the Province of Manitoba on this question are expected to be held at an early date.

The Canadian Government will be taking appropriate steps to ensure that Canadian interests continue to be protected and notes that the Government of the United States has made provision for consultations with the Government of Canada before a final decision is reached on the project. The recommendations of the report of the International Joint Commission on the Garrison Diversion will form the basis for Canadian consideration of the potential transboundary environmental effects of the revised Garrison Plan.

