

Outline of the Canadian Position on the Garrison Diversion Unit

During the course of recent testimony before the Subcommittee on Public Works of the House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations, it was stated that the issue with Canada over the Garrison Diversion Unit relates only to the return flows from the Souris Loop division. It was also suggested that alternatives to the Garrison project are being discussed with Canada.

In this context, it seems desirable to reiterate Canada's concerns about the potential adverse effects of the Garrison Diversion Unit, as currently envisaged, on waters crossing the boundary into Canada. The Government of Canada has concluded, on the basis of studies conducted in the United States and Canada, and on the basis of information provided by the United States in response to questions raised in Canada, that the Garrison Diversion Unit, as currently envisaged, would have adverse effects on the Souris, Assiniboine and Red Rivers, and ultimately Lake Winnipeg, which would cause injury to health and property in Canada.

The Government of Canada, therefore, is pleased to learn that consideration is being given to alternatives to the current Garrison Diversion Unit which would not adversely affect Canada. The