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3.

Your letter, after indicating the benefits of the Kenogami diversion project to the Province, goes on to suggest that because of the attitude of our Government the works under way have had to be partially suspended or cut down. As the works were started before the necessary consent under the Navigable Waters Protection Act had been assured, or the discussions concluded as to the possibility of an arrangement with the United States, it is apparent the responsibility for the situation which has arisen does not rest on the Canadian Government. The Ontario Hydro Electric Power Commission's plans and application, under the Act, for the approval of the proposed dam on the Kenogami River, were sent to the Department of Public Works on July 31, 1937. In the first part of August the Department's District Engineer inspected the site of the works, and on August 30 the Commission was advised that additional plans, covering the works for the proposed diversion southerly from Long Lake, would be required before the Department could deal with the application. These additional plans were forwarded by the Commission on December 10, 1937, and on January 26, 1938, the Department advised the Commission of the usual conditions, under which the Department would be prepared to recommend the approval of the construction of the proposed dam.

In conclusion you express the hope that the Canadian Government will reconsider the position and, on behalf of Ontario, will endeavour, in the international negotiations, "to separate the general scheme of the St. Lawrence Waterways from the problem of diverting the waters above Niagara". In this connection I have observed public statements intimating that our Government have been trying to impose a general scheme upon Ontario against her will.

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W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939
(M.G. 26, J 4, volume 182, pages C128861-C129464)

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