

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Allan J. MacEachen, today released the text of a letter to the International Joint Commission containing the terms of a joint Canada-U.S.A. Reference requesting the Commission to examine into and to report upon the transboundary implications of the proposed completion and operation of the Garrison Diversion Unit in North Dakota, and to make recommendations as to such measures, including modifications, alterations or adjustments to the Garrison Diversion Unit, as might be taken to assist governments in ensuring that the provisions of Article IV of the Boundary Waters Treaty are honoured. Under Article IV, the United States and Canada agreed that the waters flowing across the boundary, such as the Souris and Red Rivers, would not be polluted by either country to the injury of health or property on the other side of the boundary.

The joint Reference, which was presented to the Commission on October 22, 1975, requests the Commission to complete its investigation and submit its report no later than October 31, 1976. The text of the Reference is attached.

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