

While regretting the delay, the Governments of Canada and the United States both recognize that the Commission must have accurate water quality data, acceptable to its Study Board, on which to base its final report. The governments also agree that the public in both countries must be given adequate time to review the Garrison Study Board's report before public hearings are scheduled. At the same time, however, the governments have expressed concern that the Commission's report not be unduly delayed, and have urged the Commission to endeavour to submit its report at the earliest practicable date.

The United States Government assured the Government of Canada in February 1974 that it will comply with its obligations to Canada under the Boundary Waters Treaty not to pollute water crossing the boundary to the injury of health or property in Canada, and that no construction on the Garrison Diversion Unit potentially affecting water flowing into Canada will be undertaken until it is clear that this obligation will be met. The announced delay in the submission of the Commission's final report to governments on the Garrison project does not affect the status of that assurance.