

Text of Note from the Department of State  
to the Canadian Embassy, Washington  
February 10, 1975

The Department of State wishes to inform the Embassy of Canada of the concern of the USA Government that the proposed Poplar River power project of the Saskatchewan Power Corporation and its associated coal mining could result in transboundary air and water pollution, damage to USA fisheries, wildlife, and the Poplar River's aquatic ecosystem, adverse changes in the water temperature of the river, and preclude developments on the USA reach of that river. In addition, the USA Government is concerned that consumption of water by this project may exceed an equitable apportionment of the waters of the Poplar River to the detriment of uses in the USA. These concerns are based on a preliminary evaluation by USA officials of the study outline for environmental effect assessments, Poplar River Project Board on Inquiry, and outline of proposed project and environmental studies- Poplar River generating station prepared by the Saskatchewan Power Corporation.

The Department of State wishes to call to the attention of the Embassy of Canada that the project time schedule in the study outline indicates that construction of a dam and procurement of equipment for the power plant and mining operation have begun prior to the completion of environmental studies and without adequate assessment of the project's effects on the USA. The Department of State therefore suggests that federal and local officials of both