

GOVERNMENT



OF CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

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FOR RELEASE IN MORNING PAPERS OF
SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1955

The Department of External Affairs announced today that the Governments of the United States and Canada have agreed to ask the International Joint Commission to conduct an investigation of the St. Croix River Basin in order to determine whether greater use than is now being made of the waters of the basin would be feasible and advantageous.

Canada's chief interests in this investigation lie not only in the possibility of providing additional power from the resources of the river which forms, in part, the boundary between the province of New Brunswick and the state of Maine, but also in rehabilitating the salmon stocks in the St. Croix River basin which at one time was one of the most important salmon producing areas on the Atlantic coast.

Ottawa, June 10, 1955

Dear Madam,

In order to determine whether greater use than is now being made of the waters of the St. Croix Basin would be feasible and advantageous, the Governments of the United States of America and Canada have agreed to refer the matter to the International Joint Commission for investigation and report pursuant to Article IX of the Treaty concerning Boundary Waters between the United States and Canada, signed January 11, 1909.

Having regard to the legal, engineering and economic aspects of the matter, it is desired that the Commission shall, after making the necessary preliminary investigations, indicate whether, in its judgment, further development of the water resources of the St. Croix River Basin would be practicable and in the public interest from the point of view of the two Governments and which projects would seem to warrant further detailed study.

In making its report the Commission should indicate:

- (a) what projects or regimens should be further considered to improve the use, conservation and regulation of the waters of the Basin, taking into account the previous actions of the Commission as well as the present and future interests of both countries in the Basin;
- (b) how the interests on either side of the Boundary would be benefited or adversely affected by any of the projects or regimens so indicated;
- (c) the order of magnitude of costs of the indicated projects or regimens, including indemnification for damage to public and private property;
- (d) how the costs mentioned in (c) should be apportioned.

In the conduct of its investigations and otherwise in the performance of its duties under this Reference, the Commission may utilize the services of engineers and other specially qualified personnel of the technical agencies of Canada and the United States and will, so far as possible, make use of information and technical data heretofore acquired or which may become available during the course of the investigation.

Yours sincerely,

The Secretary, Canadian Section,
International Joint Commission,
829 Justice Building,
OTTAWA.

L.B. PEARSON