



Elaine Hardy
Senior Policy Advisory
Ministry of Natural Resources
Regional Operations Division
Far North Branch
77 Grenville Street, Floor 5
Toronto, ON
M5S 1B3

RE: EBR Registry No. 012-0598, Far North Land Use Strategy

This submission is in response to the above noted EBR posting regarding the Far North Land Use Strategy. The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) wishes to address the issue of municipal representation concerning climate change and economic development within the Far North.

The Far North Land Use strategy which guides Community Based Land Use Plans (CBLUP) in the Far North is developed jointly between First Nations and the Provincial government. The CBLUPs are prepared by joint planning teams and consider both community and provincial interests as well as determine which lands are designated as protected and which are designated for economic development. Since CBLUPs are developed between First Nations and the Provincial government, municipal governments are excluded from having input towards determining the future of lands in the Far North. Therefore, it is imperative that municipal interests be included within the Far North Land Use Strategy.

- Although the strategy will contain long-term policies to guide land use planning, it is important that they remain flexible to address the issue of climate change. Climate change will inevitably affect the way in which lands will be used and will alter habitat and migration routes of wildlife.
- Lands that are designated for economic development must seek to improve the socioeconomic status of those living within the Far North, not just the industry engaging in development. Infrastructure development such as roads that are built for mining or forestry must also grant access of use to residents of isolated communities. Electricity transmission development must address the use of transmission corridors that can serve the purpose of improving mobility through the expansion of the transportation system as well as providing potential benefits to the tourism industry

FONOM asks that municipal interests of climate change and economic development within the Far North are taken into consideration.

Sincerely,

Alan Spacek
President