

Dear Premier Stephen McNeil and Minister for the Environment Gordon Wilson,

I am writing in relation to Northern Pulp's Focus Report for their Replacement Effluent Treatment Facility Project.

My name is Patricia Kermath. I am 63 years old. I moved to Pictou from Ontario two years ago on October 30, 2017.

Many factors influenced my decision to make this move, not the least of which was my appreciation of the beauty of this spectacular province, particularly Northern Nova Scotia and Pictou County. I was adopted and my birth Mama and family are from Stellarton. After 25 years of searching I was finally able to find my family and learn about my deep Maritime roots. We have become very close. In 2017, my beloved birth mother died unexpectedly and I myself was diagnosed with level 3 melanoma. I decided that whatever time I might have left needed to be spent with my dear family of origin and in the land of my heart and soul.

Shortly after I moved into Pictou I became aware of the toxic presence of Northern Pulp and the devastating effects it has had on the health and welfare of every living thing exposed to its putrid waste output. Imagine my dismay upon realizing that the life-changing move that I made might put me at higher risk of cancer than I would ever have been had I stayed in Ontario.

My plea is therefore heartfelt and simple:

Honour the people, Premier McNeil and Minister Wilson. Honour the people whose lives and health and livelihood have been already affected irreparably by the damage already caused due to inefficiently managed toxic waste generated by Northern Pulp. Honour the people of Pictou Landing First Nation who have negotiated in good faith with successive governments and who look forward deservedly to timely clean up AND closure of the mill. Honour the lives of our children and our children's children. We ALL deserve to live in a society that does its very best to care for one another, our fisheries, our wildlife, to the utmost of their ability.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Kermath