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7 February 2013

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne  
Premier-Designate  
Room 281, Main Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
Email: [KWynne.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:KWynne.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

Dear Ms. Wynne:

**Re: Concern over Arnold Chan's Appointment to Transition Team**

Ontario Rivers Alliance (ORA) is a Not-for-Profit grassroots organization representing numerous organizations such as the French River Delta Association, Council of Canadians, Friends of Temagami, Paddle Canada, Whitewater Ontario, Vermilion River Stewardship, Mississippi Riverwatchers, along with many other stewardships, associations, and private and First Nations citizens who have come together to protect, conserve and restore healthy river ecosystems all across Ontario.

ORA wishes to congratulate you on your recent election to the leadership of the Liberal Party of Ontario. We look forward to working with you to ensure that development on Ontario rivers is environmentally, socially and economically sustainable, and that they will continue to provide clean and healthy freshwater resources to the citizens of this province, both now and into the future.

ORA would like to express our concern over the appointment of Arnold Chan, Vice President, Aboriginal Affairs and General Counsel for Xeneca Power Development Inc. (Xeneca) to your Transition Team. Xeneca is currently awaiting the disposition of 33 waterpower proposals which are moving through the approvals process, 19 of which are pending completion of the Environmental Assessment (EA) process, and the remaining 14 awaiting Electrical Transmission Connection approval. While Mr. Chan undoubtedly has valuable experience in government, his position with a company that is currently highly dependent on government approvals raises our concern.

Our concerns are well founded as Xeneca has earned a reputation amongst stakeholders, First Nations, Ministry of Environment, and Ministry of Natural Resources staff of causing a lot of problems while trying to fast track through the EA process, and for not meeting its requirements

under the Class EA.<sup>1</sup> Arnold Chan's appointment to your advisory team provides an opportunity to advance self-interests, and has the potential to undermine your attempts to build public confidence in the fairness and wisdom of this government's decisions. ORA objects to Mr. Chan's appointment, and requests that it be cancelled. At the very least his duties on your transition team must not include advice on issues that affect his business interests in the waterpower industry - although this will not remove the perception of a potential conflict of interest.

ORA has a solid track record of providing science-based and reasoned advice on policy and development that affects Ontario rivers. While we support the concept of development of green energy it must be truly sustainable, and not the green-washed version that has been prevalent in many of these waterpower proposals resulting from the FIT Program.

We are encouraged by your record of strong innovations and strategies to achieve renewable energy in a sustainable way, and request that you act on our request to cancel the appointment of Arnold Chan to your Transition Team.

ORA understands you will be holding a cabinet meeting in the north by early March, and would be pleased to meet with you at that time to provide you with a brief on the issues currently confronting the development of sustainable waterpower in Ontario.

We look forward to your response.

Respectfully,



Linda Heron  
Chair, Ontario Rivers Alliance

Cc: Arnold Chan, Xeneca – [AChan@Xeneca.com](mailto:AChan@Xeneca.com)

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<sup>1</sup> Memo from Alissa Sugar, MOE to Cindy Batista, MOE - 12 August 2011, P-8-10