

**Minister of Energy
and Infrastructure**

Office of the Deputy Premier

4th Floor, Hearst Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto ON M7A 2E1
Tel.: 416-327-6758
Fax: 416-327-6754
www.ontario.ca/MEI

**Ministre de l'Énergie
et de l'Infrastructure**

Bureau du vice-premier ministre

4^o étage, édifice Hearst
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DEC 15 2008

The Board

Mississippi Mills Residents' Association
PO Box 745
Almonte ON K0A 1A0

Dear Board Members:

Thank you for your letter. I have noted the board's opposition to provincial funding for a new sewage treatment plant for the Town of Mississippi Mills. As minister with responsibility over the province's infrastructure, I am happy to respond.

The Town of Mississippi Mills received an infrastructure funding commitment from the federal government of \$7.13 million for the construction of a new sewage treatment plant. This project was unsuccessful under the third intake of the Canada-Ontario Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (COMRIF) program. The source of federal government funding for this commitment was allocated through moneys intended for Ontario's share of the "top-up" to the national Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund program.

Ontario had reached an agreement in principle with the federal government to distribute funding through a fourth application intake of the COMRIF program. The Association of Municipalities supported the proposition of a fourth intake which would have ensured a fair process for all municipalities.

On November 6, 2008, I sent a letter to the Town of Mississippi Mills explaining that our government had decided that Ontario would not match any of the funding commitments that the federal government had made.

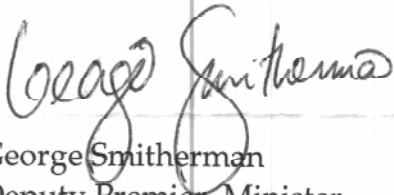
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The Board Members

Ontario will continue to work with the federal government and our municipal partners in addressing the province's pressing infrastructure challenges in a way that is open, transparent and responsive to the infrastructure needs of our communities.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Smitherman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "G".

George Smitherman
Deputy Premier, Minister