



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF PEMBROKE
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March 29, 2012

Honourable Joe Oliver P.C., M.P.
Minister of Natural Resources
162 Confederation Building,
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Oliver:

I write to you to-day to express the sentiments of Pembroke City Council in strong support of AECL, in Chalk River.

As a neighboring municipality to Chalk River, we fully realize the tremendous financial impact that this economic engine has; not only for the City of Pembroke, but indeed for our entire region and beyond.

The current restructuring initiative regarding AECL should not be viewed in a negative light. This exercise provides an unprecedented opportunity for all involved if managed with the goal of maximizing the potential that exists to support this unique, world class asset while adjusting the business model to include the development and exploration of the market potential that exists now and into the future.

As part of the restructuring review potential business opportunities must be carefully considered. Bringing such opportunities to market in the form of technology transfer and licensing with the active support and involvement of partners including the private sector will take full advantage of AECL's leading edge research and innovation which is ripe for supporting economic wealth and job creation regionally and nationally.

It is time to develop and take more of these assets from the proverbial shelf to the world market. Indeed successful examples exist where this has occurred resulting in business innovation and job growth.

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While technology transfer and licensing provide a potential revenue stream for the government the question is why stop there? The option of AECL itself developing its technologies in conjunction with other partners including the private sector should be seriously and carefully considered. This action could in effect contribute to funding future operations of AECL reducing tax payer obligations while contributing to the important goal of maximizing economic wealth, job creation and innovation.

Simply put Mr. Minister changing times require changing approaches.

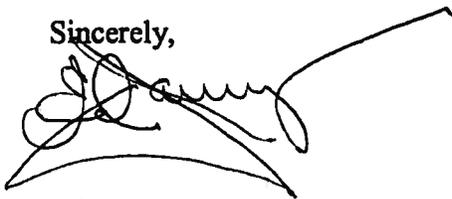
The restructuring opportunity currently before us all for AECL is welcome news if it is used to reposition the organization to take advantage of what it has and is capable of contributing to our region, our province, our country and indeed the world.

One can only surmise about the tremendous and positive scientific contributions that have been made to the global village through research and development at AECL. Scientific research at this facility has led to innovations in nuclear medicine. The development of products that have helped to sustain life and cure illness had their original spark here at this facility.

AECL is just not a government agency. It is a conglomeration of some of the brightest minds in Canada and it acts like a magnet, bringing others here who share in that same intellectual identity with a common purpose, to help improve the lives of their fellow man.

I can say without hesitation, that the City of Pembroke supports and endorses the fine work that continues to transpire at AECL. We wholeheartedly and without hesitation support the Management and Staff as they continue to be superlative innovators and leaders in the scientific world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Jacyno', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ed Jacyno Mayor
Mayor, City of Pembroke

c.c. Robert Walker, AECL President and Chief Executive
MP. Cheryl Gallant,
MPP John Yakabuski
Warden Bob Sweet, Renfrew County
All Renfrew County Municipalities

/hm