

**Ministry of Natural
Resources**

Office of the Minister

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APR 15 2007

Mr. Ted Cooper
500 Lake Clear Road
Eganville ON K0J 1T0

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Further to my correspondence to you dated November 8, 2006, I am now able to provide a more detailed reply to your letter regarding the role of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) in applying the provincial natural hazards policy to the Carp River Restoration Plan, and your request for an operational audit.

Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) staff met with MVCA and City of Ottawa staff in November 2006 about the issues you raised. The focus of this meeting and subsequent discussions was on the MVCA's recent plan review activities in the Carp River watershed. MNR staff visited the subject lands in January, and met with MVCA staff a second time to clarify proposed measures to address the flood hazard and related investigations that were undertaken.

The MVCA referred to the proposed filling within the Carp River floodplain as a two-zone, floodway-flood fringe approach. However, the proposal goes beyond filling and involves re-grading the watercourse and its valley lands. The proposal will result in increased riparian flood storage, with no adverse upstream or downstream flood impacts, and new development will be protected to the one in 100 year regulatory flood standard. In addition, the existing degraded watercourse will be restored to a healthier state with improved fish habitat.

The ministry believes the objectives of the provincial natural hazards policy have been met in the Carp River Restoration Plan. Furthermore, the flexibility provided by the policy has been appropriately used by the MVCA given the wide shallow floodplain in this urbanizing area. Accordingly, a further operational audit of the MVCA is not warranted.

I trust that this information addresses your concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Ramsay", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon. David Ramsay
Minister

c: Paul Lehman, General Manager, Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority
Susan Murphy, City of Ottawa