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OTTAWA, CANADA, K1A 0K9

FILE NO. 850-5-751 (M69)

Dr. Frank A. Philbrook, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0X2

Dear Dr. Philbrook:

With reference to your letter of February 10, concerning comments of one of your constituents on the arsenic pollution problem at Yellowknife, I have noted that those comments were related to the January 8th CBC report and I believe the questions raised were satisfactorily answered in my statement of January 9. It might also be added that the Federal Government did not suppress or withhold the 1969 report. It was released at that time to the authorities in Yellowknife and the Northwest Territories.

Since that time, a new investigation into the health of Yellowknife residents, along the lines outlined in my statement, has been initiated by my Department. Also, the Department of the Environment is reviewing the necessity for further investigation of environmental contamination.

The town water supply has been made available to all residents of Yellowknife. It does not contain any significant quantity of arsenic and is considered very safe for human consumption.

Yours truly,

Marc Lalonde.

Typed 3/3/75.