



ONTARIO
RIVERS
ALLIANCE

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Diane Blachford
Senior Policy Advisor
Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change
Climate Change and Environmental Policy Division
Strategic Policy Branch
77 Wellesley Street W., Floor 11
Ferguson Block
Toronto, ON M7A 2T5

By email: Diane.Blachford@Ontario.ca

Dear Ms. Blachford:

Re: EBR 013-0644 – MOECC Draft Statement of Environmental Values

Ontario Rivers Alliance (ORA) is a Not-for-Profit grassroots organization acting as a voice for several stewardships, organizations, and private and Indigenous citizens who have come together to protect, conserve and restore riverine ecosystems.

ORA supports the amendments offered in the Draft Statement of Environmental Values (SEV), and we are pleased that the SEV will be reviewed by the Minister every five years.

However, the SEV must also set the tone for climate-resilient development within communities. This approach would require that decision-makers and practitioners integrate climate considerations directly into development activities across multiple sectors, keeping the focus on achieving development goals despite a changing climate. It would encourage a commitment to understand and plan for climate shocks like fires, droughts, hurricanes and floods. Ensuring flood planes are free of development and wetlands are left to do their important work.

Recommendation:

ORA recommends the following be added after “These purposes include the following:”

- To ensure development in Ontario is climate-resilient and protects the resilience of the environment.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment!

Respectfully,

Linda Heron
Chair, Ontario Rivers Alliance
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