



MNR5385MC-2013-2923

FEB 20 2014

Michael Mantha, MPP
Algoma – Manitoulin Riding
Main Legislative Building
Queen's Park, Room 160
Toronto ON M7A 1A5

Dear Mr. Mantha:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Caramat Road and concerns raised by your constituents. I am pleased to respond.

The Industrial Road north of Manitouwadge that connects the communities of Hillsport and Caramat has received less maintenance since the downturn in the forest industry in 2010. Harvest activity in the area is now minimal and the forest company is no longer required to maintain the road. My ministry has posted the road as "Use at Own Risk" and, due to a serious risk to public safety, closed the road at kilometre 67 because a rain event had washed out a portion of it.

I understand the importance of this road to public safety and to the quality of life for residents of these communities. Alternative access routes maintained by the forest industry are available to the communities of Hillsport and Manitouwadge to access emergency services and obtain necessary supplies.

I brought this situation to the attention of my colleague the Honourable Glen Murray, Minister of Transportation. On December 9, 2013, the Ministry of Transportation announced that it will re-open and maintain the Industrial Road, and work with the community of Manitouwadge to repair the full length of the road in the coming months. The ministry is also taking immediate action to open road access to the landfill site.

Ministry staff will advise you as to the outcome of these discussions. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact John Peluch, District Manager, Wawa District, at (705) 856-4703 or john.peluch@ontario.ca.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Oraziotti'.

David Oraziotti
Minister of Natural Resources

- c: The Honourable Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Glen Murray, Minister of Transportation
The Honourable Michael Gravelle, Minister of Northern Development and Mines
John Peluch, District Manager, Wawa District