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UNITED STATES



Treaty Series No. 18 (1941)

[Reprint of Canadian Treaty Series No. 11 (1940)]

EXCHANGE OF NOTES

between the Government of Canada and the
United States Government

relating to the

GREAT LAKES—ST. LAWRENCE BASIN

Washington, October 14, 1940

(With Supplementary Notes of October 31 and November 7, 1940)

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
to Parliament by Command of His Majesty*

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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York House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;

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1941

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Cmd. 6303

EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT RELATING TO THE
GREAT LAKES-ST. LAWRENCE BASIN.

Washington, October 14, 1940.

No. 1.

*The United States Secretary of State to the Canadian Minister in
Washington.*

Sir,

October 14, 1940.

I HAVE the honor to refer to the conversations which have taken place recently between officials of the Governments of the United States and Canada in regard to the desirability of taking immediate steps looking to the early development of certain portions of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin project. These conversations have indicated that there is apprehension in both countries over the possibility of a power shortage; these apprehensions have been heightened by the necessity for increased supplies of power in consequence of Canada's war effort and of the major national defense effort in the United States.

In the light of these considerations the Government of the United States proposes that each Government appoint forthwith a Temporary Great Lakes-St.-Lawrence Basin Committee consisting of not more than five members. These two Committees would co-operate in preliminary engineering and other investigations for that part of the project which is located in the International Rapids Section of the St. Lawrence River, in order that the entire project may be undertaken without delay when final decision is reached by the two Governments. The Government of the United States is prepared to advance the necessary funds up to \$1,000,000 to pay for these preliminary engineering and other investigations, on the understanding that their cost shall ultimately be prorated by agreement between the two Governments.

Meanwhile, to assist in providing an adequate supply of power to meet Canadian defense needs and contingent upon the Province of Ontario's agreeing to provide immediately for diversions into the Great Lakes System of waters from the Albany River Basin which normally flow into Hudson Bay, the Government of the United States will interpose no objection, pending the conclusion of a final Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin agreement between the two countries, to the immediate utilization for power at Niagara Falls by the

Province of Ontario of additional waters equivalent in quantity to the diversions into the Great Lakes Basin above referred to.

I shall be glad if you will let me know if your Government is in accord with the foregoing proposals.

Accept, Sir, &c.

(For the Secretary of State),

ADOLF A. BERLE, JR.

No. 2.

The Canadian Minister in Washington to the United States Secretary of State.

No. 316.

Sir,

October 14, 1940.

I HAVE the honour to refer to your note of October 14, in which you proposed that the Governments of Canada and the United States take immediate steps looking to the early development of certain portions of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin project.

I am instructed to inform you that the Canadian Government is in accord with the proposals which you have made.

I have, &c.

LORING C. CHRISTIE.

No. 3.

The Canadian Minister in Washington to the United States Secretary of State.

No. 340.

Sir,

October 31, 1940.

I HAVE the honour to refer to the third paragraph of your note of October 14, concerning the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin project, in which you state that, to assist in providing an adequate supply of power to meet Canadian defence needs and contingent upon the Province of Ontario's agreeing to provide immediately for diversions into the Great Lakes System of waters from the Albany River Basin which normally flow into Hudson Bay, the Government of the United States would interpose no objection, pending the conclusion of a final Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin Agreement between the two countries, to the immediate utilization for power at Niagara Falls by the Province of Ontario of additional waters equivalent in quantity to the diversions into the Great Lakes Basin above referred to.

I am instructed to inform you that the Canadian Government has received appropriate assurances that the Hydro-Electric Power

Commission of Ontario is prepared to proceed immediately with the Long Lac-Ogoki diversions and that this action has been approved by the Government of the Province.

The Canadian Government is therefore giving appropriate instructions to authorize the additional diversion of 5,000 cubic feet per second at Niagara by the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario.

I have, &c.

LORING C. CHRISTIE.

No. 4.

*The United States Secretary of State to the Canadian Minister
in Washington.*

Sir,

November 7, 1940.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Note No. 340 of October 31, 1940, stating that the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario is prepared to proceed immediately with the Long Lac-Ogoki diversions of waters from the Albany River Basin into the Great Lakes System and that this action has been approved by the Government of the Province.

I note also that the Canadian Government is giving appropriate instructions to authorize the additional diversion of 5,000 cubic feet per second of water at Niagara Falls by the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario.

Accept, Sir, &c.

(For the Secretary of State),

A. A. BERLE, JR.