

FORMAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLAINT

Irving, Forestry, Glyphosate, Clear-Cutting and Air Quality in New Brunswick

To: Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Government of New Brunswick

From: Marie-Soleil Seshat Landry
Community: Moncton, New Brunswick
Date: August 20, 2026

Subject: Request for a Comprehensive Investigation into Cumulative Environmental Impacts in New Brunswick

Dear Minister,

I am writing as a concerned New Brunswick resident to request a comprehensive review of the province's approach to environmental protection, particularly concerning industrial activity, forestry practices, glyphosate use, clear-cutting and air quality.

My concern is not limited to one facility, one company or one environmental issue. It concerns the **cumulative impact** of industrial and forestry activities on New Brunswick's air, forests, waterways, wildlife and communities.

New Brunswickers deserve to know that the environment they depend upon is being protected through transparent, independent and effective regulation.

1. AIR QUALITY AND INDUSTRIAL EMISSIONS

New Brunswick contains major industrial facilities, including facilities associated with the Irving group, operating in and around populated communities.

I am requesting a transparent assessment of:

- Air-quality monitoring around major industrial facilities;
- Reported emissions and emission trends over time;
- Odour and air-quality complaints made by residents;
- Regulatory warnings, investigations and enforcement actions;
- The adequacy and independence of existing monitoring;

- Whether monitoring locations accurately represent conditions experienced by nearby residents;
- The cumulative effect of multiple industrial sources.

Residents should not have to wonder whether their concerns about air quality are being adequately investigated.

Where industrial facilities operate close to communities, the public deserves accessible information about emissions, monitoring results and regulatory compliance.

2. FORESTRY AND CLEAR-CUTTING

New Brunswick's forests are one of the province's most important natural resources.

However, extensive harvesting has transformed significant portions of the provincial landscape.

I am requesting greater transparency concerning:

- The total area harvested each year;
- The amount harvested through clear-cutting or intensive harvesting;
- The condition and age of forests before harvesting;
- Regeneration success following harvesting;
- Impacts on wildlife habitat and biodiversity;
- Effects on watersheds, rivers, streams and wetlands;
- Soil disturbance and erosion;
- Impacts on carbon storage;
- The cumulative effects of harvesting across watersheds.

Replanting trees should not automatically be considered equivalent to replacing a mature forest ecosystem.

The government should evaluate whether forest management is maintaining biodiversity, mature forest habitat, soil health, water quality and long-term ecological function.

3. GLYPHOSATE AND FORESTRY HERBICIDE USE

I am also requesting full transparency regarding glyphosate use in New Brunswick forestry.

The public should be able to determine:

- Where glyphosate has been applied;

- How much has been applied;
- Which companies or contractors conducted applications;
- The purpose of each application;
- What environmental assessments were conducted;
- What monitoring occurs before and after applications;
- What buffers apply around homes, waterways and sensitive areas;
- What independent testing has been performed;
- What scientific evidence the province relies upon when authorizing or permitting such practices.

This request does not assume that every application of glyphosate is necessarily harmful.

It is a request for **transparency, accountability and independent verification**.

People have a legitimate interest in knowing when herbicides are being applied in the forests surrounding their communities and what safeguards are being used.

4. IRVING AND CUMULATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Irving companies are a major economic presence in New Brunswick.

Economic importance, however, should not mean reduced environmental scrutiny.

Where companies associated with the Irving group operate across petroleum, pulp and paper, forestry and other resource-related sectors, the province should provide clear information about the cumulative environmental impacts of those activities.

I am requesting information concerning:

1. Irving-related forestry operations and their geographic extent;
2. Forestry harvesting volumes and practices;
3. Herbicide use associated with forestry operations;
4. Air emissions from Irving-related industrial facilities;
5. Environmental monitoring;
6. Public complaints;
7. Government investigations;
8. Enforcement actions;
9. Environmental approvals and conditions;
10. Whether cumulative impacts from multiple operations are assessed together.

5. INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Public confidence requires more than assurances that regulations are being followed.

I am requesting stronger independent environmental monitoring in communities affected by major industrial and forestry operations.

Environmental monitoring data should be:

- Publicly accessible;
- Easy for ordinary residents to understand;
- Published promptly;
- Available historically so trends can be identified;
- Accompanied by information about testing methods and detection limits;
- Subject to meaningful independent scientific review.

Where appropriate, the government should also consider community-based monitoring and independent third-party verification.

6. CUMULATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Residents do not experience environmental impacts one regulatory approval at a time.

They experience the combined effects of:

Industrial emissions + transportation + forestry harvesting + habitat loss + herbicide application + dust + smoke + wildfire smoke + changing climate + impacts on water and ecosystems.

Environmental regulation should therefore consider cumulative effects rather than assessing each activity entirely in isolation.

A project may appear acceptable when considered individually while the combined environmental burden on a community or ecosystem may nevertheless be significant.

7. REQUESTS FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION

I respectfully request that the Government of New Brunswick:

- Conduct a comprehensive review of air quality in communities affected by major industrial facilities;
- Publish historical industrial emissions and air-quality data in an accessible format;

- Publish information concerning environmental complaints and government responses;
- Review the independence and adequacy of industrial air-quality monitoring;
- Publish comprehensive information concerning forest harvesting throughout the province;
- Provide transparent records concerning forestry glyphosate applications;
- Assess the cumulative ecological effects of intensive forest harvesting;
- Review the environmental consequences of clear-cutting at the watershed level;
- Strengthen independent environmental oversight;
- Ensure meaningful public participation in significant environmental decisions;
- Require transparent environmental monitoring associated with major industrial and forestry operations;
- Review whether existing regulations adequately protect residents, forests, waterways and wildlife from cumulative environmental impacts.

8. ACCOUNTABILITY AND PUBLIC TRUST

The central issue is public trust.

New Brunswickers should not have to choose between a strong economy and a healthy environment.

Forestry, manufacturing, energy production and economic development are important to this province. But economic development must be accompanied by responsible environmental stewardship.

If government and industry maintain that current practices are safe, sustainable and adequately regulated, then the evidence supporting those conclusions should be readily available to the public.

Residents should be able to see:

- What is being emitted;
- What is being applied;
- What is being harvested;
- Where it is happening;
- What is being monitored;
- What violations have occurred;
- What enforcement has followed;
- And what measures are being taken to prevent future problems.

CONCLUSION

This complaint is ultimately about the right of New Brunswick residents to live in communities with clean air, healthy forests, protected waterways and a government that is transparent and accountable about environmental decisions.

The province's natural environment belongs to all New Brunswickers, not simply to the companies and industries that use its resources.

I therefore respectfully request a written response addressing the concerns and requests outlined in this complaint.

I also request links or copies of the relevant environmental approvals, monitoring data, emissions information, forestry records, glyphosate-use information, complaint records and enforcement information necessary for the public to independently evaluate the province's environmental performance.

Clean air, healthy forests and thriving communities should not be treated as competing interests. They are fundamental public assets that deserve protection.

Respectfully,

Marie-Soleil Seshat Landry
CEO, Landry Industries