



Critics claim lack of controls cause of potential problems

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Like Kelleher, Colle sees the importance of the ORM to Northumberland's water supply.

"The Moraine acts as a huge natural water purifier," says Colle. "It regenerates 65 rivers and streams, including the Trent river."

But unlike Kelleher, Colle sees development trends on the Moraine as a sign of worse things to come.

"All natural resources are threatened by the idea of housing on the Moraine," he told *The Independent*. "There's enough land off of the Moraine for development. They shouldn't build on this area."

In a press release last month, Colle called for an overhaul of the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB).

"The OMB has become a rubber stamp for developers who can afford to spend millions to get the best lawyers, planners, and consultants that money can buy. Ordinary citizens do not have a chance when even municipalities are no match for big developers," the release stated.

Environmental groups, such as the Save The Oak Ridges Moraine (STORM) are much more vocal in their objections to development.

"Developers have a lot of money," says Debbe Crandall of STORM. "These people think they're God. They think that they can do anything."

Crandall believes that the urban sprawl phenomenon is a red herring.

"The problem isn't urban sprawl, it's a

lack of government jurisdiction," Crandall told *The Independent*. "Some land is better for rural purposes. Some land is better for urban. What happens when rural areas go under urbanization. Eventually it will increase the surface run off and decrease the amount of water that goes into the ground."

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