
TO: MAYOR J. LEHMAN AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

**FROM: JOHN F. THOMPSON, P. ENG., CMM III IP, PMP
DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

**NOTED: R. FORWARD, MBA, M.SC., P. ENG.
GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT**

C. LADD, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: HISTORIC WASTE DISPOSAL SITES – STATUS UPDATE

DATE: JUNE 19, 2017

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide Members of Council with an update with respect to the status of the City of Barrie's Historic Waste Sites (HWS) Studies and Monitoring Program, the Official Plan Amendment Decision and associated planned communications to the public.

In 2013, Council was made aware of the Province of Ontario requirement to undertake environmental impact studies of historic waste disposal sites within the City of Barrie (City) limits to delineate the extent of contamination (ground water, surface water, soil and landfill gas) currently present (see Appendix "A"). As part of the Official Plan update (2009), the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) rendered a 'non-decision' with respect to Barrie's historic waste sites. This 'non-decision' was to give the City and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) time to further delineate the boundaries of the existing sites in order to redefine the "D4" Assessment Areas (this is a term used and defined by the Province). The MOECC D4 Guidelines require the completion of D4 studies for development that would occur within these D4 assessment areas. The City was then to determine the necessary appropriate potential remediation, if required, and create environmental policies in its Official Plan.

Based on the initial findings, the combined area requiring D4 Assessment has been significantly reduced from the initial 500 metres radius originally imposed by MMAH guideline (see map in Appendix "B"). The delineation work did not include environmental characterization on *private* property. This area reduction was reviewed and approved by the MOECC. As such, the Official Plan 'non-decision' will be lifted and the MMAH will provide associated communications directly to the private landowners affected by the delineated area boundary change.

In addition, as a result of the initial work being completed, it was recommended that an annual monitoring program be undertaken. The design of this program has yielded the following approach:

1. Monitoring of landfill gas, if any, should continue on an annual basis;
2. Monitoring of surface water quality should continue annually; and
3. Consistent results, to date, have demonstrated that groundwater is being not impacted by the landfills, so further groundwater monitoring is not recommended.

As a follow up to the MMAH letter to affected property owners, the City will be actively involved in these communications by hosting an Open House for those property owners affected by the boundary change. A communications package will accompany the MMAH letter and will invite property owners affected by the change to meet with City, MOECC and the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) representatives to learn more about the changes.

The Open House will include information and clarity with respect to the lifting of the non-decision, the boundary changes, the environmental characteristics in the area of the HWS's and concerns that property owners might have. The Open House is scheduled for Tuesday June 27, 2017 (5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.) at the City Hall Rotunda, should Members of Council wish to attend.

Any questions or inquiries regarding this Memorandum or the Open House can be directed to Sandra Brunet, Manager of Environmental Operations, extension 6140.