

**From:** Alan McNair [<mailto:mcnairconsulting@rogers.com>]

**Sent:** May 14, 2012 8:21 AM

**To:** Dawn McAlpine

**Cc:** Dave Lord; Bruce Wilson; Peter Silveira; Bonnie Ainsworth; Barry Ward; Brian Jackson; Jennifer Robinson; John Brassard; Lynn Strachan; Michael Prowse; Doug Shipley; Alex Nuttall; Office of the Mayor; Carla Ladd; Richard Forward; Stew Patterson; Kevin Rankin; Walter Fischer; Wendell McArthur; Bob Kahle; Lloyd Spooner; Dave James; Robert Wargala

**Subject:** Transmission Watermain (Essa Road to County Road 27) Phase 2 Contract 2011-131T

Ms. Dawn McAlpine  
City Clerk  
City of Barrie  
70 Collier St., Box 400  
Barrie ON L4M 4T5

Re: Transmission Watermain (Essa Road to County Road 27) Phase 2 Contract 2011-131T - Harvie Road road allowance

Dear Ms McAlpine:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Brereton Field Naturalists' Club to provide the following information and our request for action to Barrie City Council regarding the above watermain project through the Ardagh Bluffs Park.

1. The Ardagh Bluffs Park (including the unopened Harvie Road road allowance) is designated Environmental Protection Area on the City Official Plan Schedule A and is zoned Environmental Protection (EP) under Zoning By-law 2009-141. The Simcoe County Forest (Dyer Tract) to the west of Ardagh Bluffs Park, south of Harvie Road, is also designated Environmental Protection and the golf course to the north of the County forest is designated Open Space. Therefore, the Harvie Road road allowance from White Elm Road to Town Line Road falls under either the Environmental Protection Area or Open Space designation (or both).

2. Section 5.1.2.1 (a) of the Barrie Official Plan states:

"Wherever possible, public utilities/facilities shall not be located on lands designated Environmental Protection or Open Space. Where the location of public utilities on lands designated Environmental Protection or Open Space is efficient, cost effective and in the public interest, an EIS shall be undertaken in accordance with the policies of Section 6 of this Plan."

3. Section 6.1.1 states:

"It is intended that the City will prepare a Capital Works Program in conformity with the policies of this Plan, in order to assess its immediate and long term requirements and plan its major expenditures within its financial resources and in accordance with the phasing policies of this Plan."

4. This watermain project appears to be part of the City's Capital Works Program. Accordingly, for this project to be in conformity with the Official Plan, an EIS (Environmental Impact Study) is required before work on this project can be undertaken.

5. Section 24(1) of the Ontario Planning Act also prohibits the undertaking of any public work or the passing of any by-law for any purpose that does not conform with the City Official Plan.

6. Hence, we believe that in this instance both the City Official Plan and the Planning Act prohibit the location of public utilities such as this watermain on lands designated Environmental Protection and Open Space unless an EIS has been undertaken.

7. The response from the City Engineering Department, attached below, clearly states that no Environmental Assessment was done for this project.

8. Therefore, we can only conclude that the Harvie Road watermain project is being constructed in contravention of Section 5.1.2.1 (a) of the City Official Plan and Section 24(1) of the Planning Act.

9. We respectfully ask Council to immediately halt all work on this watermain project until and unless a thorough and unbiased Environmental Impact Study is carried out, including full public participation and comment, to meet both the letter and the spirit and intent of the City Official Plan. We do not believe that the results of such a study could honestly and sustainably support the slashing of this corridor through the supposedly protected woodlands of the Ardagh Bluffs Park and the Provincially significant Allandale Algonquin Bluffs Area of Natural and Scientific Interest which lies within this park.

10. We would be more than willing to meet with members of Council and City staff at the earliest opportunity to discuss these concerns and to seek ways to ensure that such actions do not occur again.

The Brereton Field Naturalists' Club has fought long and hard to protect our green infrastructure of wetlands, woodlands, valleylands and other environmentally sensitive areas within the City of Barrie. We urge Council to ensure that the City's responsibilities to follow Barrie's Official Plan and the Planning Act are properly carried out.

Sincerely yours,

Alan P. McNair, MCIP, RPP  
Conservation Chair  
Brereton Field Naturalists' Club  
33 St. Vincent St., Barrie, Ontario, L4M 3Y3  
Phone: (705) 726-9101 Fax: (705) 737-5519  
[mcnairconsulting@rogers.com](mailto:mcnairconsulting@rogers.com)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Awlad Hossain](mailto:Awlad.Hossain)

**To:** [mcnairconsulting@rogers.com](mailto:mcnairconsulting@rogers.com)

**Cc:** [Bob Kahle](#) ; [Dave James](#) ; [Stew Patterson](#) ; [Lloyd Spooner](#) ; [Robert Wargala](#)

**Sent:** Thursday, May 03, 2012 4:05 PM

**Subject:** Transmission Watermain (Essa Road to County Road 27) Phase 2 Contract 2011-131T

Dear Mr. McNair,

On behalf of the Engineering Department, I am responding to your inquiry regarding the above noted project. My response to your queries as follows:

1. No Environmental Assessment (EA) was done for this project as the proposed transmission watermain runs along the Harvie Road Right of Way (ROW)
2. A swatch of trees needed to be cut to provide access for construction. Moreover, in order to maximize tree preservation during construction, the City is doing much of work using innovative trenchless technique to construct the watermain. As part of the project, City has implemented a tree restoration program which will see a mix of tree and shrubs replanted on portions of the work area once construction is complete in fall.

3. Out of 1138m long (300mm dia.) transmission watermain, 282m is being done by open cut and rest of the watermain is being done by directional drilling.
4. Signage will be posted each end of the project within two weeks.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Md. Awlad Hossain, P.Eng.  
Construction Engineer  
Ext. 5165