

MEMORANDUM

WMPSC-C 26-2019

Subject: Humberstone Landfill Expansion Update

Date: Monday, June 24, 2019

To: Waste Management Planning Steering Committee

From: Peter Kryger, Project Manager

On February 5, 2019, Niagara Region received the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA), which was the final approval required for the vertical expansion of the Humberstone Landfill Site. The ECA provided approvals under the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) and Ontario Water Resource Act (OWRA) from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

Background

Prior to initiating work on this project, as reported in PWA 38-2011, it was estimated that Niagara Region could realize a net financial benefit of approximately \$18 million over a 20-year period as a result of additional waste disposal capacity at the Humberstone Landfill Site, including avoidance of an operating budget pressure of approximately \$1.5 million per year.

In 2012, Niagara Region Council approved the retention of a consultant to complete the Environmental Assessment (EA) to expand the Humberstone Landfill Site. The Humberstone Landfill Site (Landfill) EA was initiated in 2012.

Niagara Region started by developing a framework for the EA, otherwise known as the Terms of Reference, which was subsequently approved by the Minister of the MECP in November 2013 with no conditions. In May 2016, following extensive studies, public and aboriginal consultation and submission of the EA Report and an extensive review period, the Minister, with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, made a decision to allow the undertaking (landfill expansion) to proceed, subject to certain conditions.

Following the approval of the EA, additional studies were completed, the expansion and infrastructure upgrades designed and an application was prepared for approvals required under the EPA and OWRA. The neighbouring community was kept informed of progress during this phase of the project by way of the Public Liaison Committee. This phase of the work, including MECP review and approval, took nearly two years.

In addition to the approval of the landfill expansion, the EPA and OWRA approvals also provided Niagara Region with authorization to complete construction of the capital works necessary to facilitate the expansion. The work required to facilitate the landfill expansion has been broken into two phases. The first phase was awarded in March 2019 at a cost of \$4.829 million. The work included the following:

- Expansion of the Landfill gas collection and control system;
- Installation of supervisory control and data acquisition for the leachate collection system;
- Landscaping improvements to St. Georges Park north of the Landfill that will assist in creating a visual buffer between the Landfill and Park in the future as the plant material matures.

Concurrent with the construction work in 2019, design work is being finalized for the remaining capital works to be completed in 2020, subject to MECP approval in a timely manner.

Next Steps

In June 2019, an additional ECA application will be submitted to the MECP to obtain the approvals for the remaining additional infrastructure. Once the design is complete and approved, tender of the following will be done in 2020:

- Lining of storm water management ditches around the Landfill to minimize the infiltration of storm water into the leachate collection system;
- Enlargement of the storm water management ponds to accommodate the additional volume of water expected in the ponds;
- Installation of contingency leachate collection system and pumping station to mitigate the potential for any groundwater contamination to migrate off-site;
- Minor improvements to the existing leachate collection system; and
- Installation of a storage building to accommodate existing equipment and supplies.

At this time, Niagara Region and City of Welland staff are working on finalizing the terms of the Host Municipality Agreement, which will come into force once Niagara Region starts to utilize the recently approved capacity.

The approval process for the expansion of the Humberstone Landfill Site took nearly seven years to complete. The infrastructure upgrades will ensure the Landfill continues to operate safely and that the environment will be protected while offering the Niagara Region cost effective, municipal waste disposal capacity for the next 25 years.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Peter Kryger, P. Geo., PMP
Project Manager
Waste Management Services