

Table of Contents

| | |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Background and Introduction..... | 2 |
| 1.1. Class EA Context | 5 |
| 2. Public Information Centre #1 | 8 |
| 2.1. Purpose | 8 |
| 2.2. Notifications..... | 8 |
| 2.2.1 Newspaper and Online Advertisement | 8 |
| 2.2.2 Mail Out..... | 8 |
| 2.3. Dates, Times, and Locations..... | 8 |
| 2.4. Display Panels..... | 9 |
| 2.5. Attendance | 9 |
| 2.6. Comments and Responses..... | 9 |
| 3. Next Steps..... | 15 |

List of Tables

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|----|
| Table 1. PIC #1 Dates, Times, and Locations | 9 |
| Table 2. Summary of Comments Received | 11 |

List of Figures

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Figure 1. Study Area – Wastewater Infrastructure..... | 3 |
| Figure 2. Municipal Class EA Planning and Design Process | 5 |
| Figure 3. Study Process..... | 7 |

Appendices

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| Appendix A | Sign In Sheet |
|------------|---------------|

1. Background and Introduction

The Region of Niagara is an upper-tier municipality comprised of twelve local area municipalities including West Lincoln, Lincoln, Grimsby, St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland, Thorold, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Pelham, Port Colborne, Fort Erie and Wainfleet. The water and wastewater system is operated in conjunction with the local area municipalities under the two-tier governance system. Niagara Region is responsible for operating all water and wastewater treatment plants, sanitary pump stations, trunk sewers, water transmission mains, booster pump stations and water storage facilities.

The Region has identified the need to undertake a 2016 Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan update as there has been several significant changes since the completion of the 2011 study that impact the servicing strategy adopted through that study.

Since the completion of the 2011 Master Plan, the province's Places to Grow Plan Amendment 2 has been adopted, which outlines the Regional growth targets out to 2041. Further, the Region through the Regional Council Strategic Priorities is using the relationships between residential growth, employment, and transportation to change how, when, and where growth is expected to occur and be supported. The Region is currently undertaking a Municipal Comprehensive Review (Imagine Niagara 2014) that will outline the Region's Growth Plans moving forward.

The Region of Niagara has initiated the Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan update Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study, Approach 2 to determine several alternative design concepts to provide water and wastewater servicing for the Region to 2041.

The study area for the Water and Wastewater Servicing Study update is shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

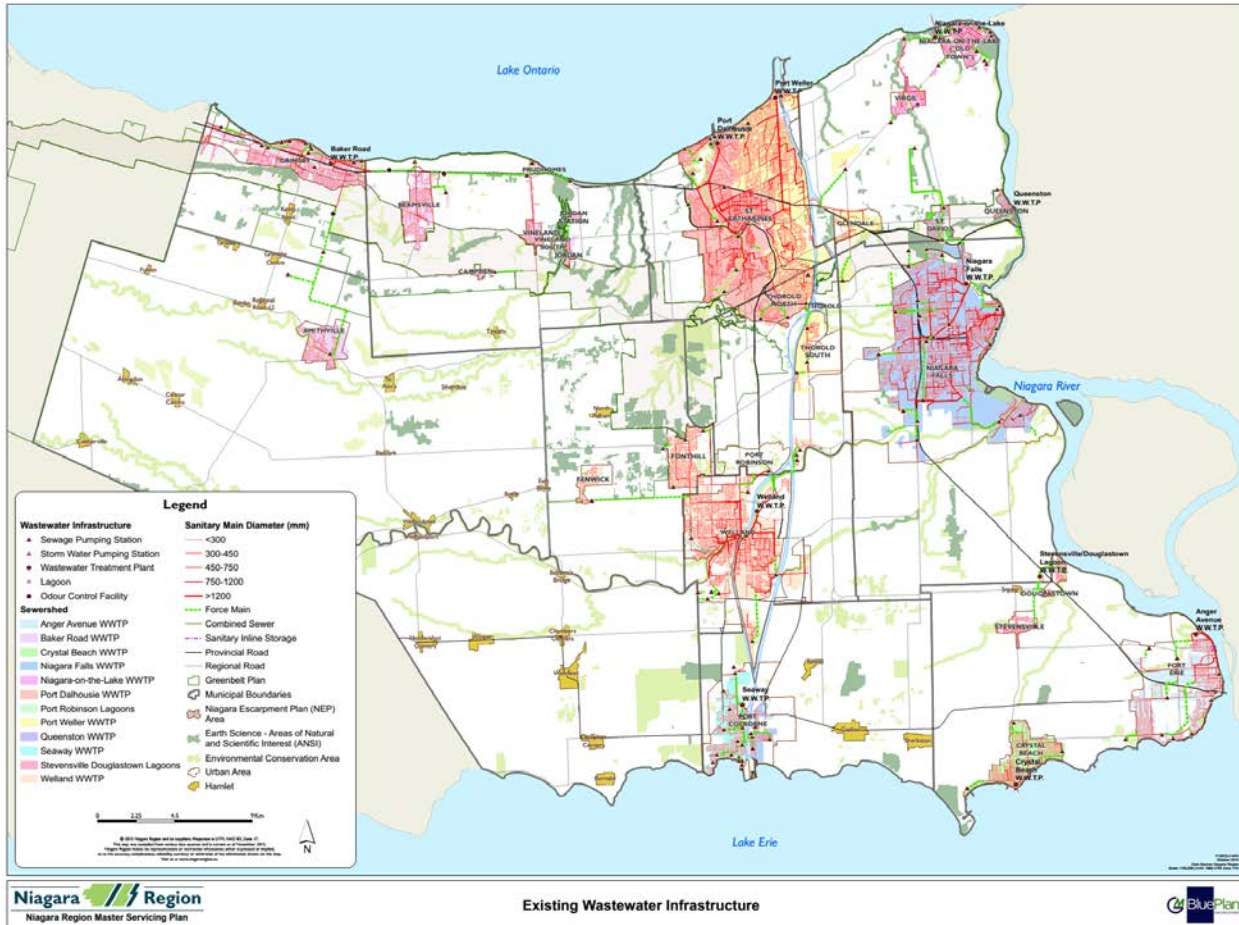


Figure 1. Study Area – Wastewater Infrastructure

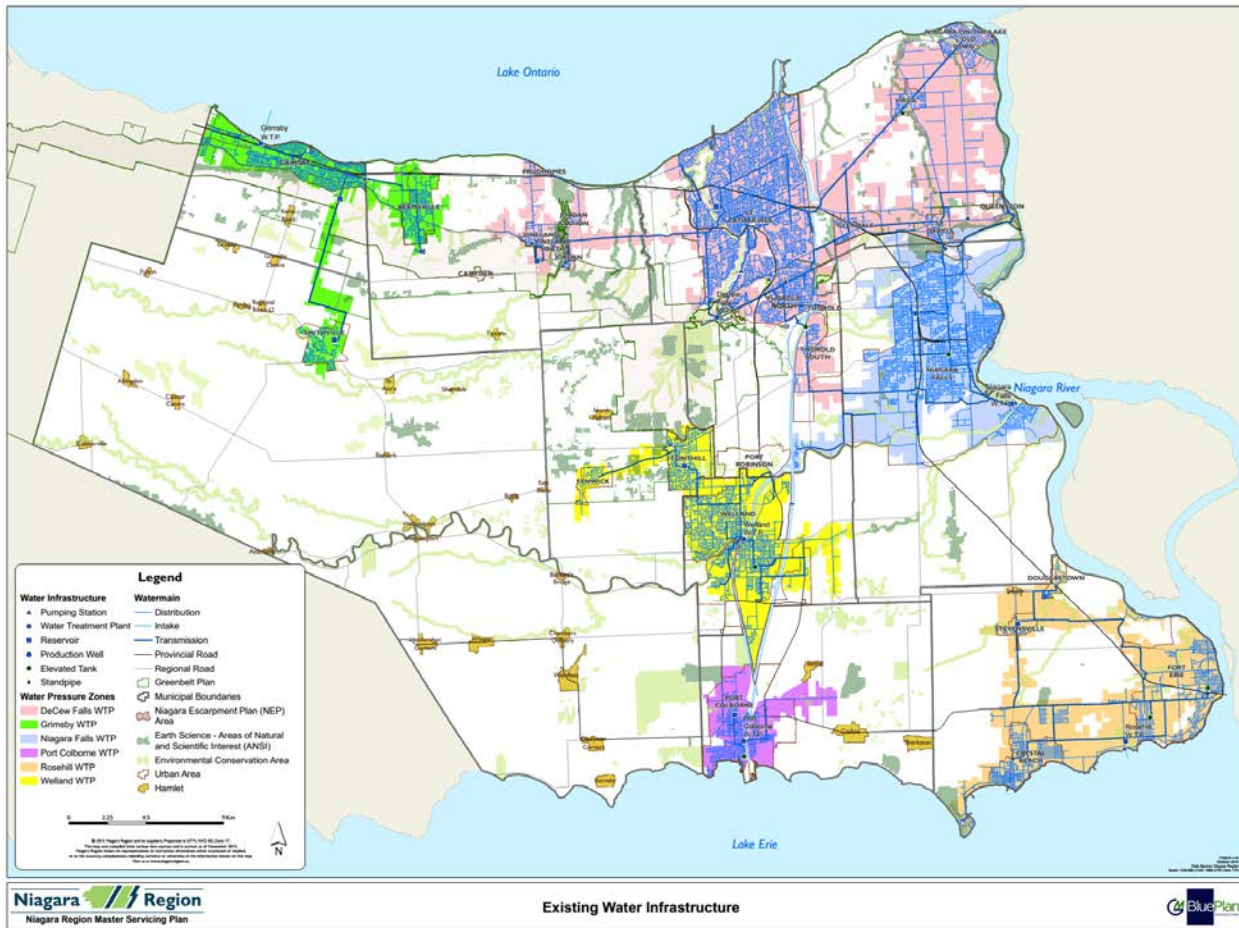


Figure 2. Study Area – Water Infrastructure

The Class EA study is following the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process (October 2000, as amended in 2007 and 2011), Approach #2 for Master Plans as seen in Figure 3. The Class EA process includes public and review agency consultation, evaluation of alternatives, impact assessment of proposed alternatives, and identification of measures to mitigate adverse impacts.

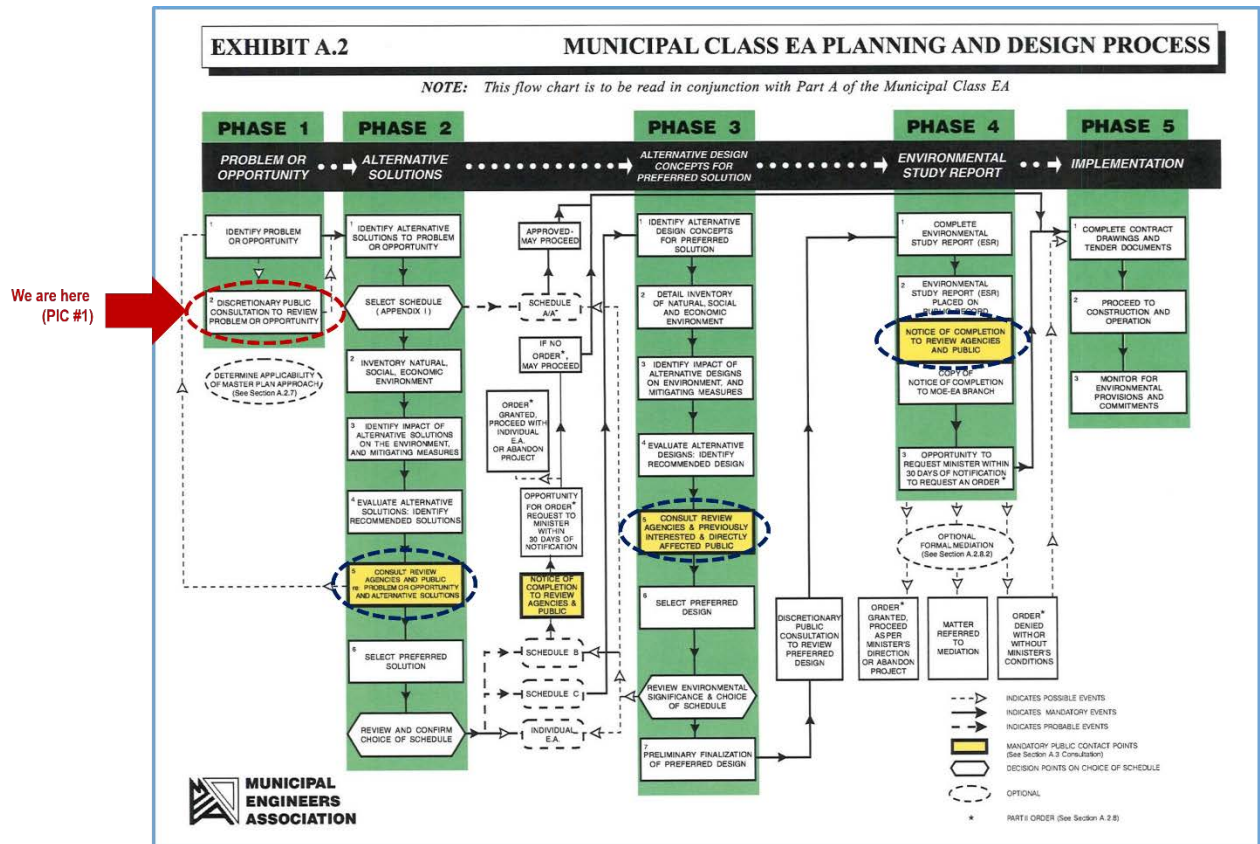


Figure 3. Municipal Class EA Planning and Design Process

A key part of the public consultation component is the Public Information Centre (PIC), which serves as a forum for information exchange between the public/stakeholders and the project team. Three rounds of PICs are planned during the course of this study.

The *Public Information Centre #1 Summary Report* focuses on PIC #1 and represents one element of the overall public consultation documentation. The report documents the following:

- Notice of PIC#1
- Information materials presented at PIC #1
- Summary of attendance
- All comments received and responses provided
- Communications tracking sheet to track correspondence in a transparent and traceable manner

1.1. Class EA Context

The Class EA Study follows the approved process as outlined in Section A.2.7, of the Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (October 2000, as amended in 2007 and 2011) document. The Master Plan study is being carried out as an Approach #2 for Master Plans.

Public consultation is a vital component of the Class EA process and ensures transparency through encouraging stakeholder and public involvement. The study work plan provides for three rounds of Public Information Centres (PICs) as shown in 4.

The first round of Public Information Centres (PIC #1) was held on November 17, November 18 and November 19, 2015. PIC#1 was intended to introduce the project, present the overall study process and background, and solicit interest and feedback into the process.

PIC#2 will be held in April 2016 and will provide an overview of the baseline system assessment, growth scenario development, and evaluation matrix development.

PIC#3 will be held in September 2016 and will identify the alternative design concepts for the preferred growth scenario.

The final project report, the Environmental Study Report (ESR), will be prepared in November/December 2016, at which point a Notice of Completion will be issued making the documentation available for public review.

PROPOSED WORK PLAN PROCESS

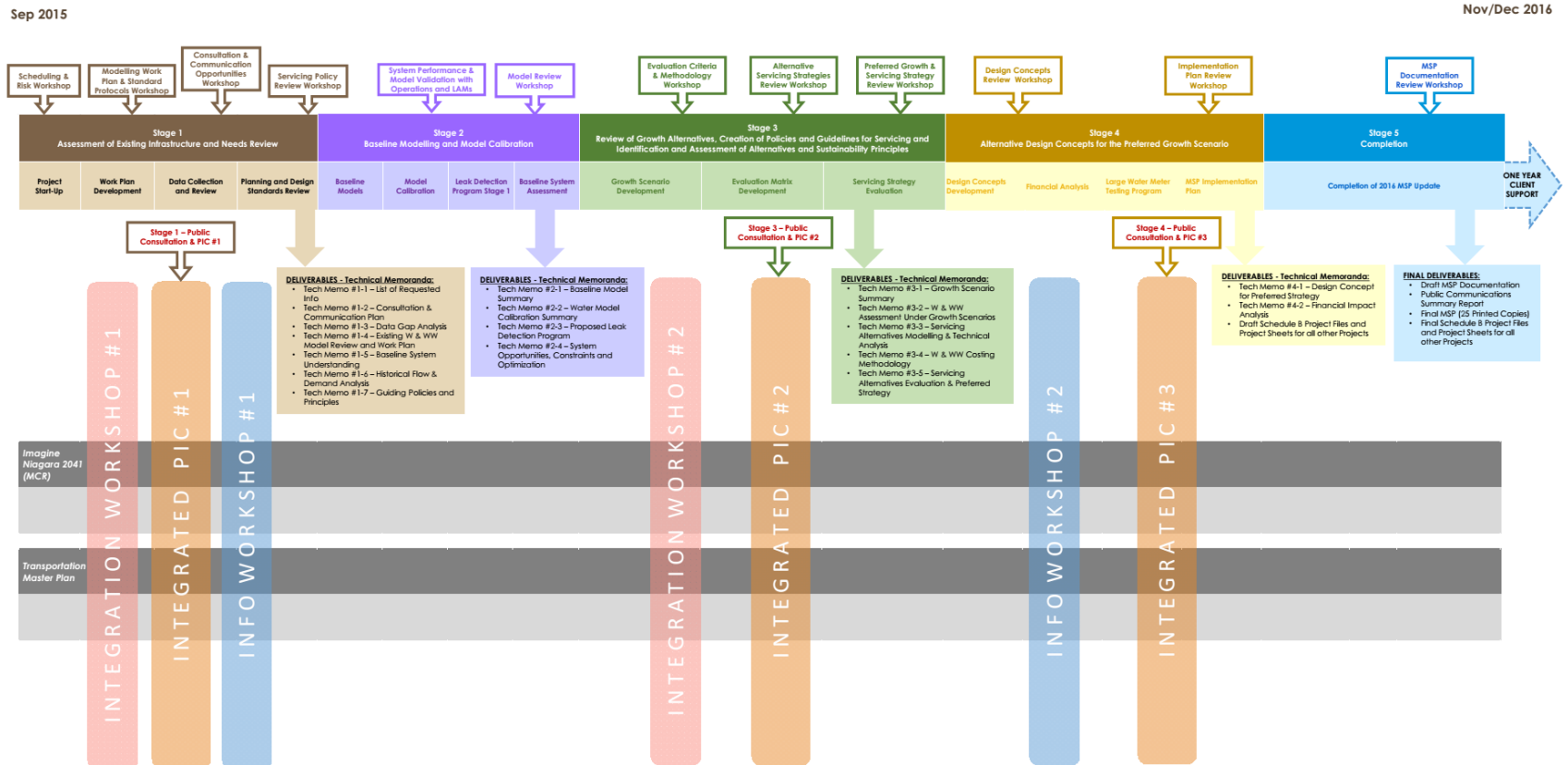


Figure 4. Study Process

2. Public Information Centre #1

2.1. Purpose

The first Public Information Centre (PIC #1) was intended to:

- Introduce the study to the public
- Describe the Class EA process
- Identify the problem and opportunity statement
- Outline the overall study process
- Provide baseline information such as existing systems, land use, catchment areas and environmental features
- Receive public input and answer any questions

2.2. Notifications

Agency stakeholders and the public were informed of PIC #1 by newspaper advertisements, and mail. The combined Notice of Commencement and PIC #1 are provided in [Appendix B.](#)

2.2.1 Newspaper and Online Advertisement

The combined Notice of Commencement and Public Information Centre #1 was published in the following local newspapers:

- Fort Erie Times – November 5, 2015
- Port Colborne – In Port News – November 5, 2015
- Niagara Advance – November 5, 2015
- News Now (which serves Grimsby, Lincoln, West Lincoln, Winona) – November 5, 2015
- Niagara Falls Review – November 5, 2015
- Thorold News – November 5, 2015
- Pelham News – November 5, 2015
- St. Catharines Standard – November 5, 2015
- The Tribune – November 5, 2015

2.2.2 Mail Out

The Notice of PIC #1 was and mailed to local government, review agencies and other stakeholders on November 10, 2015.

2.3. Dates, Times, and Locations

PIC #1 was held at three locations within the study area. Table 1 identifies the dates, times, and locations for PIC #1.

Table 1. PIC #1 Dates, Times, and Locations

| Municipality | Date | Time | Location |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Town of Grimsby | Tuesday, November 17, 2015 | 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. | Town of Grimsby Town Hall Council Chambers 160 Livingston Ave Grimsby, ON |
| City of Port Colborne | Wednesday, November 18, 2015 | 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. | Vale Health and Wellness Centre 550 Elizabeth Street Port Colborne, ON |
| City of St. Catharines | Thursday, November 19, 2015 | 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. | Kiwanis Aquatic Centre 425 Carlton Street St. Catharines, ON |

Representatives from the Region of Niagara and its Consultant, GM BluePlan Engineering, were present at the PIC to provide information and answer questions.

2.4. Display Panels

The information presented at PIC #1 included the following printed display panels:

1. Purpose of the Study
2. Study Area and Project History
3. Project Timeline
4. Class EA Process
5. Study Process
6. Diversion Ideas, Concepts, Concept Alternatives (long list and short list)
7. Evaluation Criteria
8. Shortlisted Concepts, Options and Concept Alternatives
9. Existing Systems
10. Catchment Areas & Environmental Conditions & Land Use
11. Project Schedule & Next Steps
12. How to Get Involved and Contact Information for the Region's Project Manager

In addition to printed display panels, a number of television sets were also set up to show the process of shortlisting the diversion concept alternatives.

2.5. Attendance

A total of 3 people attended PIC #1. The sign-in sheets are provided in Appendix A.

2.6. Comments and Responses

Attendees were encouraged to provide input on the PIC and/or study in a comment sheet provided. Comments were subsequently received via email and letter correspondence. No comments were

received via the comments sheets. A summary of the comments received is provided in Table 2 below. Follow up consultation will be tracked in future updates of the tracking sheet.

Table 2. Summary of Comments Received

| No. | Correspondent | Type | Comment | Date Received | Status/Response/Action Item |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Mélanie Vincent Nation Huronne-Wendat melanievincent21@yahoo.ca | E-mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned about potential Huron-Wendat heritage and archeological sites. • Requested shapefiles of the project area to determine if there are any such areas. | April 19, 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region to provide approval before release of any GIS data. • GMBP to issue response. • GMBP sent email to clarify the shapefiles requested. |
| 2 | Henrik Zbogar City of Brampton | Mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mail was returned due to incorrect address. | April 20, 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postal code was corrected and letter was resent on April 23, 2015. |
| 3 | Thomas Nightingale City of Mississauga thomas.nightingale@mississauga.ca | E-mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wanted the final PIC #1 boards to circulate to City staff for review. | April 21, 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region provided an update on study status and content of PIC #1 as well as three key PIC #1 boards for reference via e-mail on April 20, 2015. |
| 4 | Thomas Nightingale City of Mississauga thomas.nightingale@mississauga.ca | E-mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wanted to set up meeting with "core team" once routes have been defined. | April 13, 2013 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard copy PIC boards provided to Roger Da Cunha @ PIC 1 held on May 5th, 2015 • Region to issue tentative meeting dates with City in early summer as per email. |

| No. | Correspondent | Type | Comment | Date Received | Status/Response/Action Item |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5 | Amanda Graham Ministry of Environment and Climate Change amanda.graham@ontario.ca | E-mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided areas of interest within study area, sensitive environmental features, and general comments. • Recommended consultation with MNRF, DFO and conservation authorities. • Recommended preparation of a Stormwater Management Plan as part of Class EA as well as an air quality/odour impact assessment. • Suggested that the Environmental Approvals Branch be consulted on whether a new or amended ECA is required. • Recommended that the ministry's D-Series guidelines (Land Use Compatibility) be referred to. • Suggested undertaking tests to determine soil contamination; if site is contaminated, the Ministry's Halton Peel District Office in Burlington should be contacted. • Recommended documentation of post-construction monitoring plans and the inclusion of all permits and approvals in the ESR. • Provided information on Aboriginal Consultation and attached separate preliminary assessment checklist. | April 21, 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GMBP to ensure that extended project team is aware of potential conflict re: ecosystem protection and restoration, surface water, groundwater, air quality dust and noise and contaminated soils. • GMBP to consult with DFO and local CAs to determine if special measures or study will be necessary to preserve and protect sensitive ecosystem features. • GMBP to reference Aboriginal Consultation Information as study moves forward. • GMBP and Region to discuss Stormwater Management Plan and air quality/odour impact assessment. |
| 6 | Amanda Graham Ministry of Environment and Climate Change amanda.graham@o | E-mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wanted to know if study was proceeding as Schedule B or C. | April 20, 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region confirmed that study was Schedule C and invited correspondent to attend PIC #1 and provided website link to PIC #1 display boards via e-mail on April 20, 2015. |

| No. | Correspondent | Type | Comment | Date Received | Status/Response/Action Item |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ntario.ca | | | | | |
| 7 | Bob Wellington Union Gas Ltd. | Mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mail was returned due to incorrect address or correspondent no longer works there. | April 20, 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacement correspondent (Jeremy Getson) was contacted about project via e-mail on April 23, 2015 and has replaced Bob Wellington in master contact list. |
| 8 | Sharon Lingertat Toronto and Region Conservation Authority | E-mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested removal of Carolyn Woodland and addition of Chandra Sharma and Vince D'Elia to project mailing list. • Summarized TRCA's areas of interest. • Suggested that MNRF and relevant federal agency be contacted about endangered species and natural areas. • Recommended that the preferred alternative meet the policies in Section 7.4.4 and 8.9 of <i>The Living City Policies for Planning and Development in the Watersheds of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority</i>. • Wanted a pre-design brief during detailed design. • Requested that a meeting to discuss TRCA areas of interest be set up prior to selecting preferred alternative solution and design. • Specified submission requirements and adherence to TRCA Environmental Assessment Review Program Service Delivery Standards. • Requested one copy of handouts and display materials from PIC #1. | April 20, 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GMBP to ensure that extended project team is aware of potential conflict re: significant landforms, water courses, wetlands, species and habitats, ANSI, endangered species. • Changes to master contact list have been made as requested. • GMBP to consult with Environment Canada about Federally Endangered Species. • Region to set up meeting to discuss Areas of Interest prior to selection of preferred alternative solution and design. • GMBP to send a copy of PIC handouts/display materials. |

| No. | Correspondent | Type | Comment | Date Received | Status/Response/Action Item |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9 | Chris Pincombe Enbridge Pipelines Inc. chris.pincombe@enbridge.com | E-mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed presence of 760 mm, 610 mm and 500 mm diameter pipes through study area. Map was attached. Provided conditions to project regarding Enbridge's existing infrastructure. Provided Enbridge's Guidelines for Crossing and Application to Cross Facilities documents. | April 20, 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GMBP to ensure that extended project team is aware of any potential conflict with existing infrastructure and to ensure compliance of conditions. GMBP to add Enbridge pipelines inventory to 'utilities' layer in GIS. |
| 10 | Megan Eplett Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry mega.eplett@ontario.ca | E-mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed the presence of ANSI and several species at risk throughout study area. Wanted to be kept updated on project throughout EA process. | May 04, 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Region replied and ensured continued communication via e-mail on May 5, 2015. |
| 11 | Claire Zhang Hydro One Networks secondarylanduse@hydroone.com | E-mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed the presence of high voltage transmission facilities within study area and continued interest in consultation. Suggested potential existence of provisions for future lines or secondary land uses in study area. Requested that plans be submitted to Rick Schatz if project will affect Hydro One facilities. | May 11, 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GMBP to ensure that extended project team is aware of any potential conflict with existing infrastructure and to ensure compliance of conditions. GMBP added Rick Schatz to master contact list for future reference. |
| 12 | Amar Singh Peel District School Board | Mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PDSB did not have any comments but confirmed that they wished to remain on contact list to receive future project status updates. | May 05, 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GMBP added Amar Singh to master contact list. |

3. Next Steps

Following the first round of public consultation, the project team will:

- Evaluate and select a preferred diversion concept
- Refine alignment options
- Evaluate and select preliminary preferred alignment
- Prepare for PIC #2 (tentatively Fall 2015)