

**Humberstone Landfill Site
Public Liaison Committee (PLC)**

**Meeting held
Wednesday, December 3, 2008 - 7:00 p.m.
Civic Square, Community Room, Welland**

Present:	Mike Dickman	Chair
	Connie Zalwasky	Welland
	Jim Larouche (8:00 pm.)	City of Welland Councillor
	Cindy Forster	Regional Councillor
	Jay Mitchell	Welland
	Silvio Mucciarelli	Niagara Region
	Jamie Kristjanson	Niagara Region

Guest: Tony Whelan, Welland River Keepers
Wilf Ruland, P.Geo

Regrets: Randy Daly

1. Acceptance of Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

2. Draft Notes of September 3, 2008 Meeting

The PLC Newsletter that was delivered in May by Niagara Region to the residents living in the area surrounding the landfill site was not received by Connie. Connie will ask her neighbours if they received the Newsletter.

3. Business Arising From Previous Notes

3(i) Wilf Ruland – Review of CRA Comments

Wilf was satisfied that his recommendations were adopted by Niagara Region. The October 3rd letter from Wilf Ruland contained the following:

Recommendation #1a

The key indicators of landfill leachate should be reduced to a short list with 3 important parameters. The monitoring consultant CRA suggested 6 parameters that included the 3 parameters that Wilf recommended. Wilf is in agreement.

Recommendation #1b

Add Boron to the monitoring parameter list. CRA did not take a clear cut position in their response. Niagara Region will include Boron and Bromide in leachate and groundwater sampling starting in 2009. They will be tested for the next 3 years and the data assessed to see if these parameters are useful indicators of landfill leachate.

Recommendation #2a

A short list of critical contaminants should be developed for surface water. This list should include cobalt, zinc, PAHs and cresols.

Niagara Region will proceed to test the storm water ponds and surface water stations for cobalt, zinc, cresols and for select PAHs during 2009. The select list of PAHs was determined by reviewing the PAHs actually found in landfill leachate. The data will be assessed to evaluate these parameters are critical contaminants for surface water.

Wilf said this was a good way to move forward.

Jay asked if cresols were included as PAHs, or is a separate chemical. Wilf will research this and provide a response.

Recommendation #2b

Annual testing for PAHs should be added to the surface water sampling program.

Niagara Region will add select PAHs to the surface water sampling program in 2009. The results will be assessed to determine if the PAHs testing is warranted beyond 2009. Wilf suggested that an update on the results be provided to the PLC in fall 2009. Staff agreed.

Recommendation #2c

CRA agreed with Wilf that the testing for pesticides and herbicides in landfill leachate should be changed from monthly to annually. Niagara Region would have to submit an application to the MOE to amend the CofA to reflect the reduced monitoring for pesticides and herbicides. The CofA may have to be amended again to change to the pond discharge trigger criteria. It may be more cost effective to make an application to the MOE for both changes at the same time, than to submit two separate applications.

Recommendation #3

Wilf recommended new wells in the southwest corner of the landfill site, as this is where leachate is most likely to bypass the perimeter leachate collection system to the surrounding groundwater. Staff explained that three new well nests were installed in July 2008, with each well nest having 2 wells at different depths in the clay. The new wells will detect if leachate is moving through or beneath the leachate collection system in the southwest corner of the landfill site.

Wilf agreed with the locations and depths of the new wells.

Recommendation #4

Field investigations should be completed in the northeast corner of the landfill site to look for seeps that could flow into the Brown tap Drain. CRA inspects for leachate seeps, and indicated that they will give special attention to the northeast corner of the site.

Wilf requested that leachate seep inspections be reported in the annual report. Staff agreed.

Recommendation #5

The discharge criteria for the stormwater ponds should be reassessed. Wilf also recommended a special list of parameters for consideration.

CRA has been sampling the ponds for a larger list than is provided within the CofA in order to re-evaluate the pond discharge criteria. Niagara Region staff have also instructed CRA to sample for the special list recommended by Wilf, including filtered and non-filtered metals for a one year period in 2009; and to sample the Brown Tap Drain when the ponds are discharging. The test results will also be assessed.

Wilf agreed with this approach.

Recommendation #6

Off site surface water sampling should be conducted during times when the ponds are discharging, and to sample for PAHs.

Staff have instructed CRA to conduct sampling of the surface waters (Brown Tap Drain, Feeder Canal, Johnsons Ditch) when the ponds are discharging. PAHs will be sampled as part of the surface water sampling for a one year period in 2009.

Wilf stated that he has no outstanding issues.

3(ii) Update on Brown Tap Drain Study

The MOE has not completed their review of the CRA report "Brown Tap Drain Assessment" dated July 2008.

3(iii) Update on Johnson Ditch Investigation

Staff indicated that CRA sampled the sediment for chromium along the north ditch of Humberstone Road to Prince Charles Drive, and Johnson Ditch both north and south of Humberstone Road. The results show that the highest chromium levels are in the Humberstone Road ditch from Prince Charles Drive, and decrease in the Johnson Ditch. The test results were provided to the MOE for their review. Wilf commented that the Humberstone Road north ditch be scraped out to remove the chromium-laden sediment.

4. Correspondence

4(i) New MOE Regulations for Landfill Gas Collection

Staff summarized the update to MOE Regulation 232/98 with new requirements for landfill gas collection and utilization for operating landfill sites larger than 1.5 million cubic meters in size (the Humberstone Landfill Site final capacity will be about 2.3 million cubic meters). Niagara Region must submit a landfill gas collection system design to the MOE by June 30, 2009. The system must be installed and operating by December 31, 2010 in areas under final cover and interim cover. The captured gas can be flared or possibly used to generate electricity if there is sufficient quality and quantity of gas. A consultant will conduct a pilot test at the landfill site to determine the gas collection system design and to evaluate if the gas should be flared or could be used to generate electricity.

5. Other Business

5(i) New Private Landscaping Business Adjacent to the Landfill

Councillor Larouche asked staff the intent of private property use adjacent to the entrance to the Humberstone Landfill Site. A local business had purchased the vacant property on the north side of Humberstone Road and had removed topsoil and placed a granular pad. Staff responded that the property was purchased by Compost Management Associates (CMA) and will reportedly be used as a retail garden supply with a soil blending operation, whereby soil is blended with finished compost. A question was asked if CMA required a CofA to operate this type of business and if the business would also include a composting operation. Staff said that the owner may have to discuss with the City on planning / zoning issues and with the MOE on the need for a CofA. A question was asked if there would be odours from the operation. Staff responded that this was a possibility, depending upon the degree of curing of the compost used in the blending process.

5(ii) Proposed Meeting Schedule for 2009

The following dates were proposed for PLC meeting in 2009:

February 25, 2009

May 27, 2009

September 9, 2009 (invite Wilf Ruland)

December 2, 2009

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.