AUGUST 24, 2006

YDSS INTERCEPTOR SEWER
19TH AVENUE & LESLIE STREET

Public Information Centre

Construction has started...

This Public Information Centre (PIC) will provide residents with an overview of the mitigation and monitoring measures associated with the Permit to Take Water (PTTW) as received from the Ministry of Environment (MOE). Accordingly, this PIC is held to satisfy Condition No. 2 set out by the Minister of the Environment on October 1, 2004.

On July 14, 2006 York Region was advised that the MOE had approved the Permit to Take Water (PTTW) application made by the Region for the York Durham Sewage System (YDSS) Interceptor Sewer project. An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) was developed detailing measures to deal with, among other things, potential impacts if contingency ground water pumping became necessary for the construction of this project. York Region has obtained all Certificates of Approval and permits to start the construction phase for this project.

Work released...

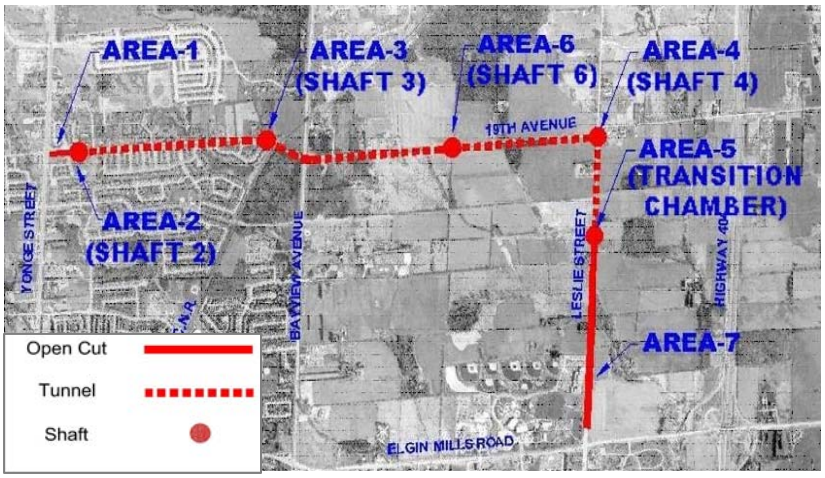
The Interceptor project has been tendered as two separate contracts: a 1.4 km stretch of open cut construction along the west side of Leslie Street between Elgin Mills Road and 19th Avenue which officially commenced May 25, 2006. Construction of the shoring system is well underway.

The tunnelled portion of the project at 4.1 km in length will be constructed under the existing 19th Avenue right-of-way with a short portion continuing south on Leslie Street. Preparatory work has begun on the shaft compound areas. The entire project is expected to be completed in early 2008.

Monitoring & Mitigation…

The Region's well mitigation protocol is in place for those homeowners with private wells which may be affected by construction in the event the contingency groundwater pumping is necessary.

For environmentally sensitive features such as wetlands, watercourses, ground water, fish habitat, the Oak Ridges Moraine Aquifer, and the Jefferson Forest the EMP monitoring program developed specific triggers and mitigative actions to ensure prompt and effective response by York Region's project team to any issues which may arise.



Tunnel under construction...

The tunnelled sections will use Earth Pressure Balance Mode – Tunnel Boring Machine (EPBM-TBM) technology. Access shafts along the tunnel route are mandated to use ground water isolation, "sealed" shaft construction methods. This combination of technologies significantly reduces the need for dewatering beyond site maintenance.

EPBM tunnelling technology is proven and has been widely used for combined sewer, sanitary sewer and water supply construction in numerous municipalities in Canada, United States of America and worldwide – for example the Sheppard Avenue subway in Toronto.

Construction of tunnels using EPBM-TBM's in combination with a precast segmental concrete tunnel lining (essentially the pipe) which is installed as the tunnel is advanced, eliminates the need for dewatering along the tunnel alignment.

The sealed shaft construction system to be used on this project isolates the soil and groundwater to be excavated from the soil and groundwater outside of the shaft so that shaft construction can proceed without significant impact to the surrounding aquifer.

Purpose for the PTTW...

The PTTW application is made under the Ontario Water Resource Act (OWRA) and the permit, with conditions, is issued by the MOE. The permit issued to the Region limits the volume of water to be taken daily for the duration of the permit.

Section 34 of the OWRA (with some exceptions) requires anyone taking more than 50,000 litres of water in a day from a lake, stream, river or groundwater source, to obtain a permit to take water.

PTTW applications now place greater emphasis on sensitive environmental features such as the potential impact of proposed takings on natural water flows and habitats. As such the supporting EMP reflects the interrelationship between groundwater and surface water and the necessary monitoring & mitigation measures to ensure an effective balance before, during and after construction.

York Region

Visit the YDSS Interceptor Sewer Web Site for up-to-date project information at http://ydss.cenet.ca