

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks	Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs
Environmental Assessment	Direction des évaluations
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January 28, 2021

Mike Rabeau Director, Capital Planning and Delivery The Regional Municipality of York 17250 Yonge Street Newmarket ON L3Y 6Z1

Re: Southeast Collector (SEC) Trunk Sewer Project Minister's Environmental Assessment Conditions Request

Dear Mr. Rabeau,

Thank you for your letter of August 24, 2020 requesting that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) consider the conditions satisfied for the Notice of Approval to Proceed with the Undertaking for the Southeast Collector Trunk Sewer Individual Environmental Assessment (EA) approval dated March 2010. As Conditions 1 to 3 are administrative in nature, this includes the following conditions:

- Condition 4 Compliance Monitoring Program
- Condition 5 Compliance Monitoring Annual Reporting
- Condition 6 Southeast Collector Advistory Committee
- Condition 7 Compliants Management Protocol
- Condition 8 Water Efficiency and Inflow and Infiltration
- Condition 9 Odour Management and Mitigation Program
- Condition 10 Performance Management Plan
- Condition 11 Ambient Air Monitoring Program
- Condition 12 Surface and Groundwater Monitoring Program
- Condition 13 Bob Hunter Memorial Park

York Region requests that the EA conditions be deemed satisfied with no further reporting required. York Region would continue to fulfill all requirements and conditions stated in four Environmental Compliance Approvals issued on this project. York Region is also committed to continue maintaining water conservation and efficiency efforts under its intra-basin transfer permit where requirements have been included under Schedule B of Peel Region's and City of Toronto's Permits to Take Water.

The MECP accepts York Region's assertion that conditions 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 are satisfied. York Region may consider these conditions fully satisfied, under the understanding that York Region continue to undertake the commitments outlined above.

It should be noted that Environmental Compliance Approval Number 3691-AZFLDU conditions 3 and 4 reference implementing the Odour Management and Mitigation Plan to address condition 9 of the EA approval, and implementing the Ambient Air Monitoring and Reporting Plan to address condition 11 of the EA approval respectively. As EA conditions 9 and 11 are now satisfied, Environmental Compliance Approval conditions 3 and 4 may also be considered satisfied.

Condition 8

As required by condition 8.1-8.6, York Region prepared a Long Term Water Conservation Strategy and an Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Strategy (Strategies) which were first approved by the Regional Director in 2011. Condition 8.7 requires York Region to carry out the Strategies.

Condition 8.8 and 8.9 require the submission of an annual report to the Regional Director detailing York Region's progress on implementing its Strategies until such date that the Regional Director determines the reports are no longer required. Annual reports have been submitted to the MECP from 2012 to 2020. York Region has identified in its August 24, 2020 letter that these annual reports require significant Regional and MECP staff time for limited benefit. The MECP acknowledges that York Region consistently achieves its water conservation and inflow and infiltration reduction targets and MECP has not raised concerns with the annual reporting. Given this, the MECP accepts the request to no longer require annual reporting in accordance with condition 8.8 and 8.9. The latest report submitted in 2020 may be considered the final annual report. It should be noted that the requirements for intra-basin transfer annual reporting under Schedule B of Peel Region and City of Toronto's Permits to Take Water remains unchanged and in effect.

Condition 8.10 requires that the Strategies be updated to the satisfaction of the Regional Director, and until such date as the Regional Director indicates that the updates are no longer required. The next update is due in 2021. The Long Term Water Conservation Strategy has a 40-year implementation timeframe with targets set to 2051 and the Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Strategy has a 20-year timeframe with targets set to 2031.

Should York Region wish to have condition 8 deemed satisfied in its entirety, York Region shall develop an acceptable plan for the monitoring, review, and update if necessary, of the Strategies. The plan should also indicate how the monitoring and review activities will be implemented. The proposed plan can be included in the 2021 update. The MECP Regional Director will consider at that time whether the proposed plan is acceptable and whether condition 8 can then be deemed fully satisfied. Further, it should be noted that deeming condition 8 satisfied does not change the requirement to carry out the Long Term Water Conservation Strategy under Schedule B of Peel Region and City of Toronto's Pemits to Take Water.

Condition 5

Condition 5.4 states that the proponent shall submit annual compliance reports until all conditions (of the EA approval) are satisfied. Once condition 8 had been completed to the satisfaction of the MECP Regional Director, condition 5 can also be deemed satisfied.

Should you have any further questions, please contact Emilee O'Leary, Regional Environmental Assessment Coordinator, at <u>Emilee.oleary@ontario.ca</u> for condition 8 or Dorothy Moszynski, Project Officer, at <u>Dorothy.moszynski@ontario.ca</u> for condition 5.

Sincerely,

Kathleen O'Neill

Kathleen O'Neill Director Environmental Assessment Branch

Lisa Trevisan Regional Director Central Region

cc. Rachael Fletcher, Manager, Central Region, MECP Paul Martin, Supervisor, Central Region, MECP Andrew Evers, Manager, Environmental Assessment Branch (EAB), MECP Solange Desautels Supervisor, EAB, MECP Emilee O'Leary, Regional Environmental Assessment Coordinator, EAB, MECP Dorothy Moszynski, Project Officer, EAB, MECP Tamara Kondrachova, Hydrogeologist/Environmental Management, York Region Erin Mahoney, Commissioner of Environmental Services, York Region Jennifer Khemai, Manager Strategic Policy and Regulatory Compliance, York Region