

November 11, 2013

Ms. Isabel Leung
Council Coordinator
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
111 Sandiford Drive
Stouffville, ON L4A 0Z8

Dear Ms. Leung:

Re: Council resolution passed on September 3, 2013 regarding Waste Management Inc.'s Highway 48 landfill in Stouffville

York Region staff have reviewed the Council resolution passed on September 3, 2013 regarding Waste Management Inc.'s (WMI) landfill site located on the east side of Highway 48 and north of Bloomington Road and offer the following comments for Council's consideration.

In the resolution, it was requested that the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) and York Region develop and implement a clean-up program for the site. It was also recommended that an annual summary describing the status of monitoring and clean-up efforts be provided in layman's terms to the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and residents within a 500 meter radius of the site.

MOE is responsible for the regulation of landfills. As part of their requirements, MOE requires WMI to perform monitoring and submit annual reports describing surface and groundwater quality, leachate collection, as well as landfill gas monitoring and control efforts. York Region is a key stakeholder in the management of the former landfill given the proximity to Stouffville municipal wells 5 and 6.

MOE and York Region meet semi-annually to discuss and review water resource matters including the findings of the monitoring program for the Highway 48 landfill. More recently, WMI has started to attend those meetings and discussion with WMI has focused on groundwater monitoring between the site and the Region's municipal wells 5 and 6. Invitations will be sent to Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville staff to attend those meetings in future.

As noted in the Council resolution, results of the monitoring program indicate that the site does have a minor impact on down-gradient groundwater quality but does not currently pose a risk to human health or the environment. Additionally, sampling of York Region's monitoring and production wells do not indicate impacts on drinking water quality from the landfill.

York Region will continue to engage MOE and WMI regarding results of WMI's required monitoring program to ensure Stouffville wells 5 and 6 are not impacted. MOE, in their capacity as the regulator, will determine what management and/or remediation may be necessary to address groundwater quality and landfill gas.

Regarding the request for MOE and York Region to provide information directly to area residents regarding the landfill site, we understand WMI has been requested by MOE to provide a plain language summary with future annual reports. York Region staff would be pleased to assist Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville staff in distributing this information which is anticipated to be delivered in March on an annual basis, as required by the MOE.

I trust this information is helpful in addressing your concerns. Should you have additional questions, please contact Don Goodyear, Risk Management Official for York Region by telephone at (905) 830-4444 extension 5050, or by email at don.goodyear@york.ca.

Sincerely,



Erin Mahoney, M. Eng.
Commissioner, Environmental Services

EM/DG/rc

Copy to: Dave Fumerton, District Manager, Environment, MOE, York Durham District Office
Helena Jaczek, MPP Oak Ridges-Markham
Mike Molinari, Director of Engineering and Capital Projects, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk, Clerk's Office, York Region
Don Goodyear, Risk Management Official, Environmental Services, York Region

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