

Ministry of the Environment

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November 6, 2013

Isobel Leung
Council Coordinator
The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
111 Sandiford Drive
Whitchurch-Stouffville ON L4A 0Z8

Dear: Ms. Leung:

Re: Council Resolution passed on September 3, 2013, regarding Waste Management Inc. (WMI), Highway 48 Landfill (former York Sanitation Site No. 4) Provisional Certificate of Approval No. A230701

In your letter dated September 10, 2013, you provided notification of a resolution passed by Council regarding the Highway 48 Landfill.

In the resolution, it was requested that the Ministry of the Environment (ministry) and the Regional Municipality of York (York Region) develop and implement a cleanup program for the site. Additionally, it was recommended that annual summaries describing the status of monitoring and cleanup efforts be provided to the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and area residents living within a 500 meter radius of the site.

The ministry regulates the above referenced site in order to ensure compliance with the requirements of Provisional Certificate of Approval No. A230701 (PCofA). The PCofA requires WMI, the owner of the site, to perform annual monitoring. WMI prepares and submits annual monitoring reports that contain information on surface and groundwater quality, leachate collection and the site gas monitoring and control system. The reports also include an interpretation of the monitoring results and provide recommendations for future work. The annual monitoring reports are provided to the ministry, York Region and the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The results of the monitoring programs and findings of the 2012 ministry inspection of the site, indicate that the site continues to have a minor impact on down-gradient groundwater quality and does not pose a risk to residents living in the surrounding area. It is important to note that residences located along Highway 48, in the general vicinity of the site, receive drinking water from the treated municipal water supply system.

In addition, the results of the ongoing monitoring program do not indicate that a cleanup or remediation of groundwater impacts is currently necessary at the site. The ministry will ensure that all aspects of the monitoring and controls systems at the site continue to be protective of area residents and groundwater resources.

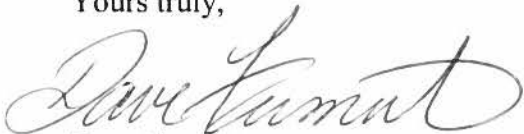
In response to the request for the ministry to provide an annual summary of the monitoring program to the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and area residents, ministry staff have indicated to the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville that they could post the annual monitoring reports through the Town's webpage. This would allow any member of the public to access the information contained in the annual monitoring reports. I understand WMI has agreed to provide, in the executive summary of subsequent annual monitoring reports, an overview that will provide members of the public with a description of environmental conditions and activities at the site.

The ministry has not received any recent complaints or significant concerns from the public or the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville regarding the landfill.

The ministry, York Region and WMI meet semi-annually to discuss and review water resource issues that include the findings of the annual monitoring programs and activities at the Highway 48 Landfill site. Recent discussions included working to ensure that adequate monitoring is in place within the Wellhead Protection Area of Stouffville municipal wells No. 5 and 6. The municipal wells are located 2 kilometres southeast of the landfill property. Sampling of York Region's monitoring (sentry) wells do not indicate any impacts from the site. Also raised during these discussions was the effectiveness of gas monitoring and control along the northwest perimeter of the site. WMI has undertaken assessments of the existing gas control system to improve the effectiveness of the system in controlling the migration of landfill gas. I would like to suggest that a representative of the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville attend these semi-annual water resources meetings.

I trust this information is helpful in addressing your concerns. Should you have additional concerns, please contact Mr. Phil Dunn, Senior Environmental Officer at the York-Durham District Office at 905-427-5627, or by email at philip.dunn@ontario.ca.

Yours truly,



Dave Fumerton
District Manager
York Durham District

c: M. Molinari, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
D. Kelly, York Region
H. Jaczek, MPP, Oak Ridges-Markham