

Mack, Stephanie

From: The Mercers <mercercr@rogers.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 03, 2017 12:09 PM
To: Mack, Stephanie; McCullough, Rob
Subject: Updated Conceptual drawing
Attachments: co located 032016.jpg

Good Morning,

Some time ago, I requested an updated version of the attached conceptual drawing from March of 2016 reflecting the most recent relocation. The conceptual site plan on the website produced by GHD dated Nov. 15th fails to identify the 500 meter buffer area in relation to nearby homes and businesses.

Please email to me an updated version at your very earliest convenience.

I am requesting once again that you ***do not respond to my inquiry via regular mail delivery service***. I will only accept an email communication response.

Thank you,
Cindy Mercer

Site C136

2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West

Proposed location of
Co-Located Facility
(4.5 ha, 11 acres)

624 m [2,047 ft]

1,371 m [4,498 ft]

Forested Area

Site Boundary
(84 ha, 208 acres)

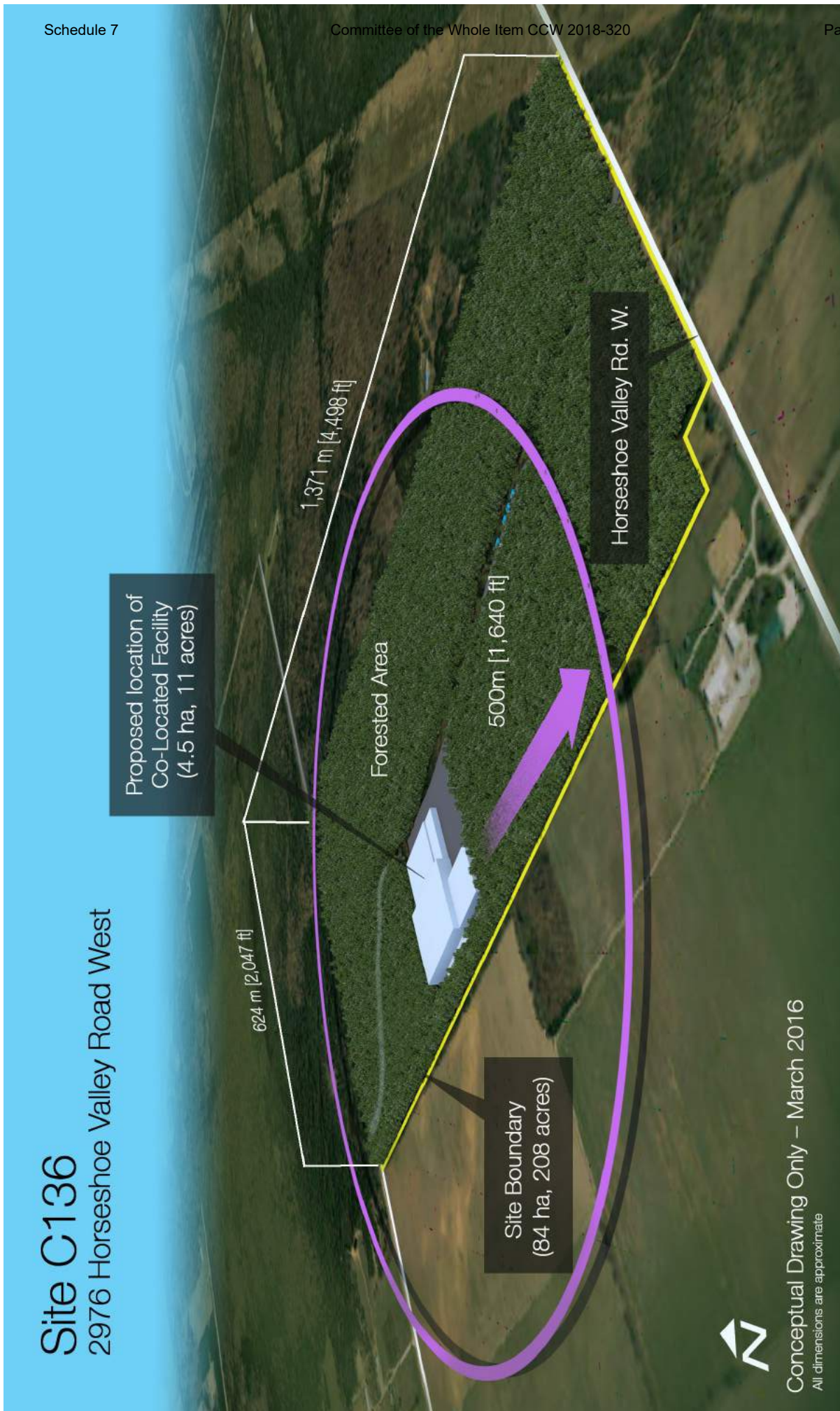
500m [1,640 ft]

Horseshoe Valley Rd. W.



Conceptual Drawing Only – March 2016

All dimensions are approximate



Mack, Stephanie

From: The Mercers <mercercr@rogers.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 11:18 AM
To: Mack, Stephanie
Cc: McCullough, Rob
Subject: Letter response dated Jan. 4, 2017

The drawings outlining the distance to sensitive receptors and the 500 m boundary around the property appear to be incomplete.

Planning Justification Report, GHD Limited, Nov. 17, 2016
Figure 4: Distances to Sensitive Receptors & Settlements, page 46

Please provide justification for not identifying each of the following homes in the report noted above.
Irwin Home 1293 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Krajac Home 1286 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Apto Roman Catholic Cemetery 3050 Horseshoe Valley Road W.
VanCastern Home 3248 Horseshoe Valley Road W.
Home 3007 Horseshoe Valley Road W

Facility Characteristics Report, GHD Limited, Nov. 17, 2016
Figure 2.1: Site Features and Surrounding Area, page 43

Please provide justification for not identifying each of the following homes/properties within 500m in the report noted above.
1488 Rainbow Valley Road East
1601 Rainbow Valley Road East
2826 Horseshoe Valley Road West
2847 Horseshoe Valley Road West
2979 Horseshoe Valley Road West
3050 Horseshoe Valley Road West
3 Pine Hill Drive
9 Pine Hill Drive
11 Pine Hill Drive
13 Pine Hill Drive
21 Ohara Lane

Also, please identify any/all homes/properties from the list above and from Figure 2.1: Site Features and Surrounding Area, page 43 identified as "sensitive receptors" that are **not** considered by the County to be a part of the group known as "500 m landowners".

While you have expressed your preferred method of response as being regular mail, it is not my wishes to receive responses to my questions in this manner. Please reply to my email with your response.

Thank you,
Cindy Mercer

Mack, Stephanie

From: The Mercers <mercercr@rogers.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2017 2:04 PM
To: Mack, Stephanie
Cc: McCullough, Rob
Subject: Letter response dated Jan. 4, 2017

Good afternoon Ms Mack,

I am re sending the unanswered email (below) I sent to you on January 10, 2017 with the expectation that you will reply to this second request for a response in a timely manner.

Cindy Mercer
mercercr@rogers.com

On Tuesday, January 10, 2017 11:17 AM, The Mercers <mercercr@rogers.com> wrote:

The drawings outlining the distance to sensitive receptors and the 500 m boundary around the property appear to be incomplete.

Planning Justification Report, GHD Limited, Nov. 17, 2016
Figure 4: Distances to Sensitive Receptors & Settlements, page 46

Please provide justification for not identifying each of the following homes in the report noted above.
Irwin Home 1293 Rainbow Valley Road E.
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While you have expressed your preferred method of response as being regular mail, it is not my wishes to receive responses to my questions in this manner. Please reply to my email with your response.

Thank you,
Cindy Mercer



County of Simcoe
Solid Waste Management
1110 Highway 26,
Midhurst, Ontario L0L 1X0

Main Line (705) 726-9300
Toll Free 1-866-893-9300
Fax (705) 726-9832
simcoe.ca



January 4, 2017

Ms. Cindy Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road East
Phelpston, ON L0L 2K0

Dear Ms. Mercer:

**RE: Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
Response to e-mail dated January 3, 2017**

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated January 3, 2017 (sent by e-mail to Rob McCullough and me) in regard to the conceptual site plan for 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater. This e-mail follows previous correspondence sent to you on November 8, 2016 requesting a site plan showing the relocated footprint. As was promised in the letter, the conceptual site plan has been made public with confirmation from the Township of Springwater that they have deemed the Planning application complete. This drawing, along with other technical studies, are available on the County's website on the Planning page (a link is provided at simcoe.ca/errc). Please note that we have responded by letter as per our process to ensure that correspondence is accurately tracked, recorded, and responded to.

Drawings outlining the distance to sensitive receptors and the 500 m boundary around the property can be found in the following studies:

- *Planning Justification Report*, GHD Limited, November 17, 2016
Figure 4: Distances to Sensitive Receptors & Settlements, page 46
- *Facility Characteristics Report*, GHD Limited, November 17, 2016
Figure 2.1: Site Features and Surrounding Area, page 43

Going forward, inquiries or questions regarding the technical studies or Planning matters can be sent directly to errc@simcoe.ca for response from County Planning staff.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephanie Mack".

Stephanie Mack, P.Eng.
Special Projects Supervisor

cc. Rob McCullough, Director, Solid Waste Management
Nathan Westendorp, Manager, Development, Planning



County of Simcoe
Solid Waste Management
1110 Highway 26,
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January 20, 2017

Ms. Cindy Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road East
Phelpston, ON L0L 2K0

Dear Ms. Mercer:

**RE: Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
Response to Recent Correspondence**

I wish to acknowledge receipt of the following correspondence:

- January 10, 2017 – e-mail to Stephanie Mack (copied to Rob McCullough) regarding information on drawings presented in the *Planning Justification Report* and *Facilities Characteristics Report*
- January 19, 2017 – e-mail to Stephanie Mack (copied to Rob McCullough) requesting a response to January 10, 2017 e-mail (see above)
- January 10, 2017 – e-mail to Rob McCullough (copied to Warden, Deputy Warden, Mark Aitken, and Debbie Korolnek) requesting additional information on relocation of the OFSC trail (as noted on the conceptual site plan)
- January 19, 2017 – e-mail to Rob McCullough (copied to Warden, Deputy Warden, Mark Aitken, and Debbie Korolnek) requesting response to January 10, 2017 (see above)

Please note that we have forwarded your correspondence to our Planning Department for their consideration and response as your requests pertain to information contained in technical studies submitted for Planning amendments. As the project is now in the Planning approvals stage, we wish to ensure that correspondence with questions or comments pertaining to the technical studies (including the conceptual site plan) are considered and addressed by Planning staff as per their process.

Again, please note that going forward, inquiries or questions regarding the technical studies or Planning matters can be sent directly to errc@simcoe.ca.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rob McCullough".

Rob McCullough
Director, Solid Waste Management

cc. David Parks, Director, Planning, Development & Tourism
Nathan Westendorp, Manager, Development, Planning



January 20, 2017

*** VIA REGULAR MAIL ***

Ms. Cindy Mercer
 1601 Rainbow Valley Road East
 Phelpsston, ON L0L 2K0

**RE: Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
 Response to e-mails dated January 10th and 19th, 2017**

Dear Ms. Mercer:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your email correspondence of January 10, 2017 and January 19, 2017 responding to the receipt of the County's letter dated January 4, 2017 providing information on the conceptual site plan for 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater, and questions relating to the relocation of the existing OFSC snowmobile trail located on the County property. Please note that your correspondence has been forwarded to the County Planning Department and GHD Limited (GHD) for response as your letter requests clarification on drawings within two technical studies submitted in support of the official plan and zoning by-law amendment applications currently in process. Again, the County is responding by letter as per our process to ensure that correspondence is accurately tracked, recorded, and responded to.

Please see below GHD's response to your comments regarding Figure 4: Distances to Sensitive Receptors & Settlements provided in the *Planning Justification Report* dated November 17, 2016 (page 46).

- The *Planning Justification Report* is not intended to provide the detail of other reports such as site screening or *Facility Characteristics Report* except as it applies to the assessment of governing planning policy. The description of land use surrounding the site is an appropriate and required consideration for this report. It is not intended that every individual property be identified or discussed – rather the general overall land use surrounding the site is described for the land use context.
- Figure 4 was intended to show some of the sensitive receptors but not identify all of them. The intent is to describe surrounding land use in general, not evaluate the numbers of receptors against other sites. This figure shows a number of things; a) closest sensitive receptor from the corners of the proposed site, b) the two nearest sites to the site entrance fronting on Horseshoe valley Road, and c) the nearest estate residential developments.
- With respect to other properties mentioned the following is noted. 3007 Horseshoe Valley Road is shown and discussed in the text of the *report* but in the context of being close to the vehicular entrance as opposed to distance to the proposed site. The property located at 3248 Horseshoe Valley is further afield of others shown on the figure and therefore not specifically mentioned.

- With respect to identifying the estate developments that are nearby it is noted that this was included since the Springwater Official Plan indicates waste disposal facilities must be located to avoid built up areas. This term is not defined in the plan so the developments were identified as they may address the intention of the plan.
- The final property mentioned is 3050 Horseshoe Valley which is a cemetery. GHD is aware of this land use. In certain very specific circumstances a cemetery could be considered sensitive to certain other land uses. However, in this specific case GHD does not consider it to be.

In regard to Figure 2.1: Site Features and Surrounding Area provided in the *Facility Characteristics Report* dated November 17, 2016 (page 43), please note that this drawing indicates sensitive receptors within a 500 m radius around the property. Sensitive receptors are defined in GHD's Part 3 siting report as follows:

Any location where routine or normal activities occurring at reasonably expected times would experience adverse effect(s) from odour (or other) discharges from a facility, including one or a combination of:

- a. Private residences or public facilities where people sleep (e.g., single and multi-unit dwellings, nursing homes, hospitals, trailer parks, camping grounds).
- b. Institutional facilities (e.g., schools, churches, community centres, day care centres, recreational centres).
- c. Outdoor public recreational areas (e.g., trailer parks, play grounds, picnic areas).
- d. Other outdoor public areas where there are continuous human activities (e.g., commercial plazas, office buildings).

The County considers *landowners* within 500 m of the property, part of the neighbouring landowner group – that includes those with homes and properties within this boundary. For example, the Mercer/Dunlop property located at 1601 Rainbow Valley East is considered part of the 500 m landowner consultation group although your home, the sensitive receptor, is located outside of the 500 m boundary.

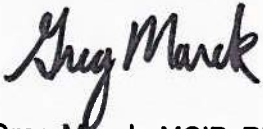
For reference, the County has directed GHD to prepare a Supplementary Figure entitled Buffer Distances which will show the distances around the footprint of the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre in 100m intervals and will also include a scale to allow a person to determine the separation distance between the proposed facility and the properties, including any buildings, structures, or other features, that exist in the area. The County intends on posting this Figure to our website at www.simcoe.ca (included with the other technical studies) for public access shortly.

With respect to the relocation of the existing OFSC snowmobile trail on the property, there are no plans to relocate the trail this winter. Consideration regarding the details of the trail relocation will be considered in the future as the Site Plan for the ERRC is refined with the Township of Springwater, in consultation with the OFSC and the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority.

The County appreciates your interest in these planning applications and your comments will be considered in the planning review and approval process. The County has circulated the applications and supporting materials to the Province, First Nations and prescribed public bodies in accordance with Section 17(15) of the *Planning Act* to gather input on the proposed amendment. Following the initial comment period ending in the spring of 2017, some materials may be updated in response to the comments received. These updated materials will be posted to the County's website at www.simcoe.ca. Please note that the County of Simcoe will be holding a statutory public meeting(s) for the County Official Plan Amendment on a date(s) to be determined and that further notice of this meeting will be provided in accordance with the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.P. 13. This will provide continued opportunity for the public to comment on the amendments.

Again, please note that going forward, inquiries or questions regarding the technical studies or planning application matters can be sent directly to errc@simcoe.ca for response from County Planning staff. Questions and comments regarding the technical studies will be considered by the Department and presented publicly as per the process for amending the County's Official Plan.

Sincerely,
The Corporation of the County of Simcoe



Greg Marek, MCIP, RPP
Planner III

- cc. Brent Spagnol, Township of Springwater (via email)
Debbie Korolnek, County of Simcoe (via email)
Rob McCullough, County of Simcoe (via email)
Stephanie Mack, County of Simcoe (via email)
David Parks, County of Simcoe (via email)
Nathan Westendorp, County of Simcoe (via email)
Brian Dermody, GHD Limited (via email)
-

From: The Mercers [<mailto:mercercr@rogers.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 9:45 AM
To: McCullough, Rob <Rob.McCullough@simcoe.ca>
Cc: Warden <Warden@simcoe.ca>; Dowdall, Terry <Terry.Dowdall@simcoe.ca>; Aitken, Mark <Mark.Aitken@simcoe.ca>; Korolnek, Debbie <Debbie.Korolnek@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Relocation of OFSC snowmobile trail

On the conceptual site plan prepared by GHD, dated Nov. 15, 2016 it is noted that the "existing OFSC snowmobile trail to be relocated subject to further consultation with the OFSC. As a neighbouring land owner with knowledge of this community area I kindly request to be a part of this consultation process.

Please respond to my request via email mercercr@rogers.com

Thank you,
Cindy Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Phelpston, On.

From: The Mercers [<mailto:mercercr@rogers.com>]
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2017 1:56 PM
To: McCullough, Rob <Rob.McCullough@simcoe.ca>
Cc: Warden <Warden@simcoe.ca>; Dowdall, Terry <Terry.Dowdall@simcoe.ca>; Aitken, Mark <Mark.Aitken@simcoe.ca>; Korolnek, Debbie <Debbie.Korolnek@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Fw: Relocation of OFSC snowmobile trail

Good afternoon Mr. McCullough,

I am following up on the unanswered email I sent to you on January 10, 2017.

In addition to my initial request below, I would also like you to provide me with clarification on the following.

On the conceptual site plan prepared by GHD, dated Nov. 15, 2016 it is noted that the "existing OFSC snowmobile trail to be relocated subject to further consultation with the OFSC.

1. Provide clarification as to whether this is a "snowmobile trail" or a recreational trail.
2. Supply the names of any (all) other authorities and/or organisations being consulted on the relocation of this trail.
3. Acknowledge if you have publicly advertised to give individuals and interested stake holders an opportunity to participate in this consultation.

Please respond in a timely manner to my first request (below) as well as responses to the questions above via email mercercr@rogers.com

Thank you,
Cindy Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Phelpston, On.

On Tuesday, January 10, 2017 9:45 AM, The Mercers <mercercr@rogers.com> wrote:

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January 20, 2017

Ms. Cindy Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road East
Phelpston, ON L0L 2K0

Dear Ms. Mercer:

**RE: Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
Response to Recent Correspondence**

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Regards,

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Rob McCullough
Director, Solid Waste Management

cc. David Parks, Director, Planning, Development & Tourism
Nathan Westendorp, Manager, Development, Planning



January 20, 2017

***** VIA REGULAR MAIL *****

Ms. Cindy Mercer
 1601 Rainbow Valley Road East
 Phelpsston, ON L0L 2K0

**RE: Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
 Response to e-mails dated January 10th and 19th, 2017**

Dear Ms. Mercer:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your email correspondence of January 10, 2017 and January 19, 2017 responding to the receipt of the County's letter dated January 4, 2017 providing information on the conceptual site plan for 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater, and questions relating to the relocation of the existing OFSC snowmobile trail located on the County property. Please note that your correspondence has been forwarded to the County Planning Department and GHD Limited (GHD) for response as your letter requests clarification on drawings within two technical studies submitted in support of the official plan and zoning by-law amendment applications currently in process. Again, the County is responding by letter as per our process to ensure that correspondence is accurately tracked, recorded, and responded to.

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- With respect to identifying the estate developments that are nearby it is noted that this was included since the Springwater Official Plan indicates waste disposal facilities must be located to avoid built up areas. This term is not defined in the plan so the developments were identified as they may address the intention of the plan.
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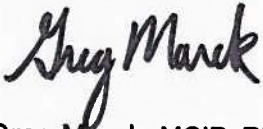
For reference, the County has directed GHD to prepare a Supplementary Figure entitled Buffer Distances which will show the distances around the footprint of the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre in 100m intervals and will also include a scale to allow a person to determine the separation distance between the proposed facility and the properties, including any buildings, structures, or other features, that exist in the area. The County intends on posting this Figure to our website at www.simcoe.ca (included with the other technical studies) for public access shortly.

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The County appreciates your interest in these planning applications and your comments will be considered in the planning review and approval process. The County has circulated the applications and supporting materials to the Province, First Nations and prescribed public bodies in accordance with Section 17(15) of the *Planning Act* to gather input on the proposed amendment. Following the initial comment period ending in the spring of 2017, some materials may be updated in response to the comments received. These updated materials will be posted to the County's website at www.simcoe.ca. Please note that the County of Simcoe will be holding a statutory public meeting(s) for the County Official Plan Amendment on a date(s) to be determined and that further notice of this meeting will be provided in accordance with the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.P. 13. This will provide continued opportunity for the public to comment on the amendments.

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Sincerely,
The Corporation of the County of Simcoe



Greg Marek, MCIP, RPP
Planner III

- cc. Brent Spagnol, Township of Springwater (via email)
Debbie Korolnek, County of Simcoe (via email)
Rob McCullough, County of Simcoe (via email)
Stephanie Mack, County of Simcoe (via email)
David Parks, County of Simcoe (via email)
Nathan Westendorp, County of Simcoe (via email)
Brian Dermody, GHD Limited (via email)
-

RECEIVED

Friday January 27, 2017

FEB 01 2017

County of Simcoe
Planning Department
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6

COUNTY OF SIMCOE
CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION

RE: Relocation of the existing OFSC snowmobile trail in Freele Tract (2976 Horseshoe Valley Road W/1301 Rainbow Valley Road E.)

Dear Mr. Marek,

My understanding is that the current snowmobile trail that exists through the Freele forest will not be relocated this winter and that there will be consideration of details in regards to this trail with the Township of Springwater as well as consultation with the OFSC and the NVCA.

As a neighbouring land owner, the relocation of the existing snowmobile trail greatly impacts our family and our enjoyment of our home and property. Consider this letter correspondence addressed to you as my formal request to be included in this consultation process.

Please send confirmation to verify that you intend to honour this request by providing me, along with the OFSC and the NVCA with the meeting details, etc when you have arrangements in place for this consultation to begin.

Kind regards,



Cindy Mercer

1601 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Phelpston, Ontario L0L 2K0
mercercr@rogers.com

*****Notification sent via regular mail Jan. 27, 2017**



County of Simcoe
Planning Department
1110 Highway 26,
Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6

Main Line (705) 726-9300
Toll Free (866) 893-9300
Fax (705) 727-4276
simcoe.ca



February 23, 2017

***** VIA REGULAR MAIL *****

Ms. Cindy Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road East
Phelpston, ON L0L 2K0

RE: Response to letter dated January 27, 2017
Questions regarding the relocation of the existing OFSC snowmobile trail
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre - 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road

Dear Ms. Mercer:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter correspondence of January 27, 2017 regarding the relocation of the existing Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) snowmobile trail in the County Forest Freele Tract at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road. The County is responding by letter as per our process to ensure that correspondence is accurately tracked, recorded, and responded to.

We appreciate your comments regarding relocation of the OFSC snowmobile trail and can confirm that there are no plans to relocate the existing trail on the County property this winter. Currently, the County is seeking an Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment from the Township of Springwater and, in addition, seeking to amend our Official Plan to allow for development of the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater. Following this process, the County will further pursue site plan approval from the Township of Springwater.

The trail relocation process is outside of the formal planning process. Relocation of the snowmobile trail will be part of future discussions between the County Forester and OFSC – as per the County's regular practice of advancing such trails in County forest tracts.

The County appreciates your interest in the proposed ERRC site and your comments will be considered in the planning review and approval process. Please note that the County of Simcoe will be holding a statutory public meeting(s) for the County Official Plan Amendment on a date(s) to be determined and that further notice of this meeting will be provided in accordance with the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.P. 13. This will provide continued opportunity for the public to comment on the amendments.

Again, please note that going forward, inquiries or questions regarding the technical studies or planning application matters can be sent directly to errc@simcoe.ca for response from County Planning staff. Questions and comments regarding the technical studies will be considered by the Department and presented publicly as per the process for amending the County's Official Plan.

Sincerely,
The Corporation of the County of Simcoe



**Greg Marek, MCIP, RPP
Planner III**

- cc. Brent Spagnol, Township of Springwater (via email)
 Graeme Davis, County of Simcoe (via email)
 Rob McCullough, County of Simcoe (via email)
 Stephanie Mack, County of Simcoe (via email)
 David Parks, County of Simcoe (via email)
 Nathan Westendorp, County of Simcoe (via email)
 Brian Dermody, GHD Limited (via email)
-

From: Gordon Grainger [<mailto:gordon@broadview.email>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:26 AM

Subject: Odour concerns with the ERRC

After a careful review of the material provided in the Facility Characteristics Report regarding Odour Assessment, Friends of Simcoe Forests believes the proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Facility will end up costing the taxpayers of Simcoe County far more than is economically justified. This is not just a concern of Springwater Township; this higher cost will be borne by all County taxpayers.

We have prepared a review of our concerns with the Odour Assessment, and we urge you to examine this material carefully. While the preliminary report indicates the facility could pass provincial environmental regulations for odour, it will require a high degree of odour abatement equipment and technology. That will put the Organics Processing Facility at the high end of financial estimates.

Placing this facility in the middle of the Freele Forest is an inappropriate use of a County forest, and is the result of a flawed process that essentially eliminated industrial lands from consideration. This error can either be corrected now, before significant expenditure of County tax dollars, or it can be corrected later, after millions are spent trying to build a waste management facility in a non-industrial zone.

While this decision is up to Simcoe County Council, we believe it is important for you to be aware of this issue, and to raise your voice on behalf of your constituents who will be responsible for paying for this facility.

On behalf of Friends of Simcoe Forests;

Gordon Grainger
Vice President
Broadview Strategy Group
Phone: 1-647-748-3300, ext. 902
Atlantic: 1-902-405-8780, ext. 902

Toll Free: 1-866-206-3709
www.broadviewstrategygroup.com

Odour Concerns with the ERRC

Odour is a major concern regarding the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC) proposed for the Freele Forest in Simcoe County. By choosing to place an industrial level waste management facility in the middle of a forest in a prime agricultural area, the County has made an inappropriate decision that will significantly impact the people of Springwater Township and the taxpayers of Simcoe County.

As part of the Facilities Characteristics Report prepared for Simcoe County Council, GHD included an Odour Assessment to determine if such a facility could meet guideline requirements. While the conclusions suggested it was possible, a close reading of the report indicates significant caveats that call into question the suitability of this location.

For its Odour Assessment, GHD modelled six different scenarios, or likely designs of an ERRC, to determine the level of odour produced at these facilities. Regulatory guidelines limit the amount of odour measured at any sensitive receptor. A facility producing less than 1 OU within a 10km range meets requirements. If a facility exceeds this amount it must limit the frequency of exceedance at sensitive receptors to no more than .5% of the time annually. In layman's terms this works out to roughly 1.8 days per year maximum.

There are a number of sensitive receptors within 500m of the proposed facility. There are several family homes, a working farm, and a cemetery adjacent to the property, and all would be impacted by the odour produced at this facility if it is permitted to operate as planned.

Of the six scenarios GHD modelled, two (#1 and #4) were immediately discounted with odour levels above 2 OU and exceedances near 1%. A third model (#3) complied with the guideline only because it did not include an Organics Processing Facility (OPF), one of the main components of the ERRC. Why this scenario was even included for consideration is unknown; Council had long ago determined to co-locate the OPF with the Materials Management Facility (MMF). Including it merely to have another "passing" scenario is deceptive.

The three remaining options all show compliance according to GHD, but a closer look at the figures indicates this is not necessarily true. One option (#5) produces 1.47 OU at sensitive receptors with a frequency of avoidance of .49%, a shade under the .5% allowance. If we consider a 5% frequency to be equivalent to 1.8 days per year, the difference between .5% and .49% amounts to less than 53 minutes per year. Basing an approval on a projected difference of under an hour a year when there is no approved design for the OPF is criminally optimistic.

That leaves only two options for compliance out of the original six GHD considered. Option #2 produces 1.21 OU at a frequency of .24%. This model is similar to option #1, except it uses a flow rate of 3.86 m³/s

instead of 15 m³/s to keep odour levels down. No indication is given as to the extra equipment needed to handle the same volume of emissions at a lower flow rate, or if the facility is simply operating at lower production levels. Every other scenario is graded at 15 m³/s.

The remaining option (#6) is the only one that includes the OPF to meet the standard, producing .85 OU (no frequency of exceedance is measured when a facility operates below 1 OU). This is the only scenario likely to actually achieve compliance for the ERRC; considering half the scenarios are outright failures and the remaining two are severely problematic, the final facility will have to fit this scenario to meet provincial requirements.

As described by GHD, this scenario includes high flow, dust collectors, and a very low-odour short biofilter stack. It can be assumed that this option will require the most expensive equipment, as it has the highest level of filtration. As the County has not yet done a financial feasibility study on the ERRC in general and the odour-producing OPF specifically, this is troubling.

Using GHD's own study, it is clear this facility will not only be expensive, it will need to be the most expensive version in order to meet provincial guidelines.

Odour Assessment:

- GHD calculated odour levels for six different facility configurations
- Facility required to produce less than 1 OU
- If level is above 1 OU, frequency cannot exceed 0.5% per year
- Scenario #1 fails (2.06 OU/0.95%)
- Scenario #2 passes (1.21 OU/0.24%) but requires a flow rate of 3.86m³/s to achieve
- No indication how scenario #2 achieves low flow rate; other scenarios all at 15 m³/s.
- Scenario #3 passes because it only considers the MMF, not the OPF, and should be counted a fail
- Scenario #4 fails (2.72 OU, 1.08%)
- Scenario #5 technically passes (1.47 OU, 0.49%), but only with a 0.01% margin of error and should be counted a fail
- Scenario #6 passes (0.85 OU); requires "high flow, dust collectors, very low-odour short stack biofilter"
- Calculations suggest only the most expensive version of the OPF/ERRC will satisfy odour requirements

March 6, 2017

Mr. Gordon Grainger, Vice President
Broadview Strategy Group
36 King Street East, Suite 400
Toronto, ON M5C 1E5

Dear Mr. Grainger:

**RE: County of Simcoe – Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
Response to e-mail dated February 28, 2017**

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence (received by e-mail on February 28, 2017) in regard to the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC) proposed for development at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater. Again, we appreciate your interest in this important project and wish to provide some correctional clarifications on your statements regarding the Odour Assessment included in the *Facility Characteristics Report*, submitted to further Planning amendments at this site. As this pertains to more technical matters, this response has been prepared with the assistance of County staff and our consultant, Dr. Tej Gidda of GHD Limited.

Importantly, please note that the Planning approvals process is on-going and the comprehensive studies have been circulated to various agencies for review by technical experts (this includes peer review by the Township of Springwater). Comments will be reviewed and addressed through the proper process as outlined in the Planning Act. To be clear, this response does not comment on Broadview Strategy Group's "review" of specific technical information as your submission has been made outside of the Planning process.

We concur that managing odours at the ERRC facility is an important consideration. We have a team of provincial experts working on this project and odour will be thoroughly assessed as Planning and Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECAs) are furthered. Odour is considered throughout the approvals process as follows:

- the *Facility Characteristics Report*, undertaken for the Planning Act application, examines whether Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) odour limits can be met under a range of various scenarios (i.e. which facilities are on-line, various stack heights, and operating conditions);
- these scenarios will help determine design specifications (such as required odour treatment) and, ultimately, used in the procurement and final design of the facility; and
- following design and procurement of technology, additional odour modelling – specific to the technology – will be required as part of the ECA process and submitted to the MOECC for their approval.

The *Facility Characteristics Report* does not indicate a preference toward any of the various organics processing technologies. Nowhere in this report does it provide information on the cost of odour control or facility development nor does it "*put the Organics Processing Facility at the high end of financial estimates*". As we have indicated to the public (and Broadview Strategy Group in previous correspondence), costs associated with development of the Organics Processing Facility are currently being assessed in a two part business case, the first of which is set to be presented to County Council this spring. Odour management will be considered as part of the total cost associated with development of the facility.

We hope that the above provides some clarification. Finally, while we understand the position and role that Broadview Strategy Group is attempting to play in this matter, we would recommend that in the future you refrain from the sweeping characterizations through your choice of inaccurate words such as "*deceptive*" and "*criminally optimistic*". Their implication does nothing to further open and productive dialogue between the County and our residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Gerry Marshall
Warden

From: Gordon Grainger [mailto:gordon@broadview.email]

Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 9:51 AM

Subject: Noise concerns with the ERRC

Following our concerns regarding the Odour Assessment, Friends of Simcoe Forests would like to raise concerns regarding the Noise Assessment provided in the Facility Characteristics Report. While the report considers the facility can pass regulations, the margin of error is too small to justify proceeding with this location. If Simcoe County insists on proceeding, all County taxpayers will bear increased costs for a facility which potentially will not receive provincial approval.

We have prepared a review of our concerns with the Noise Assessment, and we urge you to examine this material carefully. While the preliminary report indicates the facility could pass provincial regulations for noise, there is only a .3 dBA margin of error - lower than the threshold of human perception. As there are suggestions in the report that the noise produced could be higher, this suggests the facility will not pass once completed.

It's important to understand these concerns would not apply if County had chosen an industrial site instead of a County forest. The permitted level of noise in a rural zone is much lower than an industrial setting, which is why every other municipality in Ontario places their waste facilities on industrial land. At best County will need to pay for extensive noise abatement equipment, meaning higher costs for all County taxpayers. At worst, County will build a multimillion dollar facility that is not allowed to operate.

While this decision is up to Simcoe County Council, we believe it is important for you to be aware of this issue, and to raise your voice on behalf of your constituents who will be responsible for paying for this facility.

On behalf of Friends of Simcoe Forests;

Gordon Grainger
Vice President
Broadview Strategy Group
Phone: 1-647-748-3300, ext. 902
Atlantic: 1-902-405-8780, ext. 902

Toll Free: 1-866-206-3709
www.broadviewstrategygroup.com

Noise Concerns with ERRC

As part of the Facility Characteristics Report, GHD conducted a Noise Assessment for the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC) and concluded estimated sound levels would be below acceptable limits and comply with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) regulations. It appears their methodology is faulty, and actual noise levels will likely far exceed tolerable amounts.

The Freele Forest is considered a Class 3 Area according to Environmental Noise Guideline for Stationary and Transportation Sources (NPC-300), as it is a rural environment. Noise levels cannot exceed 45 dBA during the day and 40 dBA in the evening at any sensitive receptor in this area. Class 1 Areas (urban) allow levels of 50dBA/50dBA, and Class 2 Areas (mixed urban/rural) allow levels of 50dBA/45dBA, which is why an industrial site is more appropriate for this waste management facility.

GHD estimated noise generation at the source based on known and estimated facility features, and used mathematical modelling to estimate received noise at the sensitive receptor nearest the facility footprint. Their estimates indicate a level of 44.7 dBA during the day and 38.6 dBA in the evening would be encountered at the residential home to the east of the facility (Bob and Mary Wagner's home). From this they concluded the facility would operate within acceptable limits, but a closer look at the report and its source material indicates something very different.

The first concern is the use of the Wagner residence as the sole sensitive receptor for study. While it is true this is the closest receptor to the facility, it is not the only sensitive receptor to be affected. Nicholyn Farms, to the west of the facility, is further away but the intervening distance is cleared farmland rather than woodland. As well, there is a cemetery immediately adjacent to the proposed property on Horseshoe Valley Road and other homes nearby that would be affected by the noise from the truck traffic.

The second concern is the estimated day level of 44.7 dBA. While the human ear is a sensitive instrument, a difference of half a decibel or even a full decibel is below normal perception range. Basing an approval of a multi-million dollar facility in the hopes the final product will manage to maintain such a fine distinction is dangerous.

The third concern is the most damning. While "all significant sources of noise at typical MMF and OPF facilities" were used in the calculations (6.3, Facility Characteristics Report), "Noise from trucks is expected to be the most significant contributor to noise emissions" (6.4, Facility Characteristics Report). For the purposes of the noise assessment, GHD indicates they used the projected daily truck loads as provided by the County, in the Traffic Impact Study conducted by MMM Group.

Quoting from 6.4 Assumptions:

A worst-case scenario reflecting truck volumes projected to the year 2049 was modeled for noise emissions. Peak hourly inbound and outbound truck volumes were based on information provided by the County and verified by GHD. Peak daytime (7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) hour volumes in the year 2049 reflect 61 inbound trucks and 62 outbound trucks, for a total of 123 trucks.

If we go to Table 3.5 of the Traffic Impact Study, we see numbers approximately equal to these results listed. Peak P.M. truck volumes for 2049 are listed as 61 inbound and 87 outbound vehicles (outbound vehicles in this case includes 25 staff vehicles for the MMF and OPF which were apparently excluded from the noise assessment). The study indicates these numbers, in turn, are taken from the same study's Appendix D.

When we turn to Appendix D, however, we find the MMF/OPF combined total vehicle estimate is 220 trucks each way, a number that is repeated in the Simcoe County FAQ produced in January 2017:

Initial estimates indicate that 150 vehicles would utilize the ERRC daily in 2021 with a maximum of 220 vehicles when the facility reaches its 30-year design capacity in 2049. As outlined in the TIS, this would equate to between 89 and 148 trips during peak hours at the design capacity.

The noise assessment was based on an estimate of 123 trucks during peak hours, but the County's own public statements indicate up to 148 trips during peak hours. If 123 trucks are estimated to produce 44.7 dBA at the nearest sensitive receptor, what will these extra trips produce? Will it amount to more than a .3 dBA difference?

The fourth and final noise concern relates to the homes along Horseshoe Valley Road. Adding 220 vehicles per day along this rural road will increase the noise to residents. This study only looked at the noise produced at the Freele Forest itself, but these trucks will be driving along this road to reach the facility. Even if we assume half will be eastbound and half westbound, that is still 110 vehicles producing significant noise. If the calculations made by GHD show 61 trucks producing 44.7 dBA through over 300m of woodland, how much more noise will be heard by trucks driving by homes fronting on Horseshoe Valley Road with no intervening trees?

The GHD study, in conjunction with the data from the MMM Group, shows this facility will greatly exceed provincial noise tolerances. Knowing this facility will certainly fail to receive provincial approval based on truck noise alone, it would be irresponsible for Council to continue its efforts to place this facility in any County forest.

Noise Highlights:

- While urban areas permit noise levels up to 50 dBA day and night, rural locations are limited to 45 dBA day and 40 dBA evening
- Modelling indicates facility will produce 44.7 dBA at nearest sensitive receptor, through over 300m of woodland
- Even assuming this "best case" calculation is correct, that is a mere .3 dBA below the limit; human hearing generally can't perceive a .5 dB difference
- No measurements were estimated at other receptors with far less intervening woodland
- Cemetery adjacent to Freele Forest is especially vulnerable as a sensitive receptor

- **Vehicle traffic is acknowledged to produce the most significant noise emissions**
- **Calculations were made based on 123 peak hour trips in 2049 when facility is at full production**
- **County-supplied numbers indicate 148 peak hour trips in 2049, well above calculated amount**



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Toll Free (866) 893-9300
Fax (705) 725-1285
simcoe.ca

March 27, 2017

Mr. Gordon Grainger, Vice President
Broadview Strategy Group
36 King Street East, Suite 400
Toronto, ON M5C 1E5

Dear Mr. Grainger:

**RE: County of Simcoe – Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
Response to e-mail dated March 13, 2017**

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence (received by e-mail on March 13, 2017) in regard to the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC) proposed for development at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater. The purpose of this letter is to provide some correctional clarifications on the “*review of [your] concerns*” regarding the Noise Assessment (Facility Characteristics Report, GHD Limited, November 17, 2016). This report has been submitted to further Planning approvals for this facility. Note that I have sought assistance to prepare this response from our technical experts – County staff and Dr. Tej Gidda of GHD Limited.

The Planning approvals process is on-going and the comprehensive studies have been circulated to various agencies for review by technical experts (this includes a peer review by the Township of Springwater). Comments will be reviewed and addressed through the proper process as outlined in the Planning Act.

Although we have reminded Broadview Strategy Group of the process for submission of comments regarding this project, it is apparent that your firm would prefer to circulate confused analysis and misguided conclusions. This is unfortunate as productive dialogue and residents’ true concerns seem lost amongst what amounts to your fearmongering. However, as accurate information is important, we provide the following clarification:

- noise modelling was completed by industry experts as per Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) guidelines;
- modelled noise levels around the site footprint and access road are presented on Figure 6.2 – *Noise Contour Plot – Daytime* in the Facility Characteristics Report. This plot can be used to assess noise at other points-of-reception (POR);
- the neighbouring cemetery located on Horseshoe Valley Road is not considered to be a noise sensitive land use; and
- the noise assessment indicates compliance may be achieved at this site without consideration for noise control measures.

To address what you indicate to be your "*most damning*" concern, please note that the number of trucks used to model noise levels were calculated from the Traffic Impact Study (TIS) (MMM Group, November 2016) utilizing their 2049 peak hour pm total (with consideration that staff vehicles would not contribute significantly to noise levels):

148 inbound/outbound vehicles (trucks + staff vehicles) – 25 staff vehicles = 123 trucks

A full explanation of site-generated traffic calculations are outlined in Sections 3.3 and 3.4 of the TIS. These sections explain how the number of vehicles per day and peak hour traffic counts were calculated. We do understand how the layperson might misinterpret technical reports and staff would be pleased to review these calculations with anyone should they require assistance.

As noted in previous correspondence regarding the Odour Assessment, we have a team of provincial experts working on this project. Odour and noise will be thoroughly assessed as Planning and Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECAs) are furthered – with the approvals process being undertaken prior to construction. We assure you, the County has no intention to "*build a multimillion dollar facility that is not allowed to operate*" as you have levelled in your correspondence.

Sincerely,



Gerry Marshall
Warden

From: ruth mckay [<mailto:mckay0897@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 1:31 PM

To: ec.ministre-minister.ec@canada.ca; ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca; mininfo.mah@ontario.ca; minister.mah@ontario.ca; webmaster.mah@ontario.ca; landuseplanningreview@ontario.ca; Warden <Warden@simcoe.ca>; Wauchope, Gord <Gord.Wauchope@simcoe.ca>; Warnock, Scott <Scott.Warnock@simcoe.ca>; Walma, Steffen <Steffen.Walma@simcoe.ca>; Vanderkruys, Chris <Chris.Vanderkruys@simcoe.ca>; Smith, Jamie <Jamie.Smith@simcoe.ca>; Smith, Brian F. <BrianF.Smith@simcoe.ca>; Small Brett, Mary <Mary.SmallBrett@simcoe.ca>; Saunderson, Brian <Brian.Saunderson@simcoe.ca>; Ross, Mike <Mike.Ross@simcoe.ca>; Rawson, Bill <Bill.Rawson@simcoe.ca>; O'Donnell, John <John.ODonnell@simcoe.ca>; Milne, Rick <Rick.Milne@simcoe.ca>; McKay, Gord A. <Gord.McKay@simcoe.ca>; Macdonald, Sandie C. <Sandie.Macdonald@simcoe.ca>; Little, Doug <Doug.Little@simcoe.ca>; Leduc, James <James.Leduc@simcoe.ca>; Keffer, Rob <rob.keffer@simcoe.ca>; Hughes, Harry <Harry.Hughes@simcoe.ca>; Hough, Ralph <Ralph.Hough@simcoe.ca>; Dubeau, Anita <Anita.Dubeau@simcoe.ca>; Dollin, Lynn <Lynn.Dollin@simcoe.ca>; Cox, Judith <Judith.Cox@simcoe.ca>; Cornell, George <George.Cornell@simcoe.ca>; Cooper, Sandra <Sandra.Cooper@simcoe.ca>; Clarke, Basil <Basil.Clarke@simcoe.ca>; Burton, Barry <Barry.Burton@simcoe.ca>; Burkett, Mike <Mike.Burkett@simcoe.ca>; Bifulchi, Nina <Nina.Bifulchi@simcoe.ca>; Allen, Don <Don.Allen@simcoe.ca>; French, Bill <Bill.French@simcoe.ca>; Dowdall, Terry <Terry.Dowdall@simcoe.ca>; French, Bill <bill.french@springwater.ca>; Allen, Don <don.allen@springwater.ca>; jennifer.coughlin@springwater.ca; jack.hanna@springwater.ca; katy.austin@springwater.ca; perry.ritchie@springwater.ca

Subject: Simcoe Forest Waste Facilities

Please see the attached letter for our concerns related to the Simcoe Forest Waste Facilities.

March 15th, 2017

To Whom it May Concern,

We are very concerned about the use of our County owned forests for non-forest uses. The siting process started with approximately 500 sites and almost half of these sites were County owned forests. Why is our County including our forests as usable land for industrial/waste purposes? There were industrial sites considered that would be much more appropriate. What is in store for the future of our forests if this project is successfully placed in the Freele forest without the support of the citizens across this County? We use this forest land for recreational purposes almost daily. The county forests are why we moved into the area. which is a critical draw for living in this area. We have to be very concerned about the loss of greenspace, traffic increase and the air pollution impact of this decision. We are outraged that this plan is set to take waste products from other communities than what is directly our own. Politicians need to be in touch with the citizen's preferences.

Ruth McKay

Jim Purnell

34 Trillium Trail

Coldwater, Ontario

LOK 1E0



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simcoe.ca

April 3, 2017

Ms. R. McKay
Mr. J. Purnell
34 Trillium Trail
Coldwater, ON L0K 1E0

**RE: Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
Response to letter dated March 15, 2017**

Dear Ms. McKay and Mr. Purnell,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated March 15, 2017 (sent by e-mail) in regard to the proposed development of the County's *Environmental Resource Recovery Centre* (ERRC) at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater. We appreciate your interest in this important project. Please note that I have forwarded your correspondence to our Planning Department for their consideration. As we are now in the Planning approvals stage, we wish to ensure that correspondence with comments pertaining to this project is considered and addressed by Planning staff as per their process.

Should you have questions on the progress of the project, additional information can be found at www.simcoe.ca/errc. Currently you will find past staff reports and communication material and, in addition, more recent details on the Planning approvals process.

Please note that going forward, comments or questions regarding this project can be sent directly to errc@simcoe.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerry Marshall".

Gerry Marshall
Warden, County of Simcoe
Mayor, Town of Penetanguishene

Date: APRIL 20 17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: SANDRA M. ELWAIN
Address: 2239 CROSSCROFT RD
PHILPSTON ON

From: Laura Bayly [<mailto:laurajeanbayly@rogers.com>]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 3:28 PM
To: Warden <Warden@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Please don't do it..

Dear Mayor Warden,

We do not want you to approve a Waste Management Site INSIDE A FOREST!! We have lots of unused industrial land. Our forests are necessary for oxygen, nature and recreation. Why would you destroy our forest for a Waste Management Site???! Please act in the best interest of the environment and the people. We don't need another forest destroyed. It belongs to the people!

Please do the right thing,

Thank you,

Laura Bayly

Fairchild, Jillian

From: McCullough, Rob
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 2:26 PM
To: laurajeanbayly@rogers.com
Cc: Fairchild, Jillian
Subject: Environmental Resource Recovery Centre - response to e-mail sent on April 23, 2017
Attachments: 17-04-23 - e-mail from L. Bayly to Warden - Planning approval.pdf

Dear Ms. Bayly,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated April 23, 2017 (sent by e-mail to Warden Gerry Marshall) in regard to the proposed development of the County's *Environmental Resource Recovery Centre* (ERRC) at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater. We appreciate your interest in this important project. Please note that I have forwarded your correspondence to our Planning Department for their consideration. As we are now in the Planning approvals stage, we wish to ensure that correspondence with comments pertaining to this project is considered and addressed by Planning staff as per their process.

Should you have questions on the progress of the project, additional information can be found at www.simcoe.ca/errc. Currently you will find past staff reports and communication material and, in addition, more recent details on the Planning approvals process.

Please note that going forward, comments or questions regarding this project can be sent directly to errc@simcoe.ca.

Sincerely,

Rob McCullough
Director, Solid Waste Management
Email: rob.mccullough@simcoe.ca
Phone: (705) 726-9300 ext. 1192
Cell: (705) 718-4716
Fax: (705) 726-9832

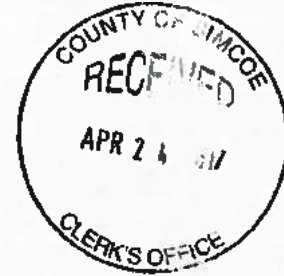
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April 24, 2017

The County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
MIDHURST, Ontario
L9N 1X6



Attention: John Daly

Dear Sir:

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Proposed Site for County of Simcoe Garbage Depot
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment. I intend to make verbal representation at the May 9, 2017 Council meeting.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County Council's expressed desire to locate the proposed depot on lands held in Trust by the County for the residents of Simcoe County, has resulted in the inclusion of all forests which are held in Trust for the residents of Simcoe County as candidates for the proposed garbage depot;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings which are held in Trust for the residents of Simcoe County are, in fact, County forests, this has resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a garbage depot being within our woodlands;
3. Considering only the sites that are held by the County of Simcoe in Trust for the residents of the County, 82% of the sites that were put forward are woodlands. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. Forests that are held by the County of Simcoe in Trust for the residents (including future generations) of the County should not be considered as acceptable options for the construction of infrastructure, and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,

5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.
6. There are numerous industrially-zoned sites available within the County which will result in equal (or greater) savings in garbage transportation costs, which is supposedly a main consideration for construction of the proposed depot. Indeed, one such industrial site has already been suggested by two of the County Councilors (i.e. the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Springwater Township, the proposed host community).

Based on the above, I would ask that the Councilors of the County of Simcoe not approve the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Please ensure that I am notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



R.W. Wagner (Mr.)
2928 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Phelpston, Ontario
L0L 2K0

Date: April 26th, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**


I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,


Name: Sofam Wilander
Address: 16 Whitfield Cres
Elm Hurst, ON
L0L 1P0

Date: Apr 26/17

Schedule 7

Committee of the Whole Item CCW 2018-320

Comment 10 of 245
Page 40 of 441

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Name: E.A. WILANDER

Address: 1 PINEHILL DR.

Springwater, ON

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
 County of Simcoe Administration Centre
 1110 Highway 26
 Midhurst, ON
 L9N 1X6

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 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
 Township of Springwater
 Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
 County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Name: DENISE WILANDER

Address: 1 PINE HILL DR.

PHILPSTON, ON

L9L 2K8

April 26, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602


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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Kind Regards,


Cindy Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Phelpston, On. L0L 2K0
mercercr@rogers.com

April 26, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Kind Regards,



Randy Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Phelpston, On. L0L 2K0

April 26, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I see that the County has posted a sign regarding a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beverley King". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "K".

Beverley King, 1275 Baseline Road, Phelpsston, Ontario, L0L2K0

April 26, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Graham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Kevin Graham, 1275 Baseline Road, Phelpston, Ontario, L0L2K0

April 26, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Clifford Graham".

Clifford Graham, 607-329 Blake Street, Barrie, Ontario, L4M 1L2

April 27, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Ann Truyens
1352 Old Barrie Road West
Oro-Medonte, ON
L0L 2L0

April 27, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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Yours Truly,

Jordan Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Phelpston, On. L0L 2K0



April 27, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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Yours Truly,

Brayden Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Phelpston, On. L0L 2K0



Date: April 27, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



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Yours truly,

Name: Peter MacLeod
Address: 13 Moran Street
Phelpston, Ontario, L0L 2K0

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter MacLeod". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

2017-04-27

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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Yours truly,

Krista Reynolds
1487 Gill Rd.
Midhurst ON L9X 1M5

April 27, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Yours Truly,



Doug Drinkill
16850 County Road #27
Tiny, On. L0L 1P1

Date: April 28, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

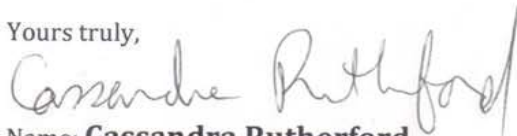
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Yours truly,



Name: **Cassandra Rutherford**

Address: 14 Oren Blvd. Barrie, ON L4N4M1

Date: April 18/2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Morgan Theriault
Address: 2 Hobbes cres. Moonstone
20K-1N0

April 28, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
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Kind Regards,



Sandra Dunlop
1601 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Phelpston, On. L0L 2K0

April 28, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Kind Regards,



Jerry Dunlop
1601 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Phelpston, On. L0L 2K0

Date: APRIL 28/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: DENNIS KAVARATZIS 
Address: 57 HILLVIEW CRE S
MIDHURST, ON L0L 1X0

Date: Apr 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

WALTER KAMEL

Address:

33 IRONWOOD TRAIL
COLDWATER, ONT L0K 1G0

Date: Apr 29 17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Kadwojo
Address: 9 Admiral Cros
Argus, ON

Date: April 29, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Romain PELLETIER

Address: 18 Horsfield DR
BARRIE, ON

Date:

Apr 29 / 17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Melissa Price

Address:

80 Little Aoe Apt #303
Barrie ON L4N 7P9

Date: Apr 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Sonia Kannel
Address: 33 Inwood Trail
Collingwood, Ont.
L0K 1E0

Date: April 29/10

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Katelyn Joseph
Address: 47 Gibbon Drive
Barrie ON L4N 6K8

Date: Apr 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
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County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Kevin Joseph
Address: 47 Gibbon Drive
Barrie, ON L4N6K8

Date:

Apr 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Address:

David Mason
57 Elzouby Dr
Barrie ON

Date: Apr 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: ROB O'NEILL
Address: 19 MAPLEWOOD PKWY
Oro-Industrie, ONT.

Date: April 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Julia Melchiorre
Address: 16 Green Mountain
Court, Oro-Medonte

Date: Apr. 29, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: JOFF & MAUSA SADOW

Address: Barrie, Ont.



Date: April 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Chris Stewart
Address: 2022 Penetanguishene Rd
Springwater Ont L9X 1Z5

Date: April 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Address:

Elizabeth Voigt
22 Thomson St.
Barrie, Ont.

April 29, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Yours Truly,



Colleen Stevens
2343 South Orr Lake Road
Elmvale, On. L0L 1P0

Date: April 29, 17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
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I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Emma Stewart
Address: 2022 Penetanguishene Rd.
Springwater ON L9X 1Z5

Date: 29.04.17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
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5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Shane Van Castore
Address: 3161 Horseshoe Valley Rd W.
Phelps, ON L0C 2K0

Date: April 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Shane Van Greunen
Address: 1529 Gill Road
Midhurst, ON

Date: Apr 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: J. Muffano
Address: 6 Carroustie Lane
Port Severn
ON

April 29, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Planning Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Mark Lawson

1098 Rainbow Valley Rd. E.

Phelpston, ON

L0L 2K0

705 331 3782

Date: Apr 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: BOB TYAN FR
Address: 13 Forest Hill Dr.
Midhurst, ON

Date: 29.04.2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Dragomir Turovici
Address: 1484 Old Sec. Rd. No
Phelpsboro, ON

Date: April 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Julie O'Neill
Address: 19 Maplewood pkwy
Oro Medonte.

Date: APRIL 29 - 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Juane Naccarato
Address: 166 Lillian Cres
Barrie, ON L9N5X5

Date: April 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Danielle Mosdell
Address: 1529 Gill Road
Midhurst

Date: April 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Address:

Richard Morden
61 Browning Road
Barrie ONT L4N 5A5

Date:

Apr 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Mr. Price

Address:

116 Oren Blvd
Barrie, ON

Date: Apr 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: M. M. M. M.
Address: 2016 Woodbine Dr
Midhurst, ON

Date: Apr 27/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: John Wilson
Address: 30 Thompson St
Brampton

Date: April 29/14

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
 County of Simcoe Administration Centre
 1110 Highway 26
 Midhurst, ON
 L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
 Township of Springwater
 Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
 County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Shayla Morris
 Address: 126 Bell Farm RD
Box 12 ON L4M 6J3

Date: April 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Jackson Mudduff
Address: 37 Belmont Cres
Midhurst, ON.

Date: April 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Nick Marafiotto

Address: 15 Moran St

Windsor, COC 2K0

Date:

Apr 29 / 17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Donna Mackay

Address:

145 Harker St EBARRE L4M 6W2

Date: April 29~~2016~~ 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Jessica Macedo
Address: 250 Kozlov St
Barnes ON
L4N 6R5

Date: April 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Ryan Macnaughtan
Address: 5 Hillview Crs
Midhurst, ON

Date: Apr 27/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Aleks Jedrzejewski
Address: 18 Hoy + Cook Dr. E. S. 4

Date: April 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Donna Jackson
Address: 38 Salsom Dr
Ore Medonte ON L0K1N0

Date: Apr 27/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Greg Jedrzejewski
Address: 18 Hollyhock Cr. E.
Midhurst, ON

Date: APR 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Peter Rutherford - E.P.P.
Address: 4090
Blvd. Burlington ON

Date: Apr 29/2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Dinah Rutherford
Address: 14 Oren Blvd
Barrie, ON

Rutherford - EPP

Date: April 29, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Alex Rutkovich
Address: 2009 Uthmaniyah Rd S
London ON

Date April 29th, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'HJR', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Heather J. Rutherford C.E.T., C.B.C.O.
1484 Flos Road 3 East
Phelpston, Ontario L0L 2K0

Date: Apr 29/2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Joe Ryan
Address: 18 Homan Heights Dr
Midhurst ON

Date: April 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Beeley Huber
Address: 2331 South Old Lake Rd
Elmora L4L1P

Date: 29 April 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: SUE RAUTH
Address: 151 YONGE STREET
TORONTO ONTARIO.
M5C 2W7.

Date: April 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Yvonne Patey
Address: 117 Birkhall pt.
Barrie ON

Date: Apr 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Nathan Sanders
Address: Gill Rd 1373
Midhurst

Date:

April 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Marlene Trui

Address:

116 Owen Blvd
BARRIE ONT.

Date:

April 29 / 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Sue Rauth

Address:

241 Ashdale AveMidhurst, ON

Date: Apr. 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Suzanne Hene
Address: 11 Cathedral Pines
Bainie, ON L4M 4Y8

Date: Apr 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Louise Smith

Address: 51 Hylon Woods Dr.
Caldwells ON L0K1E0

Date: 29 Apr 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Arceela Cudmore
Address: 38 Slaben Dr
Orca Meadonk, ON L0X1N0

Date: Apr 12 9 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: John-Cordell K. O'Leary
Address: 3248 horsue valley road
Pheloston, on

Date: April 29/2019

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
 County of Simcoe Administration Centre
 1110 Highway 26
 Midhurst, ON
 L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
 Township of Springwater
 Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
 County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Address:

John Cooper
64 Steel St
Barrie On L4M 2E9

formerly of
 4th Concession
 1/2 km South of
 Township 20th Side Road

Date: Apr 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Boenda Chin
Address: 849 Leslie Drive
Innisfil, Ont L9S 2L5

Date:

April 29, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Eleanor Alexander

Address:

19 Queen St. Apt. 6
Barrie, ON L4M 1Y9

Date: April 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: 

Address: 360 Baker St #13

Barnes Ont

Date: Apr. 29, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: TERRY A. BELAN
Address: 89 WITFIELD CRES
ELMVALE, ON L0L 1P0

Date: Apr 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Angela Baker
Address: 3220 Drington St
Barrie ON L4M 1T1

Date: April 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: 

Address: 710 Horton Bay Rd
Mayno Island, BC
V0N 2J2

Date: Apr 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Nancy Burton
Address: 13 Forest Hill Dr
Midhurst, ON

Date: April 24/2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Carey Bell
Address: 3769 Telford Hill
Scuzin Ontario L3V 6T5

Date: April 29 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Tacey Sackerson
Address: 710 Horton Bay Rd
Mayne Island BC
V0N 2J2

Date: Apr 25/18

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: [Signature]

Address: 761 [Signature]

Orangeville, ON

Date: 29 Apr 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Shannon Gardiner
Address: 2 Moon Cres
Orillia, ON L0K 1N0

Date: April 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Matt Daley
Address: 117 Birchhall Rd
Barrie ON

Date: Apr 29/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Ingrid Coops
Address: 64 Steel St
Barrie On
L4M 2K9

April 29, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours Truly,



Randy Dunlop
2343 South Orr Lake Road
Elmvale, On. L0L 1P0

Date: April 30 / 17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602


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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:  Dallas Irwin
Address: 1293 RAINBOW VALLEY RD EAST
PURLETON ONT
LOT 2KG

Date: Apr. 30, 2017.

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Name: STACEY IRWIN

Address: 1293 RAINBOW VALLEY RD E.
PHELPSSTON, ON L0L 2K0.

Date: April 30-2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
 County of Simcoe Administration Centre
 1110 Highway 26
 Midhurst, ON
 L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
 Township of Springwater
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Louise Fisher Jr.

Name: Louise Fisher Jr. - Janssen
 Address: 1476 Rainbow Vly Rd.
Phelpsston

L0L2K0

Date: 04/30/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Jason Ough

Address: 9 Admiral Crest
Angus Ontario L0M 1B4

Date: Apr 30, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
 County of Simcoe Administration Centre
 1110 Highway 26
 Midhurst, ON
 L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

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 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Address:

George Fischer-Jenssen
1476 Rainbow Valley Rd
Phelpston Ont
L0L 2K0

Date: April 30, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Rosemary Shoreman
Address: 1385 Baseline Road, R.R.#1
Phelpston, ON
L0L 2K0

Date: April 30, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Michael Shoreman
Address: 1385 Baseline Road, R.R.#1
Phelpston, ON
LOL 2K0

Date: May 1, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Yours truly,



Name: Joe Hermann

Address: 10 Pine Hill Drive

R.R.#1, Phelpston, Ontario

L0L 2K0

Date: May 1, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Christine Forsyth
Address: 4880 Conc. 2
New Lowell, ON, L0M1V0

Date: May 1st 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Logan Dunlop
Address: 1627 Peter St.
West RR1 Midland

May 1, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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6. The County forest is designated "Greenland" in the County Official Plan and should be protected. There is no justification for putting an "Industrial Use" on lands designated Greenland when there are industrial sites available.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Van Casteren". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "N".

Nick Van Casteren
3066 Horseshoe Valley Road West and
3088 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Phelpston, On L0L 2K0

May 1, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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6. The County forest is designated "Greenland" in the County Official Plan and should be protected. There is no justification for putting an "Industrial Use" on lands designated Greenland when there are industrial sites available.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Lynda Van Casteren

3066 Horseshoe Valley Road West and

3088 Horseshoe Valley Road West

Phelpston, On LOL 2K0

Hand-Delivered

May 1, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
 County of Simcoe Administration Centre
 1110 Highway 26
 Midhurst, On L9N 1X6



Dear Sir:

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
 Township Of Springwater
 Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
 County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment. I wish to appoint ^{in my place} Mrs. Ed Krajcir as my surrogate to make a verbal representation at the May 9th, 2017 Council meeting. If this is not acceptable, then I wish my letter to be considered as an official protest to the proposed amendment to the County Official Plan Amendment and any amendment to the Springwater Zoning Bylaw regarding Site C136.

My reasons are as follows:

1. There are no sewer services to the site. This will entail the construction of a holding pond for the leachate. This leachate is contaminated water. At times of excessive rainfall (which are frequent in this area) the water will overflow into the wetlands immediately below the site. This is in very close proximity to Matheson Creek which flows through the Minsesing Wetlands. These ponds require frequent and expensive maintenance. Contamination to Springwater's water is inevitable. This water is presently the golden standard for scientists world-wide.
2. There will be noise and light contamination caused by heavy trucks accessing and egressing the site every few minutes during the day and security lights being used during the night time.
3. Dust, odour, oil and grease will be prevalent due to the nature of the operation and the garage which will eventually be built on-site should this facility be approved.
4. Substantially increasing traffic on an already dangerous highway due to blind, steep hills; which is already heavily trafficked due to subdivisions, a village, a gravel pit and tourists is ill conceived at best. These trucks may already be on the roads but they are not all presently congregating halfway down a hill on Horseshoe Valley Road.
5. The dangers due to fire hazards are extreme. Each operation of this nature has had numerous fires including one in Springwater that burnt the facility completely. There are many homes and businesses located very close to this proposed site. It is heavily forested and a fire would be catastrophic. There would also be a considerable cost to the residents of Springwater due to the necessity of upgrading their fire fighting capacity.
6. There is a wildlife corridor running through this site. A herd of deer is frequently seen here as well as other forms of wildlife. The noise and vehicular traffic along with the fencing would certainly be very disruptive to the environment.
7. The conditions imposed on the consulting firm that chose the sites (that is the site be located on County-owned land if at all possible) resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests as 50%

Page Two of Two

of said lands is woodland.

8. 82% of the sites recommended were woodland. The majority of residents (all those to whom I have spoken) consider County forests to be protected from development.
9. County forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of industrial facilities and should have been excluded from the selection process. There were and are industrial sites available within Simcoe County that are far more suitable for this purpose.
10. The **extreme** proximity to established businesses and homes should have excluded this site.
11. The decision making matrix used during the Part 1-3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as wetlands and wildlife habitat as required by the Planning Act.
12. There has not been, to date, a true cost analysis done on this project. The type of process has not been decided. We, the public, are being asked to buy a "pig in a poke".

Based on the above, I would ask the the County not approve the County Official Plan Amendment and further, that the Township of Springwater deny any requested change to the Zoning Bylaw re site C136 (which would be required for this project to proceed). I wish to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed County Official Plan Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen L. Smith
29 Lawrence Avenue
Minesing, Ontario
L9X0W4

May 2, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Proposed County Official Plan Amendment
Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

The Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. is a community group formed by citizens of Simcoe County, and beyond, that share a common concern. We are concerned that the County of Simcoe legacy that valued forests, natural heritage sites and significant wildlife habitat has been abandoned.

The County Official Plan does not accommodate placement of a waste management facility in a forest. The present county staff and council choose to disregard the protection and value afforded the forest by generations of former elected officials. The present county staff and council plan to disregard the foresight of their predecessors and amend the Official Plan to permit the destruction of our woodlands. This unprecedented action will start the unravelling of decades of commitment and work to preserve our greenland and natural heritage.

We are opposed to the proposed amendment.

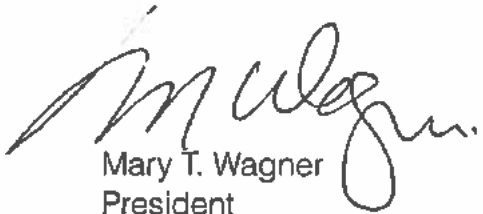
County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community. Industrial land does exist and is available within the county. Industrial land is appropriately serviced and zoned for this type of facility.

Based on the above, we would ask that the County not approve the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Please find attached, for inclusion in our submission, letters from our Ecological Consulting Firm and our Planner.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Mary T. Wagner
President
Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.



April 28, 2017

Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.
c/o Bob and Mary Wagner
2928 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Phelpston, Ontario, L0L 2K0

**Re: Preliminary Peer Review of Scoped Environmental Impact Study (GHD Ltd),
Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Wagner:

Dougan & Associates (D&A) was retained by Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. in March 2017 to complete a peer review of the terrestrial resources information contained within the report *Scoped Environmental Impact Study, Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario* prepared by GHD Ltd. (November 17, 2016).

The peer review applies Dougan & Associates standard approach for reviews of natural heritage planning reports, which focuses on whether the EIS adequately reflects relevant protocols and interpretation as required under the Provincial Policy Statement (OMMAH 2014) and its guiding documents, such as the Natural Heritage Reference Manual 2nd Ed. (OMNR 2010), Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (OMNR 2000), and other provincial references, as well as the Simcoe County Official Plan (2007) and other local documents, including the Simcoe County Forest Plan (2011) and the Simcoe County ONE SITE – ONE SOLUTION (2016) document.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF SCOPED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY

Goals and objectives for in the EIS report are not clearly stated in a stand-alone report section. In Section 1.1 Introduction, the GHD goal is "...to complete a *Scoped Environmental Impact Study (Scoped EIS)* for the proposed co-located development of a *Materials Management Facility (MMF)*, an *Organics Processing Facility (OPF)*, and related support activities, collectively referred to as the *Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC)*." Two inferred objectives include "...to include an evaluation of all relevant natural features and species within the Study Area." and "This report has been prepared to address the requirements stipulated in the Simcoe County OP to satisfy the requirements of Provincial and County OP policies, as well as other relevant legislation."

MAJOR COMMENTS

In our preliminary review of the EIS document, D&A identified the following major inadequacies and/or inconsistencies in the report:

1. Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH)

SWH is protected under the Provincial Policy Statement (OMMAH 2014). Based on the data provided by GHD, the site meets criteria for several more SWH categories than are indicated in the EIS, and there are some weaknesses in the data required to assess SWH. Specifically:

- Amphibian data in the EIS is incomplete to assess SWH status (call levels and weather conditions required);
- Spotted Salamander egg masses were found, Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Woodland) may therefore be present;
- Presence of Western Chorus Frog (an S3 provincially ranked species) triggers SWH;
- Twenty-one (21) area-sensitive bird species were documented, and SWH designation as Woodland Area-Sensitive Bird Breeding Habitat may therefore apply;
- Woodland Raptor Nesting Habitat may be present; no raptor nest surveys were conducted; and
- The EIS opines incorrectly that cultural plantations cannot qualify as SWH; in fact, they are specifically identified as potential SWH (for raptor nesting).

The ERRC will cause fragmentation of the forest patch where it is proposed; the EIS does not adequately address the impact on both quantity and quality of forest interior habitat on the site.

2. Significant Woodlands

The report notes that the site qualifies as Significant Woodland but the implications of this designation are not brought forward into the impact assessment. The EIS downplays the value of the Significant Woodland without speaking to functional attributes which underlie the concept of "significance" as defined under the PPS. The presence of a diverse group of area-sensitive forest bird species (21 species based on MNRF criteria), and other SWH indicates that this is currently highly functioning habitat irrespective of the presence of planted conifers.

3. Species at Risk (SAR)

Species at Risk findings and impact assessment are insufficient. No systematic bat surveys were conducted although up to three Endangered bat species could be present. The Executive Summary of the EIS states that no SAR are present, but this is incorrect as several Special Concern species are present and discussed elsewhere in the EIS.

4. Impacts to Biodiversity

The facility will handle compostable waste, which would include invasive plant species and pests affiliated with waste materials, that may affect the biodiversity of the surrounding forest. Effects on local wildlife will likely include increases in species such as raccoons, which are predatory on ground-nesting birds (which represent 20% of the interior species documented). Forest interior habitat will be converted to edge; forest edge birds include nest predators. These effects are neither identified nor discussed in the EIS; they will likely have long term implications within connected woodlands beyond the site.

5. Adjacent Lands

There is no clear discussion in the EIS of Adjacent Lands, defined as the area 120 metres beyond the limits of development. The proposed facility will create changes to ecological functions on a much larger footprint, likely in the order of 200+ m, and with potential for further impacts due to future expansion.

6. Vehicular Impacts of Facility

The EIS does not adequately address the road and traffic impacts of the facility. The required internal road system for the facility includes the main entrance road, and an emergency access route which will be placed along an existing trail to the north of the facility. EIS Section 3 (Preliminary Development Plan) indicates that the site will also be a *"Truck Servicing Facility – a location for servicing the County's fleet of industrial Solid Waste Management vehicles."* Vehicular traffic, including waste management trucks as well as private vehicles engaged in drop-offs, will undoubtedly generate heavy traffic loads; these are not discussed in the EIS. The Facility Characteristics Report (GHD 2016a) for this site states that the clearing width for the access road will be 15 – 20m (not including allowances for turn lanes), however this clearing is also not addressed in the EIS.

7. Inadequate Details on Site Plan

The EIS does not include a site concept plan which allows a clear understanding of the proposed development; the EIS does not include any graphic representation of the project apart from the generic mapping of a development footprint shown on Figures 4 and 5. There is no discussion of potential grading requirements to attain a level base for the facility, and for the road access. There is no Mitigation Plan included with the EIS, which would normally include existing ecological features and functions (e.g. SWH extent, including buffers) overlaid on the development concept plan, and also indicating the locations for mitigation measures proposed for the development site or adjoining lands.

8. Cumulative Effects

The EIS does not address potential cumulative effects. EIS Section 3 (Preliminary Development Plan) indicates that the facility may be expanded in the future; the EIS considers a 4.5 ha development site, however the County's *"ONE SITE, ONE SOLUTION"* (2016) document identifies the size specification as 20 ha, and also promotes this preferred site on the basis of its size (207 ac) described as *"large usable space"*, accommodating potential expansion. Given the high likelihood of expansion, and the constraints identified outside of the proposed 4.5 ha development site, cumulative effects are likely but are not identified, discussed or addressed in the EIS.

Other concerns regarding the EIS will be provided at a later date. We understand that Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. has also retained a planner, Jennifer Lawrence, who is providing comments on the planning aspects of the project under separate cover.


CONCLUSION

Based on this review, D&A believes that the GHD *Scoped EIS* does not adequately characterize the study area, provide appropriate interpretation of policy, or discuss impacts and mitigation in sufficient detail. Figures lack sufficient detail on the proposed development, policy constraints, impacts, and mitigation.

LIMITATION

The opinions in this letter report document are based on the *Scoped Environmental Impact Study, Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario* (GHD Ltd., November 17, 2016), and other documents referenced; opinions are subject to modification if new or revised documents are provided.

Sincerely,



Jim Dougan, BSc, MSc, OALA (Hon)
Director, Senior Ecologist



Mary Anne Young, BLA, OALA, ISA
Landscape Architect, Arborist, Ecologist



Karl Konze, B.Sc.
Senior Wildlife Ecologist

References

- GHD. 2016a.** County of Simcoe Environmental Resource Recovery Center Facility Characteristics Report. Prepared for the County of Simcoe. 35 pp. + Figures, Tables & Appendices.
- GHD. 2016b.** Scoped Environmental Impact Study [for the] Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario. Prepared for the County of Simcoe. 26 pp. + Figures, Tables & Appendices.
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April 28, 2017

Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.
c/o Mrs. Mary Wagner
2928 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Phelpston, ON
L0L 2K0



Dear Mrs. Wagner:

**Re: County of Simcoe Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
Regional and Local Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-Law Amendment
Files: SC-OPA-1602, OP-2016-005 and ZB-2016-021
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater**

I have reviewed the following reports, prepared by the County of Simcoe, in support of the above noted applications:

- *County of Simcoe Materials Management Facility, Part 1 – Planning – Siting Methodology and Evaluation Criteria*, prepared by Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, dated February 2015;
- *County of Simcoe Organics Processing Facility, Part 1 – Planning – Siting Methodology and Evaluation Criteria*, prepared by Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, dated February 2015;
- *County of Simcoe – Materials Management Facility, Part 2 – Long List Evaluation*, prepared by GHD, dated July 12, 2015;
- *County of Simcoe – Organics Processing Facility, Part 2 – Long List Evaluation*, prepared by GHD, dated July 23, 2015;
- *County of Simcoe Organics Processing Facility, Materials Management Facility and Co-Located Facility, Part 3 – Short List Evaluation*, prepared by GHD, dated February 26, 2016;
- *Scoped Environmental Impact Study, Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario*, prepared by GHD, dated November 17, 2016;
- *Planning Justification Report, Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario*, prepared by GHD, dated November 17, 2016;
- *Agricultural Impact Assessment Report*, prepared by AgPlan, dated November 16, 2016;
- *Environmental Resource Recovery Centre 'Get the Facts', 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater, County of Simcoe*, September 2016;
- *County of Simcoe Environmental Resource Recovery Centre, Summary of Consultation and Notification (to December 2016)*; and,

- Neighbourhood Landowner Meeting, Final Meeting Notes and Follow-Up, Thursday September 8, 2016.

In preparing my professional opinion on the proposal, I have also referenced the following documents:

- *Planning Act and Provincial Policy Statement (2014)*
- *Environmental Assessment Act, Ontario Regulation 101/07 and the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Waste Management Projects*
- *Simcoe County Official Plan (2016)*
- *Springwater Official Plan (1998) and Comprehensive Zoning By-Law (2004)*
- *Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Statement of Environmental Values*
- *Simcoe County Forests 2011-2030*
- *Guidelines for the Siting and Operation of Waste Transfer Stations*, Nova Scotia Environment and Labour, 2006
- *Environmental Standards for Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Stations / Local Waste Management Facilities, Guidance Document*, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2010
- *Waste Transfer Stations: A Manual for Decision-Making*, United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2002
- Letter to Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc., prepared by Dougan and Associates Inc., dated April 28, 2017; and,
- Letter to County of Simcoe from Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, dated March 2, 2017, NVCA ID #30106

I will be able to provide more detailed comments shortly however, in an effort to provide the Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. with comments to submit to the County in advance of their Public Meeting on May 9, 2017, I have prepared the following summary letter.

Overview

In 2010, the County of Simcoe approved a Solid Waste Management Strategy. Within that strategy, it was recommended that the County assess the development of a central composting facility as well as assess the long-term requirements for collection and processing of organics and recycling and waste export. The Strategy further recommended that consideration be given to developing a transfer station type facility. In August 2014, County Council endorsed Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (CRA) to determine an optimal site for a transfer facility, referred to as a Material Management Facility (MMF) as well as an Organics Processing Facility (OPF). The siting for these two facilities began as independent searches with specific, but similar, siting criteria. The methodology and evaluation criteria for siting the MMF and OPF is outlined in the CRA reports entitled *County of Simcoe Materials Management Facility, Part 1 – Planning – Siting Methodology and Evaluation Criteria* (February 2015) and the *County of Simcoe Organics Processing Facility, Part 1 – Planning – Siting Methodology and Evaluation Criteria* (February 2015), respectively. The purpose of the Part 1 studies was the same for both the OPF and the MMF; that is, the Part 1 study was to establish the framework for how the potential sites would be identified and evaluated by defining the search area, identifying a comprehensive list of candidate sites (including County-owned and privately owned sites) and establishing a series of criteria to screen

and evaluate potential sites. The Part 1 study created a list of exclusionary criteria that would be used to screen the comprehensive list of candidate sites. These exclusionary criteria are referred to as Screen 1. Screen 1 was applied to arrive at a long list of sites which would then be screened against a second set of criteria referred to as Screen 2.

The next set of reports are the Part 2 – Long List Evaluations for the MMF and OPF, prepared by GHD (formerly CRA), dated July 12 and July 23, 2015, respectively. The Part 2 reports include the Screen 2 criteria that were used to create a short list of sites which were then vetted through the final screen, referred to as Screen 3.

The final report associated with the siting process is the *Part 3 – Organics Processing Facility, Materials Management Facility and Co-Located Facility Short List Evaluation*, prepared by GHD dated February 26, 2016. This report combines the OPF and MMF selection process into one document and evaluates the short list of properties, identified in the respective Part 2 reports, to determine whether it is appropriate to continue siting these facilities independently or whether it would be appropriate to co-locate the two facilities on one site. Screen 3 was applied to the short-listed sites and each were subjected to a comparative evaluation process to identify a preferred location that has an appropriate balance of strengths (advantages) and weaknesses (disadvantages) and evaluated to determine how well the site satisfies the goals and objectives of the project. Of note, the comparative evaluation did not include site-specific Environmental Impact Studies for each site to determine whether they could meet the federal, provincial, County and local natural heritage policies. Rather, this evaluation was deferred until the preferred site was selected. A preferred location for the co-located site is identified in the Part 3 report as 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road in Springwater, a wooded parcel known as the Freele County Forest (Tract). In addition to the OPF and MMF, the preferred site is also intended to include a Solid Waste Management truck servicing area, a public education area and the potential for future expansion to include a recycling sorting facility. These additional uses were not noted in either the Part 1 or Part 2 reports.

The preferred site is within the Greenlands designation of the current County of Simcoe Official Plan. Waste disposal sites are not a permitted use within the Greenlands designation so the County has initiated an Official Plan Amendment (SC-OPA-1602). The proposed amendment is as follows:

- Modifying Schedule 5.6.1 by (a) renaming Schedule 5.6.1 "County Waste Disposal Sites" to Schedule 5.6.1 "County Waste Management System"; (b) adding Environmental Resource Recovery Centre to the legend; and, (c) adding a symbol for Environmental Resource Recovery Centre to the Schedule within Part Lot 2 Concession 1 Springwater Township.
- The addition of the following Section and text after Section 4.9.17.

*Section 4.9.18, Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
Part of Lot 2, Concession 1, Springwater (2976 Horseshoe Valley Road)*

Permitted uses on a portion of Part of Lot 2, Concession 1, Springwater Township (2976 Horseshoe Valley Road) as identified on Schedule 5.6.1 as Environmental Resource

Recovery Centre shall include facilities for the purpose of the consolidation and transfer of various waste streams such as organics, recyclable materials and non-hazardous household garbage, processing of organic green bin materials under controlled conditions for conversion into other materials. Other ancillary uses would include a public education area, truck maintenance and servicing area and facility administration area. The temporary storage of waste is permitted on the lands but no permanent disposal of waste materials or landfilling of any kind is permitted within the lands subject to Section 4.9.18.

The County has also submitted applications to the Township of Springwater for an Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendment (OP-2016-005 and ZB-2016-021). Within the Springwater OP, the site is designated Rural and Agriculture on Schedule A-2 and Environmental Protection Category 2 on Schedule B. Section 2.20.4 of the Springwater OP requires that the establishment of new waste disposal sites shall require an amendment to the OP. The property is zoned "A" Agriculture in the Springwater By-law 5000. The Agricultural zone does not permit waste disposal sites which has triggered the need for a Zoning By-Law Amendment.

In addition to the three site selection reports, supporting documentation has been prepared for the proposed preferred site as part of the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendment applications. These include a Scoped Environmental Impact Study, Planning Justification Report, Agricultural Impact Assessment and Hydrogeological Assessment.

Site Selection Process

The following is a summary of concerns with respect to the Part 1-3 documents:

1. The documents do not contain sufficient reference to the *Planning Act* and Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). The Screen 1 Evaluation Criteria should have, at a minimum, included the avoidance of the habitat of endangered species and threatened species. Without this criterion, the Screen 1 evaluation is not consistent with the PPS. In addition, Screen 1 Evaluation Criteria could have taken a conservative, and best practices, approach and eliminated all sites within the Council approved Greenlands designation from the list of candidate sites;
2. Sites with natural heritage features (such as County Forests) were allowed to advance to Screen 2 based on additional environmental screening taking place at that stage however, Screen 2 evaluation criteria includes no specific reference to any natural heritage features;
3. When establishing evaluation criteria, reference is made to technical documents from other Provinces and the United States with no clear reference to technical documents created pursuant to the PPS for evaluating impacts to natural heritage features and functions, such as the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) *Natural Heritage Reference Manual 2nd Edition* (2010) and the MNR *Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide* (2000) both prepared in support of the PPS Natural Heritage policies;
4. Screen 3 evaluation criteria refer to demonstrating 'no net effects' on the environment which is not the same as the 'no negative impact' test established by the PPS. As such, the Screen 3 evaluation is not consistent with the policy requirements of the PPS, County of Simcoe OP and Springwater OP;
5. The County's stated preference for finding a site that is already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the site selection process. 82.5% of

- the County-owned sites that are included in the candidate sites are County Forests and 50% of all the candidate sites are County Forests;
6. After Screen 1 is applied, 70% of the MMF long-list sites are County Forests and 77% of the OPF long-list sites are County Forests. After Screen 2 is applied, 4 out of 5 of the MMF short-list sites are County Forests (80%) and 5 out of 7 of the OPF short-list sites are County Forests (71%). The preponderance of County Forests in the list of candidate sites, the lack of consideration for natural heritage features such as habitat of endangered and threatened species, significant woodlands and significant wildlife habitat as exclusionary criteria in the Screen 1 and 2 stages and the consideration of 'no net effect' rather than the PPS requirement of 'no negative impact' has led to the identification of a short-list of sites that may not be consistent with the PPS, County and Local OP policies;
 7. The County is relying on the out-of-date Springwater OP and zoning designations whereas they would be aware that the OP and Zoning By-Law will need to be brought into conformance with the County OP thereby resulting in the County Forests having a Greenlands designation at the local level;
 8. The Springwater OP policies would suggest that the County Forest sites would, at a minimum, meet the Natural Heritage (Environmental Protection) Category 2 criteria however, the mapping has not been updated;
 9. The Part 3 report concludes that co-locating the facilities is appropriate, contrary to a staff recommendation made earlier in the process. The issues and concerns raised by staff previously, in relation to a co-located facility, have not been addressed in the report;
 10. The Part 3 report introduces additional uses to the site (truck maintenance facility, public education area, potential future expansion/recycling sorting facility) that were not considered during the Part 1 and 2 reports; and,
 11. At a minimum, 72% of the written comments received from the public, as documented in the Part 3 report, requested that the County not consider the placement of these facilities within natural areas and, more specifically, not within County Forests. In addition, a total of 1,320 signatures were collected on petitions speaking out against the use of several of the County Forests under consideration in the short-list evaluation. The report does not provide sufficient discussion with respect to how the County considered these numerous and valid concerns throughout the site selection process.

In my opinion, for the siting methodology and evaluation criteria to be consistent with the PPS, and to be transparent as a decision-making tool, the reports should have included substantial discussion and reference to the *Planning Act* and the relevant PPS policies. In addition, to be consistent with the PPS, Screen 1 exclusionary criteria should have been to, at a minimum, avoid the habitat of endangered and threatened species, in addition to Provincially Significant Wetlands and floodplains. However, in addition to those exclusionary criteria, given: (1) the screening size criteria of the two facilities, including facility and buffer (OPF 13ha; MMF 7ha); (2) the purported reliance on the MOECC SEV; (3) the four principles upon which the siting and development of the facilities are to be based on; and, (4) the PPS natural heritage requirements, it would seem reasonable to assume, in an effort to be conservative, that a facility of the anticipated size(s) would likely not be able to be constructed within an area of natural heritage significance without having a negative impact on the natural features or their ecological functions. As such, to be conservative, and to follow best practices of other municipalities, it would have been appropriate to eliminate any sites meeting these criteria, through Screen 1. Alternatively, if the County wanted to keep their options open with respect to undertaking additional environmental evaluations (as

provided for in PPS Policy 2.1.5), certain natural heritage features could have been included in the evaluation criteria and, if properties passed all other exclusionary criteria, the property could have been carried forward to the Part 2 study for further consideration and closer and more detailed environmental evaluation. However, this additional evaluation during the Part 2 study would need to include natural heritage features and functions related specifically to significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat, fish habitat, significant valleylands and areas of natural and scientific interest, something that was not done as part of this process.

Proposed Preferred Site - Site Specific Studies

Scoped Environmental Impact Study, GHD, November 17, 2016

The purpose of the Scoped Environmental Impact Study (EIS) is to evaluate the proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (formerly OPF/MMF) at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road against the PPS requirements related to natural heritage and water. As this is mainly an ecological analysis, I will defer most the review to Dougan and Associates and rely on their professional opinion with respect to whether the fieldwork and analysis has demonstrated no negative impact to the following: Provincially Significant Wetlands, habitat of endangered and threatened species, significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat, significant valleylands, significant areas of natural and scientific interest and fish habitat. My review relates to the policy context of the assessment as well as some of the assumptions/conclusions that were drawn before and during the assessment.

Section 2 (Existing Conditions, Natural Features and Resources), Table 2.1 lists Secondary Source Information Reviewed. The list is missing the Provincial Policy Statement as well as the Springwater Official Plan. In addition, 'Freele County Forest management documents' are listed however, no specific reference is provided. A copy of these management documents should be provided as it appears that they are being relied upon as part of this report.

Section 3 (Preliminary Development Plan) describes the proposed development and refers the reader to GHD's *Facility Characteristics Report*, provided under separate cover, for additional details. A site concept plan/layout is not included in the EIS for the reader to reference. There is no discussion of grading works that may be required to facilitate the entrance, site preparation, staging areas, etc. and the associated potential negative environmental impacts.

Section 4 (Regulatory/Policy Framework) provides a brief outline of the Springwater and County OP, the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, Species at Risk Legislation and Provincial Policy Statement. Given that the detailed natural heritage policy implications have been deferred to the EIS, the report should have contained a robust explanation of all the applicable PPS policies, County and Local OP policies, and federal/provincial legislation.

Within **Section 4.5 (Provincially Policy Statement)**, GHD states, "Overall, the proposed ERRC footprint of 4.5ha represents an extremely small disturbance to a greater than 475ha contiguous woodland of the 32,000ha Simcoe County Forest (less than 1% and 0.01% respectively)". It is unclear why this statement is made given that this fact has nothing to do with the on-site evaluation that GHD has been tasked with undertaking. The size of the overall feature is only one aspect that needs to be considered when evaluating significance. Reference to the overall

landholdings of the County (32,000 ha) also suggests that the author is minimizing the potential impacts associated with the proposed development. The overall amount of landholdings by a municipality is not a criterion upon which to determine significant or to measure negative impact.

Also within Section 4.5, with respect to significant woodlands, GHD concludes that, based on the size of wooded area, the Study Area contributes to an interior forest habitat that meets the County's minimum size criteria for consideration as a Significant Woodland. Unfortunately, the report then goes on to state that this function (interior forest habitat) is temporary because the property (and ERRC footprint) is part of a managed and actively harvested woodlot. In my opinion, this conclusion is false and it is unclear what fact(s) that author is using to support this conclusion. To remove the interior forest habitat, much of the site would need to be clear cut. Over a period of 69 years (1948 – 2017) such a forestry practice has not taken place on this tract nor does the County Forest Plan suggest that such a practice is contemplated on any County tracts. In fact, through good forestry practices, such as those practiced by the County according to their County Forest Plan, selective harvesting would have no impact on the extent of interior forest habitat. Building on their conclusion, GHD then states that, *'As an actively managed and harvested plantation woodlot, the proposed ERRC footprint and immediately adjacent areas does not exhibit uncommon characteristics or economic and social functional values as defined in the Natural Heritage Reference Manual (MNR, 2010).'* I will defer to Dougan and Associates' analysis of significance however, I would recommend that GHD is building on an erroneous statement with respect to interior forest habitat so the accuracy of the follow-up conclusion must be questioned.

Finally, within Section 4.5, GHD concludes that the site does not meet the criteria of Significant Wildlife Habitat. This analysis takes place within one paragraph of the report. I will defer to Dougan and Associates with respect to their opinion as to whether it has been demonstrated that Significant Wildlife Habitat does not exist however, I would have expected the analysis to have been much more robust considering that a minimum of 4.5 ha of wooded area is proposed for removal to facilitate the footprint of the ERRC. Additional impacts associated with the need to widen the existing trail to create a driveway of an appropriate width to accommodate the truck traffic, the relocation of the existing trail and the potential for future expansion also requires additional consideration in the evaluation of no negative impacts.

As stated previously, GHD and the County are relying on a test of **no net effects**. This is further demonstrated through the suggestion in the report that the loss of forest cover can be compensated through the planting of trees elsewhere to offset the loss. Such an approach is not consistent with the PPS requirement to demonstrate **no negative impact**. The proponent must first demonstrate that the proposed development will not have a negative impact on the feature and/or function and only then, if no negative impact is demonstrated, can there be a suggestion of mitigation measures such as off-site tree planting. Even if one was to accept that off-site tree planting could be contemplated as a mitigation measure, the County should be obligated, as part of the EIS and Official Plan Amendment process, to identify where such a location exists that could accommodate 4.5 - 9ha of tree planting (based on a 1:1 or the preferred 2:1 ratio of planting expressed by GHD on page 23). If such a parcel of land is not already in County ownership, presumably the previous evaluation matrix (Parts 1 – 3 of the siting process) should have considered the cost of purchasing such a parcel as well as the cost of tree planting and maintenance. The parcel not only needs to be large enough to accommodate the 4.5 - 9ha worth

of planting, it would also need to be an environmentally appropriate site that is adjacent to existing Greenlands, etc.

I have reviewed the letter prepared by Dougan and Associates dated April 28, 2017. Based on that letter, in their professional opinion, the County has not demonstrated no negative impact on significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat or the habitat of endangered and threatened species. As such, from a planning perspective, the Scoped EIS has not demonstrated that the proposed development is consistent with the requirements of the *Planning Act*, PPS and County OP. As a result, the Official Plan Amendment should not be approved as it does not meet the requirements of the Province or County.

I have also reviewed the comments provided by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) dated March 2, 2017. The NVCA raises similar concerns to those raised by Dougan and Associates related to insufficient documentation in the report to support the conclusion that significant wildlife habitat does not exist on the property.

Planning Justification Report, GHD, November 17, 2016

The Planning Justification Report provides an analysis of many of PPS policies including those related to Land Use Compatibility, Infrastructure and Public Service Facilities, Waste Management, Natural Heritage, Water and Agriculture. With respect to Natural Heritage, the report relies on the assumptions and conclusions of the Scoped EIS which, as outlined above, has not, in my opinion, demonstrated consistency with the PPS.

Within Section 6.1 (County of Simcoe Official Plan – Greenlands Section 3.8), the report concludes that the development of the ERRC will not result in a negative impact as defined in the PPS based on: the proposed location of the ERRC; the plantation history of the Site; the actively managed nature of the Study Area; and, the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, which adequately avoid, compensate and replace natural features (i.e. vegetation plantings) within the wider wooded feature. Section 10.2 (Scoped EIS & Natural Hazard Land Assessment) again concludes by stating that no net environmental impacts on the larger woodlot feature are anticipated from the development of the proposed ERRC. These conclusions reflect the erroneous inclusion of mitigation measures, and the concept of no net impacts, when determining whether a proposed development will have a negative impact on the natural heritage system, which is inconsistent with the requirements of the PPS.

Summary/Recommendation

Given the requirements of the PPS related to natural heritage and, the resulting OP requirements, it has been my experience that many municipalities make every effort to avoid the placement of infrastructure within the natural heritage system. Many municipalities have policies that only allow for the consideration of *essential* infrastructure (such as roads or utilities) within the natural heritage system and, in such cases, only if the placement of the infrastructure is supported by an Environmental Assessment. In doing so, they model the very behaviour that their OPs are expecting of the general public – that natural heritage systems are to be identified, conserved and protected from the impacts of development.

Based on my review of the Part 1 – 3 siting documents, it is my opinion that the site selection process is not consistent with the *Planning Act* requirements pursuant to the Provincial Policy Statement natural heritage policies as sufficient consideration has not been given to PPS policies 2.1.1 through 2.1.8. In addition, the site-specific documents prepared in support of the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendments are also not consistent with the PPS as it has not been demonstrated that the proposed development will have no negative impact on, at a minimum, significant woodlands and significant wildlife habitat as required by PPS policies 2.1.2, 2.1.5 and 2.1.8. Additional fieldwork by Dougan and Associates may identify other portions of the PPS natural heritage policies that should be addressed in greater detail.

As a result of the above, it is my opinion that the amendments are not consistent with Section 2 of the PPS, County of Simcoe Official Plan policies 3.3.15, 3.8.19 and 3.8.22 or the Springwater Official Plan policies 16.2.1.2(ii)(c), 16.2.1.3(iii), 16.2.1.3(vii), 16.2.1.4.1(c)(ii), 16.2.1.4.2(b)(i)(iii)(vi) and 16.2.1.4.2(c)(i)(e).

I trust the above is of assistance. If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,


Jennifer Lawrence, MCIP, RPP
President

Date: May 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

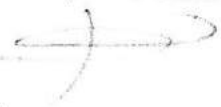
I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,


Name: Paul Keown
Address: 1336 Rainbow Valley Rd
Philpston

Date: May 02, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Stan Ste Croix
Address: 215 Huronia Rd
Barrie, Ontario L4N 5G2

May 2, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

John & Wendy Rumney
9 Maltman Court
Phelpston, On L0L 2K0

Date: MAY 2, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
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County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: JAMES MADORE
Address: 4 BRILLINGER DR.
WASAGA BEACH ON
L9Z 1L4

Date: May 2, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Name: Frank Gerrits
Address: 1038 Gill Rd.
Midhurst, ON, L9X 1L9

Date: 3 May, 2017

**Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6**



Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

I have seen the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment, and am forwarding this letter to you as my expression of opposition to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

J. Claveau

120 James St. Barrie ON L4N 6X9

Date: May 3, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Amy Corbin
Address: 50 Diamond Valley Dr.
Oro-Medonte, L0L 2E0

Date: 3 May, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

I have seen the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment, and am forwarding this letter to you as my expression of opposition to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Céline Laurin".

Céline Laurin
1205 Baseline Rd.
Phelpston ON L0L 2K0

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON L9N 1X6

May 3, 2017

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

Dear Mr. Daly,

We are in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

We are opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. Building and operating a waste transfer and industrial scale composting facility in the Freele Tract of Simcoe County Forests will convert a valuable forestry ecosystems into an industrial processing plant. We find this is an extremely poor and frankly irresponsible decision;
2. Like many Simcoe Forest areas the Freele Tract is recognized as an important habitat for wildlife and contains a wetland area that provides breeding grounds for amphibians and many other animals. Wetlands are also vital groundwater filters purifying and creating drinking water and therefore extremely important for all of us. We are quite surprised that these County-owned forests have been permitted to be considered as candidates for development at all. These are valuable natural resources that should be protected at all costs;
3. That this is the case indicates that the decision-making process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. The Environmental Impact Study also fails to demonstrate that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands, wildlife habitat, and drinking water which is required under the *Planning Act*;
4. Dropping a recycling plant into the middle of a forest, in an area that completely lacks the necessary industrial infrastructure not only poses an environmental risk it sets a dangerous precedent for the industrial development of other forest properties in Simcoe County;
5. There are already industrially zoned areas within the County that have the necessary infrastructure near Hwy 93 and Hwy 11 which would be better suited for this type of facility. Situating a processing plant in a spot capable of handling the constant truck traffic that comes with this type of facility makes much more sense. The additional truck traffic to and from this site along the already busy Hwy 22 will be disturbing from both a noise perspective and presents a safety issue for local residents.

We urge you to locate industrial sites like these in areas that already have the necessary infrastructure and are zoned accordingly for either industrial or commercial purposes. Our forests should not be considered as sites for industrial activities.

Forests are valuable environmental assets sustaining life and contributing to the well-being of all of us. They should be protected not developed. We would therefore ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: **F. Tim & Judy Knight**
Address: 52 Lawrence Ave.
Anten Mills, ON L9X 0C6

Date: May 3/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Louise Thorn
Address: 18 Wolfe St
Penetanguishene ON
L9M 1B9

Date: 3 May, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Réjean Guérin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Réjean Guérin
1205 Baseline Rd.
Phelpston ON L0L 2K0

Date: May 3/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Wendy Dunlop
Address: 1027 Peter St. W.
RP#1 Midland On L4R4K3

Date: May 4/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Yours truly,

Name: Y. Walton
Address: 14 Deborah Rd
Elmville ON

Date: May 4/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

Pauline St-Onge

Address:

3523 McNutt Rd



Date:

MAY 4/07

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: ERNEST STEFANIUKAddress: 1996 N ORR LAKE RD
ELMVALE ON L0L1P0

Date: May 4, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Name: Vicky Ewald
Address: 47 Stunden Lane
Barrie, ON

Date: May 4/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

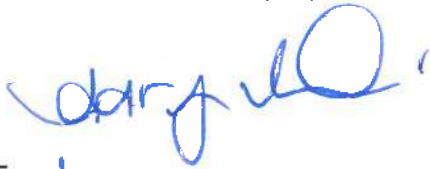
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: GARY WEIR 
Address: 539 Baseline rd
TINNY, ON L9M 1B9

Date: 5/4/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: B. Loughdon
Address: 5807 Vasey Rd.
Wyebridges, ON L0L 2E0

Date: May 4/17.

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: C. Coucett
Address: 11 Pine St
Waukenaishene, ON

Date: May 4th 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Lee Patton
Address: 174 Mony Street
Midland on

Date: 9-05-2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Kola Phillips
Address: 3 pine Dr, Phelpsston, Springwater, L0I 2k0

Date: May 5, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: KYLE WOODS
Address: 25 MARQUEE CDS.
BARRETT AVE, L4M 6Y2

Date: 05/05/2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: GABRIEL CHATRAND
Address: 101 Kozlov St Barrie
Ontario 705 309 2323



Date: 5/5/2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602


I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,


Name: Holly Bailey

Address: 31 Boyd Cres. Oro Medonte

Date: 5 May 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Robyn Nash
Address: 21-28 Donald St.
Barrie, On L4N4S6

Date: May 5, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Maryse Dunlop
Address: 9 Duncan Drive
Midhurst, ON L0K 1N0

May 5, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

Dear Mr. Daly,

We are in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

We would like to make a verbal presentation at the May 9th, 2017 Council meeting. If this is not acceptable, then we wish that this letter to be considered as an official protest to the proposed amendment to the County Official Plan Amendment and any amendment to the Springwater Zoning Bylaw regarding Site C136.

We are opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. An industrial property requires proper infrastructure including emergency response, environmental design to encourage fire suppression, and water supply and discharge that is linked to appropriate sewage treatment. Industrial parks are designed years in advance to locate such facilities as proposed for waste management in Simcoe County. The city of Barrie has ample industrial parks and as such, the facility location under current contract to Simcoe County is located in an industrial park with major highways leading to it so as not to congest or impede traffic.
2. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
3. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
4. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of Ontario would consider to be protected from development as outlined in the forestry policies on Simcoe County public website;
5. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
6. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

7. The statement Simcoe County uses "For the Greater Good" has become one with an excuse to marginalize the small group of residents and farmers where this site is proposed.
8. The inconsistent statements of Simcoe County to not use Rainbow Valley Road East as access or egress from the forest during development of this site, yet all winter and fall 2016/2017 the county has used the Rainbow Valley Road East road to access the site. Parking vehicles on the driven portion of the roadway in an unsafe manner and putting extra stress on the road surface which is gravel and now full of pot holes despite efforts of the Township of Springwater to keep it in good driving condition, the back roads simply cannot support extra traffic – especially Rainbow Valley Road East which is a dead end.
9. The fact that the existing plan was in effect when we searched to build our home and farm business – it was suitable and in fact more desirable believing that Simcoe County Forests were under a solid agricultural plan and waste management or building on agricultural land was not a possibility for the future.
10. That any light at night time from the facility which is in very close proximity to our farm will interfere with the natural breeding cycles of mares – our agricultural income. Also the noise of dump trucks, construction equipment and constant deafening noise from ventilation systems and crushers will be heard constantly in an area that is now silent except for nature sounds. This constant noise will disrupt again the development of livestock, specifically horses who are naturally highly susceptible to startle and do not let their guard down until they feel safe. This constant state of heightened stimulus and hyper vigilance will impede the development of foals and the conception rates and growth rates of mares. The mares in question are very expensive since many are imported from Europe. Their offspring contribute to the Canadian presence at the Olympic in Equestrian sport categories.
11. The fact that the plan suggests only a small portion of the forest will be used, but the entire forest atmosphere and usage for anything else is completely disabled.
12. Aware Simcoe published a letter supporting a site that was not forest property, was set in an already industrialized area near Napoleon production plant, near major arteries of highway, to be showcased by Simcoe County and developed community partnerships with nearby Georgian College was stellar. It is alarming that the County wants to hide an industrial facility in a forest so they are less under the watchful eyes of the public is alarming. Even the engineers agreed the weighting of a buffer could go either way either positive or negative. Place a properly designed, magnificent piece of engineering in a well-designed already existing industrial zone people avoid residing as they expect such an edifice to be erected. Do not place a hastily pushed project in a forest, just because it is already owned by the project supporters, in the middle of a forest where no one can hear the nearby residents scream in protest. Industrial parks are designed years in advance with proper infrastructure and notice for people to avoid settlement because industrial parks and proper urban and rural design is FOR THE GREATER GOOD.

Based on the above, we would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. we would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Edward Krajcir *SKrajcir*

Name: Mr. & Mrs. Edward Krajcir

Address: 1286 Rainbow Valley Road East

Phelpston, ON L0L 2K0

Date: May 5/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Yours truly,

Name: Anke Heaton
Address: 91 Willow Drive
Barrie, ON L4N 8T7



Date: May 5 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Elizabeth Jackson
Address: 58 Commonwealth Rd
Barnes ON L4M0E1

Date: 05/05/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Margaret Jackson

Address: 92 Monarchy St

Barrie, ON L4M 0E3

M. Jackson

Date:

May 5/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Yours truly,

Name:

Address:

Barrie
46 Kenton Dr
Barrie, ONT

Date: May 5/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

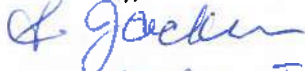
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Name: Sandra Jackson

Address: 92 Monarchy St
Barrie, ON L4M0E3

Date: 05/09/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: MARCEL MERTON
Address: 21 Willow Dr
BARBIC, ON L9N 8T1

Date: 5 May 17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Peter Stibbard
Address: 19 Compton Health Rd -
Barrie ON

Date: May 5 / 17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: MARK SCHELLING
Address: 118 SUNDEN DR



Date: 5/ May 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Ahala
Address: 8 Fredrick St
Barrie ON

Date: May 5/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Yours truly,



Name:

A DUNLOP

Address:

31 BOYD CRES
ORO MIDHURST

Date: May 5th / 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly, Megan Dunlop

Name: Megan Dunlop
Address: 40 Louder Rd. Oro Medonte, L0L 2L0.

Date: May 5/18

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Yours truly,

Name: [Signature] (H. DENNEY)
Address: 245 Wellington St
Barrie

Date: May 6, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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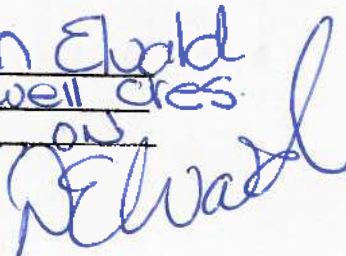
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Yours truly,

Name:

Address:

Deborah Elward
6 Kenwell Cres
Barrie ON


Date: May 6, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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Yours truly,

Name: MARION COLLINS
Address: 144 SIMCOE RD.
BRADFORD, ON
Simcoe County

May 6, 2017

**Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6**

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Yours truly,

Neil & Barbara Bower

5 Pine Hill Drive

Phelpston, ON L0L 2K0

Date: May 6/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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Yours truly,

Name: LARRY MURRAY
Address: 144 SIMCOE RD.
BRADFORD ONT
L3Z 1Y2

Date: May 6/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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Yours truly,

Name: Marlene Gallaway

Address: 65 Jaggas Drive
Barrie, Ont L4N 0W8

M. Gallaway

Date: May 6/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,


Name: ALFRED DUNLOP
Address: 1217 GOLF COURSE RD
MINESING L9X 0Y6

Date: May 6/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
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Yours truly,



Name: BRENDA DUNLOP
Address: 1217 GOLF COURSE RD
MIWESING, L9X 0Y6

Date: May 7, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the reasons set out below and I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment..

Attached to this letter is a copy of submissions made to County staff following an information meeting in Hillsdale which I incorporate by reference in to this letter. I also append a copy of the responses from the County staff to the points raised. I request that these submissions and the responses from County staff be made part of the public record for this meeting.

I should state at the outset that I participate in and support endeavours to handle waste responsibly by reducing, reusing and recycling, but do not believe this should be accomplished at the expense of equally valuable parts of the environment, particularly where viable alternatives exist.

In my previous submission, I raised two fundamental issues, namely the use of County Forest for an industrial operation and the lack of a sound business case for the proposal. Those concerns still exist.

1. Business case

With respect to the business case, I would like to draw Council's attention to a recent posting in the Globe and Mail, Friday May 5th. page B6, in which BDO requests offers for an organic waste processing facility in Belleville that is now in Receivership. This is the Astoria facility in Belleville which was built in 2015 for \$19, 000,000. It now appears not to be financially viable.

2. Use of Forest tracts for industrial activity.

I, like most people I believe, consider the County Forest to be exactly that, a forest owned by the County on behalf of the residents of Simcoe County, that is available to residents for recreation and to improve the environment in which we live. The County's own web site reinforces this perception by stating:-

“these forests provide a multitude of environmental, social, and economic benefits to the County including protection of wildlife habitat and water resources, public education, recreation, scientific research and the production of wood products.”

The County lauds its activity in this regard, emphasizing its long term planning, careful management and its membership of the Forestry Stewardship Council. At no point does it promote the holding of these lands for eventual industrial sites or for whatever use the County deems appropriate.

I moved to Springwater relatively recently and one of the factors influencing the decision was the existence of a large tract of forest at the end of the street on which we intended to live. The signage on the forest trails promoted recreational use, maps showed an extensive trail network, and there was a reasonable certainty that these lands would remain as forest for well beyond the foreseeable future. Anyone conducting due diligence would find nothing to suggest otherwise.

It now appears that this confidence is misplaced. Recent activity at Orr Lake, the inclusion of 5 County Forest sites in a short list of 6 sites, and the continuing attempts to convert this site from agricultural to industrial zoning suggests that the County Forest is simply considered a land holding.

My concerns in this regard are based on the record of the Council to date and past experience in Oakville, where I lived for 32 years before moving to Springwater. In preparing to move, I found a map of Oakville dated 1980. It showed a broad swath of land designated green belt and occupied by farms, and similar rural activity. The first incursion in to that green belt was a new office building for the Regional government, followed by a vehicle maintenance facility and further office buildings. This of course opened the floodgates for further development, including ironically a waste transfer station and organic materials facility for the entire region. The Region led the destruction of the green belt rather than protect it in a manner consistent with good planning practices.

It appears, at face value, the same is happening in Simcoe. In order for Council to enjoy the confidence and support of the people it represents, it must act in a predictable and consistent manner. The County's own website in outlining the history of the Simcoe County Forest rather dramatically berates previous generations in their treatment of the forest.

“For a hundred years the forests of Simcoe County fell to the lumberjack's axe with no thought of conservation for tomorrow.”

Will this Council be described in similar terms by future generations?

I would ask that Council should reflect on whether the proposal to utilize County Forest for industrial purposes is

- i) consistent with its public statements and policies,
- ii) will undermine the confidence of the residents of Simcoe in its Council;
- iii) is fair and reasonable to those residents who have relied on the status of the County Forest promoted by the County in the past; and
- iv) is the only viable option that exists to accommodate such a facility.

3. A missed opportunity

The desire of the County to establish an Environmental Resource Recovery Centre presents an opportunity for a Council with vision and leadership to address major concerns of its residents, without the adverse impact of the County Forest.

I recently attended a visioning exercise held by Springwater Township as part of its strategic planning process. In "my" group two issues emerged as paramount, namely the preservation of the agricultural nature of the Township and the creation of job and career opportunities to maintain the viability of the communities in the Township.

The present proposal for the ERRC does neither of these. In fact it destroys agricultural land and will at best divert jobs from existing facilities. The controversial nature of its location has emphasized minimizing its footprint, thereby rendering it self-limiting in expanding its scope and range of activities.

By selecting an appropriately serviced industrial site, Council could use the ERRC as an anchor tenant for an Environmental Technology Industrial Park that would utilise existing resources in the County, provide an incubator to support new technologies and attract established business in the environmental field. Such an initiative would preserve the existing agricultural land and provide job and career opportunities in the local economy.

The basic building blocks already exist within Simcoe.

I act as a mentor at the Henry Bernick Entrepreneurial Centre at Georgian College and in that role have seen a number of emerging technologies that would directly benefit from an incubator of this type. Some of these require feedstock of the nature that would be provided by the ERRC, others would benefit from the byproduct of the organic waste processing, notably heat, and others need real world conditions to validate their concepts.

Georgian College, which is presently building an incubator for Advanced Technology, has a Centre for Sustainable Technology, which would be a natural partner of an incubator in an Environmental Park.

Barrie has recently established a Department of Creative Economy to nurture new technologies, which of course include developments in the environmental technologies.

A significant number of established firms exist in Simcoe who would benefit from a state of the art facility to expand their businesses.

The benefit to the County is of course employment, increased industrial base, increased tax base and a leadership position in emerging technology.

As part of the consideration of the present proposal I would therefore ask Council to direct staff to report on the viability of an Industrial Park of this nature as an alternative to the dedicated ERRC facility under consideration.

4. Summary

I would ask Council to reject the proposed amendment on the basis that it is an inappropriate use of County Forest, is inconsistent with public positions taken by Council, establishes a precedent for the further industrialization of the County Forest, and to direct staff to consider other viable options that do not utilize the County Forest.

Yours truly,

Name: John Orange

Address: _9 Pinehurst Lane, Minesing, Ont. L9X 0C7.

Submission following public information meeting.

1. Site evaluation.

It surprised me that all of the short listed sites lie in a relatively small area centred in Springwater Township. I understand from the consultant's representative that this is a result of computing the centroid of population to minimize the distance travelled from collection to the MMF site. However, the computation only appears to take in to account "inputs" to the MMF. It is my understanding from comments at the meeting that all of the non-organic materials are subsequently transferred from the MMF to processing facilities generally in the GTA. A round trip of 165 km was quoted. Computing the centroid with both input and output journeys included would shift it significantly south, even if the number of journeys made for the output is less because of the size of vehicle used.

I also understand that the centroid was determined using the population of Barrie and Orillia. However, according to FAQ's provided at the meeting, these are "separated cities" and have their own facilities. As such, the population of those cities should have been excluded from the computation of the centroid.

The site selection criteria excluded traffic impact as a factor in screen 1 or 2. However, if the representations regarding odour and noise are taken at face value, the major impact on neighbours to potential sites is likely to be traffic. Even the busiest road will see a 5% increase in traffic, less busy roads will see a correspondingly larger increase. This is a major issue and should be one of the fundamental factors in selecting potential sites.

The corollary of course is that if the siting criteria for this facility are appropriate, it follows that ALL other County projects, such as health care facilities, arts centres, libraries an the like should also be located in Springwater as they will then also be equally available to all residents!

2. The business case

Whilst I understand the concerns about availability of third party sites in the future, the need to build a self contained Simcoe facility reeks of Empire building. Other opportunities exist, such as partnering with other regions or the "separated cities" or as a PPP with long term, contractually guaranteed access. These do not seem to have been explored.

The savings are projected at \$13million over 20 years, or \$650,000/year. The construction cost of the OPF alone is between \$10 and \$35 million. No cost is provided for the MMF, nor any estimate of the infrastructure costs such as road upgrades that may have a significant impact on the overall cost.

According to FAQ's secured funding of \$1.15million is in place, but this is only 3% of the projected cost for the OPF. It is also contingent on the facility being able to process the materials received. It is unclear whether this contemplates expansion of the MMF to include recycling processes or whether it refers to the organics only.

Whilst a business case is to be presented, by excluding other options, the justification is inevitable.

3. Use of Simcoe Forest lands

Many of the sites propose to use existing tracts of Simcoe County forest. It appears the Council view these lands as a "land bank" to be developed at whim for projects totally unrelated to forest preservation. Most residents, I believe, view these lands as an asset that contributes to lifestyle available in Simcoe. To hear that it is simply held until some other use can be found for it is disturbing. It is only necessary to

consider the zoning for the MMF, namely industrial, to see how inappropriate it is to consider the use of forest tracts for this purpose.

Response received from County Staff, 7 Dec 2015.

Mr. Orange,

Thank you for your feedback in regard to the two infrastructure projects. I believe we had the opportunity to speak at the Hillsdale consultation session and we appreciate this follow-up correspondence. Please see below our response to your comments (in blue) on the site evaluation criteria, the business case, and the use of County forest sites. Note that all reports referenced in our response can be found at www.simcoe.ca/opf and www.simcoe.ca/mmf.

1. Site evaluation.

It surprised me that all of the short listed sites lie in a relatively small area centred in Springwater Township. I understand from the consultant's representative that this is a result of computing the centroid of population to minimize the distance travelled from collection to the MMF site. However, the computation only appears to take in to account "inputs" to the MMF. It is my understanding from comments at the meeting that all of the non-organic materials are subsequently transferred from the MMF to processing facilities generally in the GTA. A round trip of 165 km was quoted. Computing the centroid with both input and output journeys included would shift it significantly south, even if the number of journeys made for the output is less because of the size of vehicle used.

The center of waste generation was calculated by the County's Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Department using the specific location of households where we currently collect waste. This was a weighted centroid in that it took into account multi-residential units such as condominiums and apartments. For your information, this is further outlined in the consultant's first siting report for the Materials Management Facility (*County of Simcoe Materials Management Facility – Part 1 – Planning – Siting Methodology and Evaluation Criteria*, Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (CRA)) in Section 4.2.1 on page 22.

As you noted, consideration of curbside collection – inbound collection vehicles – was used to determine this point. It did not consider output or, in addition, input from County drop-off facilities. This was in consideration of the following:

- at the 30-year design capacity, ~60% of the vehicles coming to the MMF will be from curbside collection;
- the efficient operation of the MMF will largely be dependent on managing the inbound curbside collection vehicles which must collect waste throughout the County but be able to return to the centralized transfer point and discharge in a timely manner;
- only 20% of the vehicles will be larger, outbound transfer trailers destined for final markets. There is no certainty as to the location of final disposal/processing locations. These trailers may, with new contracts, travel northbound or use routes north of the County to access markets to the east; and
- 10% of the vehicles will be inbound from eight County drop-off facilities. These facilities are located in Collingwood, Clearview, Midland, Oro-Medonte, Severn, Ramara – more northern locations – and Adjala-Tosorontio and Bradford in the south. The busiest site is the North Simcoe Transfer Station in Midland.

I also understand that the centroid was determined using the population of Barrie and Orillia. However, according to FAQ's provided at the meeting, these are "separated cities" and have their own facilities. As such, the population of those cities should have been excluded from the computation of the centroid.

From staff report Item CCW 15-078 – Materials Management Facility – Siting Methodology and Evaluation Criteria (February 26, 2015):

It should be noted that the "waste centroid" calculations include data from the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia in consideration of the CIF funding previously discussed. Again, this funding is contingent on the County's transfer facility considering the potential for other neighbouring municipalities to utilize this facility on a cost recovery basis.

Barrie and Orillia have both committed to considering the MMF in their next procurement opportunities for blue box recycling as they currently utilize contracted services for transfer and processing of this material.

The site selection criteria excluded traffic impact as a factor in screen 1 or 2. However, if the representations regarding odour and noise are taken at face value, the major impact on neighbours to potential sites is likely to be traffic. Even the busiest road will see a 5% increase in traffic, less busy roads will see a correspondingly larger increase. This is a major issue and should be one of the fundamental factors in selecting potential sites.

The corollary of course is that if the siting criteria for this facility are appropriate, it follows that ALL other County projects, such as health care facilities, arts centres, libraries and the like should also be located in Springwater as they will then also be equally available to all residents!

Your comments will be forwarded to our consultant as part of their final evaluation of the sites.

2. The business case

Whilst I understand the concerns about availability of third party sites in the future, the need to build a self contained Simcoe facility reeks of Empire building. Other opportunities exist, such as partnering with other regions or the "separated cities" or as a PPP with long term, contractually guaranteed access. These do not seem to have been explored.

The savings are projected at \$13million over 20 years, or \$650,000/year. The construction cost of the OPF alone is between \$10 and \$35 million. No cost is provided for the MMF, nor any estimate of the infrastructure costs such as road upgrades that may have a significant impact on the overall cost.

Note that the cost of the Organics Processing Facility (OPF) will be dependent on the technology selected. The above-referenced savings would be for the Materials Management Facility (MMF). For reference, information on costs of the facilities has been provided to County Council in the following staff reports:

Item CCW 14-025 – Central Composting Update (January 28, 2014) – page 4

Item CCW 14-253 – Transfer Facility Assessment (August 12, 2014)

According to FAQ's secured funding of \$1.15million is in place, but this is only 3% of the projected cost for the OPF. It is also contingent on the facility being able to process the materials received. It is unclear whether this contemplates expansion of the MMF to include recycling processes or whether it refers to the organics only.

Whilst a business case is to be presented, by excluding other options, the justification is inevitable.

Secured funding has been established for the MMF as use for transfer. It is contingent, however, that expansion to process blue box recycling be a potential option in the future. Siting of the facility will therefore consider this. For reference, this was outlined for County Council in the following staff report:

Item CCW 14-344 – Transfer Facility Funding Update (August 26, 2014)

3. Use of Simcoe Forest lands

Many of the sites propose to use existing tracts of Simcoe County forest. It appears the Council view these lands as a "land bank" to be developed at whim for projects totally unrelated to forest preservation. Most residents, I believe, view these lands as an asset that contributes to lifestyle available in Simcoe. To hear that it is simply held until some other use can be found for it is disturbing. It is only necessary to consider the zoning for the MMF, namely industrial, to see how inappropriate it is to consider the use of forest tracts for this purpose.

Again, we appreciate your comments on the projects and the short-list of sites. Public and stakeholder feedback on the potential sites will be an important component of the decision-making process. Your response will form part of the project record and will be forwarded to our consultant for consideration as the sites are further evaluated. Comments received by the County during the consultation process, the results of the evaluation, and details on the preferred site will form the third siting reports, anticipated to be presented to County Council in early 2016 for their direction.

My contact information is below should you have further questions or wish to discuss the above further. Alternatively, we can make arrangements to meet and discuss the projects in person at your convenience.

Regards,

Stephanie Mack, P.Eng.

Special Projects Supervisor

County of Simcoe, Solid Waste Management

1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L0L 1X0

Phone: (705) 726-9300 ext. 1924, Cell: (705) 794-0605

E-mail: stephanie.mack@simcoe.ca

simcoe.ca

Date: May 7

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Rocco & Teresa A CORRIEPO
Address: 2007 Hwy 26
Minesing

Thompson, Tiffany

From: Daly, John
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2017 10:50 AM
To: Notices, Planning; Thompson, Tiffany
Subject: FW: Statutory Public Meeting for County File: SC-OPA-1602

John Daly
Director of Legislative Services and County Clerk
Ext 1623

From: Margaret Prophet [mailto:m_prophet@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2017 10:11 AM
To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>
Subject: RE: Statutory Public Meeting for County File: SC-OPA-1602

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk

County of Simcoe Administration Centre

1110 Highway 26

Midhurst, ON

L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Margaret Prophet

36 Hillview Crescent

Midhurst, ON

L9X 1N4

Thompson, Tiffany

From: Daly, John
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2017 10:56 AM
To: Notices, Planning; Thompson, Tiffany
Subject: FW: Letter COS_NS.docx
Attachments: Letter COS_NS.docx; ATT00001.txt

For the record.

John Daly
Director of Legislative Services and County Clerk Ext 1623

-----Original Message-----

From: Peggy Oschefski [mailto:peggy.oschefski@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2017 9:32 AM
To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Letter COS_NS.docx

Good morning.

Please find attached a letter in regards to the opposed site on Horseshoe Valley Rd Springwater. I am opposed as I live on Gill Rd. There are two farms affected . There is much wildlife and forestry that will be destroyed. The effects on the environment will be totally devastating. I have lived here over 10 yrs. I don't see how a facility that like will not affect our water. The water out here is precious. It is clear. We don't need another Walkerton episode.
Why would we build by farmland that is actually being farmed. As well close to communities.

I am concerned regarding the traffic as well as noise. Many people ride their bicycles on the Hwy, the snowmobiles and dirt bikes, and people walking will be affected as well. The location is on a hill so I can see many accidents entering in and out of the facility. It will affect our resources of fire and police and other emergency facilities. In the winter, the roads tend to get icy, and dangerous as well.

Margaret and Dan Oschefski
1402 Gill Rd
Midhurst

Date:

MAY 08/2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name:

THOMAS OLIVER

Address:

8410 HINE RD ESSA TWPBARRIE, ONT.L4M4S4

Date: 8th May, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Name: PAMELA ORANGE
Address: 9 PINEHURST LANE
MINESING, ON, L9X 0C7



May 8, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk By email john.daly@simcoe.ca
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly;

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1, 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Township of Springwater, Environmental Resource Recovery Centre, County File: SC-OPA-1602

AWARE Simcoe strongly supports the intent of the County to build an Environmental Resource Recovery Centre to process our organic and recycling materials. We feel this demonstrates Simcoe County's commitment to providing leadership in waste reduction.

AWARE Simcoe made a submission (attached below) to the site selection process recommending that the site at 540/528 Penetanguishene Road, Springwater be selected.

However, we feel that this new environmental facility should be showcased to the world in a visible and central location and not hidden back in the bush on lands which should remain protected greenlands. We do not believe that using County forest for such an industrial use is appropriate and therefore we urge County Council to reconsider the choice of 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road as the chosen site.

Please notify us of the decision.

Sincerely,

Don Morgan, Chair
AWARE Simcoe,
aware.simcoe@gmail.com



Draft Comments on Simcoe County OPF/MMF Site Selection, November 1, 2015

AWARE Simcoe is pleased to submit comments on the Site selection process for the Organics Processing Facility and Materials Management Facility. We see these new facilities as a necessary step in the progression toward a zero waste economy in Simcoe County. This is a great opportunity for the County to be at the forefront of waste reduction activities provincially, nationally and even internationally and to be a showcase for Zero Waste Management Techniques.

AWARE Simcoe recommends the site located at 540/528 Penetanguishene Road, Springwater for the following reasons:

Proximity to Major Roads

The location is virtually adjacent to Highways 11, 400 and 93. Trucks can travel on provincial highways via 400 and 11 from both ends of the County and on County roads from other areas. Other than the required improvements to the entrance to the property there are few road improvements necessary.

No doubt these facilities will be of great interest to other municipalities, the waste reduction industry, schools and the general public. Tours will be in high demand. This location is conveniently accessible to the public.

Proximity to Barrie

Eventual inclusion of the City of Barrie organics and recycling materials into the Simcoe County program seems obvious and inevitable. Locating these facilities in close proximity to the largest urban area in the County makes long term sense.

Buffered on 3 sides

This site has very few residences nearby and is buffered on three sides by Hwy 11, Hwy 93 and the open area to the south (which we believe is zoned EP). The north side is bordered by the church which is an institutional use, not residential. The Napoleon manufacturing plant and warehouse nearby are already similar industrial uses.

Opportunity to partner with Georgian College and other Groups in Research Activities

The main campus of Georgian College is only a few kilometers away in Barrie. This offers a great opportunity to partner with GC to do research into alternative materials for making products and packaging which can be easily and completely recycled.

Likewise, this location can be used to do research into uses for the finished compost materials such as urban gardens and soil amendments, in partnership with agricultural groups such as Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture, Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario, Food Partners Alliance and urban garden groups.

How to turn the Negative Factors for the Site into Positive Attributes

More than half the property is Canada Land Inventory Soil Class 1-3. Farmland is a valuable resource. This land appears not to be farmed currently.

Topsoil will have to be stripped from the footprint area for the OPF and MMF. This topsoil can be used to create urban gardens in cooperation with the urban garden groups in the County and Barrie. The rest of the Class 1-3 land area could be utilized to demonstrate various crop production techniques in partnership with SCFA, CFFO, local urban garden groups and Food Partners Alliance.

A small band on the south end of the property is designated as Medium Vulnerability Groundwater Recharge. The southern end of the property can be used to demonstrate Low Impact Development (LID) groundwater recharge techniques in partnership with NVCA and Georgian College.

Other portions of the buffer zone areas could be used by the Simcoe County Forestry Department to demonstrate various forestry management and planting techniques, especially the north and south ends of the property.

Solar Energy Demonstration

Of course the rooves of the OPF and MMF buildings are the perfect location for solar arrays. Perhaps they can produce enough power to run the facilities.

Recommendation

This location offers the opportunity for Simcoe County to provide a showcase for multiple facets of sustainable living and land management going into the twenty first century.

For all the above reasons AWARE Simcoe supports the location of the OPF and MMF at the 540/528 Penetanguishene Road candidate site.

May 8, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1; Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre; County File: SC-OPA-1602

Please note: the form letter below clearly articulates my concerns. I would like to add another: I was told early in the process that the consultants - early in the project - had recommended an industrial site. That recommendation should have been followed. Most taxpayers would prefer to pay for such a site than transgress the County Official Plan and the Forests themselves; certainly preferable to paying taxes for consultants who are hired and whose advice is then turned away.

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the Planning Act.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Suzanne Carlaw, 2 Trillium Trail, RR#4, Coldwater, ON L0K 1E0

Date: May 8, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Helen Carswell
Address: 2008 Hwy 26
Midhurst, Ont

Date: May 08 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Todd Oliver
Address: 9194 10th Lessa
Barrie Ont L4M 4S4

Date: May 8/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Maissa MarcotteAddress: 42 Davies Cres
Barrie, ON L4M 2 M3

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Concerning: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater, Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

May 8th, 2017

Dear Mr. Daly,

We are in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment. We oppose to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. We are very concerned about the use of our County owned forests for non-forest uses. The siting process started with approximately 500 sites and almost half of these sites were County owned forests. Why is our County including our forests as usable land for industrial/waste purposes? There were industrial sites considered that would be much more appropriate. What is in store for the future of our forests if this project is successfully placed in the Freele forest without the support of the citizens across this County?
2. We use this forest land for recreational purposes almost daily. The county forests are why we moved into the area. which is a critical draw for living in this area. We have to be very concerned about the loss of greenspace, traffic increase and the air pollution impact of this decision. Industrial sites are zoned as industrial for this purpose. Why bother with zoning if you do not taking the zoning seriously? We are outraged that this plan is set to take waste products from other communities than what is directly our own. Politicians need to be in touch with the citizen's preferences.
3. The decision-making process that was used during the Part 1 – 3 was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement.
4. The Environmental Impact Study has not proven that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above concerns we are asking the County not to approve the Official Plan Amendment. We would like to be notified of the outcome of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Ruth McKay & Jim Purnell
34 Trillium Trail
Coldwater, Ontario
L0K 1E0

May 8, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk

County of Simcoe Administration Centre

1110 Highway 26

Midhurst, Ontario

L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment. I intend to make a verbal representation at the May 9th, 2017 Council meeting.

I am opposed the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development.
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact

Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the Planning Act.

Based on the above information, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Charlotte Fuller

14 Pine Hill Drive

Phelpston, Ontario

L0L 2K0

Date: May 8, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Paul Mills

Address: #11545 Simcoe County Rd 27
Midhurst L9X 0M2

Date : May 8, 2017

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

Simcoe County Forests which were set apart as protected land should not be a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should be excluded from the options.

Although I can respect that the needs of our community are changing and the council needs to be resourceful in meeting these needs. I believe there are better ways to accomplish this than to destroy our wildlife and forests.

There doesn't seem to be great consideration towards the many residents who also provide the buffer of protection for these lands. By turning this forest land into a commercial space it would surely have a negative impact on the lives of countless human families.

I am disappointed in the lack of adherence and consistency to the decision making process required by the Provincial Policy Statement during the process of Part 1-3.

The Environmental Studies that have been done have not, in my estimation, demonstrated accurately the negative impact on the forest land, the animals and the people who would be directly affected. This due to the desire to push through the county's plan.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Your Truly,

Lori Sheffer
1223 Crossland Rd RR#1
Minesing, On.
L9X 1B3

Date: May 8, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,

5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the Planning Act.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Anne Learn Sharpe

58 Michael Street

Angus ON

L0M 1B5

705-424-7589

May 8, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk

County of Simcoe Administration Centre

1110 Highway 26

Midhurst, Ontario

L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment. I am a commuting resident of Springwater and due to the County's decision to hold the only public consultation at 11:00 am on May 9, 2017, I am unable to attend and voice my opposition verbal. Please accept this letter as my written objection.

I am opposed the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development.
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,

5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the Planning Act.

Based on the above information, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Sean Fuller

14 Pine Hill Drive

Phelpston, Ontario

L0L 2K0

Date: May 8/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Terry Moscor
Address: 42 Cowles Cres
Bossie, ON L4M 2M3

Date: May 8/2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 - 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: SUE WILLIAMS *SWilliams*
Address: 1329 St. Vincent Street
Midhurst, ON L9X0P7

Date: MAY 8, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

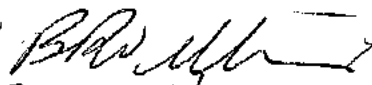
I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,


Name: BARRY WILLIAMS
Address: 1329 ST. VINCENT ST
MIDHURST ON
L9X 0P7

Date: May 8 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Name: NURAN WICK

Address: 36 GRAHAM ST
ELMIRA ON

Date: May 8 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Y. PARK / York Region DC
Address: 12 CHAPLIN COURT
RICHMOND HILL, ON
L4B 2Y1
TEL. 905-883-3494

Date: May 8, 2017

Schedule 7

Committee of the Whole Item CCW 2018-320

Comment 177 of 245

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Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

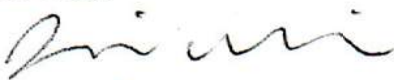
I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Name: Jasmine Wilander

Address: 36 Graham St.

Elmvale ON

Date: 2017/5/8

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment, and I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Xiaoyan Sun
Address: 18 Gallagher Cre.
Midhurst ON L0L 1X0

Jeff Tomlinson May 8

Past government fought and acquired these properties for use by the people. As a long standing member of the ofah. And a tax payer I'm am insulted that this project would even be considered. Has no one looked at the records to see what poor management decisions made in the past. Poor land use practices can be devastating. Please consider land that has already been properly designated. Not in my forest.

Date: May 8/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Sherrilann Weld
Address: 12 Pine Hill Drive,
Phelpsston, ON, L0L 2K0

Date: May 8th 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,



Name: Aidan Weld Jr.
Address: 12 Pine Hill Drive
Phelpston, ON L0L 2K0

Date: MAY 08/2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly, Aidan Weld

Name: AIDAN WELD
Address: A.WELD@TORONTO.OMT.COM
12 PINE HILL DR
PHILPSTON, ONT
L0L 2K0

Date: MAY 8/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
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5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 - 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: John God
Address: 4410 LINE 10 BSSA
BARRIE ONT.
L4M 4S4

Date: May 8, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk

County of Simcoe Administration Centre

1110 Highway 26

Midhurst, ON

L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1

2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West

Township of Springwater

Environmental Resource Recovery Centre

County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;

4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Bryn Epp

Address: 14 Oren Blvd, Barrie Ontario

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West Township of Springwater Environmental Resource Recovery Centre County File: SC-OPA-1602

This letter is regarding the Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the Planning Act.

Most importantly, I believe that the County forest should remain as forest land, and not be re-assigned to other purposes.

Based on the above, I ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. Would you please notify me of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Bernadette Wells
11 Maltman Court
Phelpston ON L0L 2K0
705-792-2863

From: Mairde Malone [<mailto:wisdom.fay@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 11:06 AM

To: Daly, John; Clerks

Subject: Opposition to the proposed Official Plan Amendments to build the ERRC in the Freele Forest

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment because when a large number of trees are removed the water and the soil they hold in place must go somewhere: Downhill into the already saturated Minesing Wetlands, which in turn will flood areas in Angus, close to where I live. Also, the Mad River, Pine River and Nottawasaga Rivers overflowed their banks this year too.

While I think of it, who thought it was a good idea to change the flow of the Pine River, remove trees from the banks of the Pine and the Nottawasaga Rivers and construct an overflow pond far too close to the bank of the river? Here are some pictures of that disaster too.

There is also the Mad River to consider and the building of the new bridge too. The planners and aborists should come and take a look for themselves.

Sincerely,

Maggie Curran





From: Linda Chernecki [<mailto:lindachernecki@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 2:50 PM

To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>; Clerks <Clerks@simcoe.ca>

Subject: Opposition to the proposed Official Plan Amendments to build the ERRC in the Freele Forest

Mr. John Daly
County Clerk
County of Simcoe
Administration Centre 1110 Highway 26 Midhurst,
ON L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly, Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1 Part Lot 2, Concession 1 Part Lot 2, Concession 1 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West Township of Springwater Township of Springwater Township of Springwater Environmental Resource Environmental Resource Environmental Resource Recovery Centre Recovery Centre Recovery Centre County File: SC County File: SC County File: SC-OPA-1602 I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment. I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons: 1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites; 2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands; 3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development; 4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and, 5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the Planning Act. Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment. Yours truly,
Name: ___Linda Chernecki_____ Address: _1360 River Road E. Wasaga Beach, on L9Z2R8

From: bbm@amtelecom.net <bbm@amtelecom.net>

Sent: Tuesday, May 9, 2017 5:46 PM

Subject: County Forest use

I am writing to you to express my beliefs about the County Forests and their use.

I do not believe County forests should be used for garbage transfer sites.

I do not believe County forests should be used as the site for new road dept garages.

I believe County forests should be used for forestry operations and preserving the natural areas.

Industrial uses DO NOT PRESERVE NATURAL AREAS OR PROMOTE FORESTRY!

Bruce Missen

Coldwater, Ontario

Date: May 9,2017

**Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6**

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

- **The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;**
- **Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;**
- **If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;**
- **County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,**

- **The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.**

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Annette Bays and Robert Eaton

Address: 2950 Concession Rd 5

Loretto, L0G 1L0

May 9, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Rd W
Township of Springwater
Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1-3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Thank you,

K Clune
Oro Medonte
705-327-3527

Date: July 9/2019

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Debra D'Saune
Address: 17 Stokes Dr
Midhurst

Date: MAY 9 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Ray Greenleaf
Address: SIYANTY RAY
26 RAKIES R.D.

Date: May 9

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Chris White JTR
Address: 2976 Hwy 24
Centennial Ave

Date: May 9/17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Chris White
Address: 1336 RAINBOW
VALLEY RD EAST.

Date: May 9, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602**

I am writing in response to notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

All initiatives to recycle domestic solid waste are to be commended. However I am opposed to the proposed County Official Plan Amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
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5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment for this inappropriate site.

Yours truly,

Name: David Strachan
Address: 47 Finlay Mill Road
Midhurst, ON
L9X 0N 9

Date: May 9th 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: Bryson Lehman
Address: 4 Stokes Dr
Minesing

Date: May 9, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: **Part Lot 2, Concession 1**
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment. I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: David Anderson
Address: 1336 Rainford
Valley Rd. E. Shelpton.

DIANE COLE

1097 FLOS RD 3 WEST
PHELPSTON, ONT L0L2K0

Schedule Z Committee of the Whole Item CCW 2018-320

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705-322-0212

County Clerk

May 10, 2017

County of Simcoe

Solid Waste Management

1110 Hwy 26

Midhurst, Ont L9X1N6

Re: ERRC Meeting May 9, 2017 File # OPA-SC-OP,
1602

These are some of my comments I have already given to GHD, Springwater Twp over the years. I have attended a lot of meetings.

I am against the proposed site on Horseshoe Valley Road for the following reasons.

- ① FIRE - My biggest concern. The pine forest in spring + summer is a tinder box with dry needles + spreads quickly.
- ② Loss of Wildlife + Habitat (deer, turkey, rabbit, fox, wolves, birds of prey + song birds, woodpeck)
- ③ Loss of our natural forest. Water that flows through this property. Hiking, trails as it will be private property.
- ④ Noise level will increase
- ⑤ Traffic in the area is already heavy + with trucks + employees will only add to this.
~~Here~~ Horseshoe Valley Rd is a white out in winter at times.

DIANE COLE
1097 FLOS RD 3 WEST
PHELPSTON, ONT L0L2K0
705-322-0212

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2

6) GHD while doing presentations were only after MM MF + OPF facilities for the most part of their selections. Now they want more space for other facilities when Barrie, Orillia + Camp Borden run out of their land fill it will come to this site.

Once you allow projects like this to happen it is setting a precedent for our other forest sites.

Simcoe County has always been proud of their forests. It has provided income, tourism + greenspace for all to benefit from. Little up keep.

I have compassion for the existing land owners + farmers in the near area. They have put so much equity + labour into their property + pride.

This area is a quiet serene COUNTRY setting + is not the spot for a large commercial/industrial site.

Please take these comments into consideration when Council makes their decision on the ammendment.

Think of the future.

Yours truly
Diane Cole (DIANE COLE)
1097 FLOS RD 3 WEST
PHELPSTON, ONT. L0L2K0

Date: May 10, 2017



Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly, Bruce Beard

Name: Bruce Beard
Address: 12036 Hwy 27
Midhurst

Date: May 21 / 17

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.


I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

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Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

Name: 
Address: 7189 Hwy 99
WYEBRIDGE, ON
LOK 2EO

May 12, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

RE: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I attended the Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment before County Council on May 9th, 2017. At that time we were encouraged to provide written comments on the proposed project and wish to make it public record of concerns that myself and others in our community have.

To start, these facilities are infamous for fires. During the near neighbours tour which was facilitated by the Council, questions were asked at all of the stops about fire and it was confirmed that fires are a regular occurrence in these facilities. All these visited facilities are located on Industrial Land, not in a forest.

This should not be a surprise to anyone familiar with Springwater Township and Material Handling Facilities. On May 13, 2014 a smaller facility than proposed for Freele Forest, in the Bertram Industrial Park burnt to the ground and took 16 hours to extinguish it. It required more than 150,000 gallons of water, 19 apparatuses and 75 fire fighters from neighbouring communities to extinguish. The damage for property and contents exceeded 1.5 million dollars. This was in an Industrial site, where precautions are made to ensure separations from buildings, hard topped with easy access onto the site.

My past experience with building and development for the type of facility that you are proposing and the life safety measures that would be required, make me seriously question your logic. When asked at an open house about the risk of placing it in a forest, your consultant indicated that it was not problem, that the buildings would be sprinklered. May I note that the building fire in Bertram Industrial Park mentioned above was also sprinklered. The difference was that there was not fire load on site that could have spread the fire to neighbouring properties and households in the form of trees, forest floors, shrubs, etc. Fires in Canada last year seriously showed the ability of a spark in a forest to spread destruction and financial loss to all surrounding it.

Taking the worse case scenario, if a fire were to occur, please note that this facility location is surrounded by "dead end" roads. To the north is Rainbow Valley Road, Base Line Road and Flos Road 3 East. These roads are all under 1 mile of the Freele Tract and most certainly make evacuation of the roads north and east of the property almost impossible if a fire were to occur placing homeowners and

livestock at risk. There does not appear to be any evacuation routes discussed in your plans, nor are there any upgrades to roads for access to the neighbouring properties who would be at risk. Since the entire properties to the north and easterly direction are heavily wooded, it would be suggested that upgrading the roads to provide an evacuation route be implemented.

It is with disbelief that the County is considering placing a potentially dangerous facility in an area that is not suited to this type of industrial use. Please consider the appropriate location, one of an industrial zoning, not a forest with the potential to destroying not only the forest, but the safety of the homeowners of Simcoe County.

The County is placing its taxpayers at risk by proposing this use in a forested area. I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I request that I be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly

Heather J. Rutherford, C.B.C.O., C.E.T.
1484 Flos Road 3 East
Phelpston, ON
L0L 2K0

May 16, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

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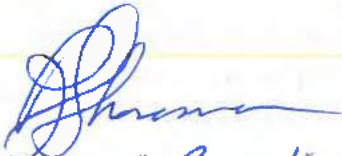
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Should a worst-case scenario occur with no proper emergency evacuation routes in place, the fate of our families and homes will be needlessly placed at *great* risk.

We implore County Council to reconsider this project for a site that is properly suited and set up for industrial use. We ask that Council **NOT** approve this Official Plan Amendment.

Should you have any questions for our families concerning the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



1385 Baseline Rd, Phelpsston, ON

Copies also to: MPP Patrick Brown, Ontario North, Room 381, Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A8
cc: council@springwater.ca
bill.fenche@springwater.ca

don.allen@springwater.ca
Mr. Ross Nichols, Fire Marshal of Ontario & Chief of Emergency Management, 25 Morton Shulman Ave, Toronto, ON M3M 0B1

May 16, 2017

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1385 BASELINE ROAD, PHELPSTON, ON

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cc: council@springwater.ca
bill.french@springwater.ca

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Sincerely,



Beverley King

Cc: council@springwater.ca
bill.french@springwater.ca
don.allen@springwater.ca

1275 Baseline Rd
Phelpston
ON
L0L 2K0

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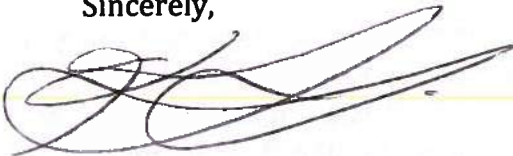
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Sincerely,



Kevin Graham

Cc: council@springwater.ca
bill.french@springwater.ca
don.allen@springwater.ca

1275 Baseline Rd
Phelpston, ON -
LoL 2kb

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L9N 1X6

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Celine Jami
1205 Baseline Rd

Cc: council@springwater.ca
bill.french@springwater.ca
don.allen@springwater.ca

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Email

Regene Mueni
1205 Baseline Rd

Springwater forestry
@ Gmail.com

705 790-6506

Cc: council@springwater.ca
bill.french@springwater.ca
don.allen@springwater.ca

May 16, 2017

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County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

RECEIVED

MAY 23 2017

COUNTY OF SIMCOE
CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION

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bill.french@springwater.ca
don.allen@springwater.ca



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Sincerely,

Randy Mercey
Cindy Mercey
Brayden Mercey
Jordan Mercey

Cc: council@springwater.ca
bill.french@springwater.ca
don.allen@springwater.ca

1601 Rainbow Valley Rd E
Phelpston, ON L0L 2K0

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L9N 1X6

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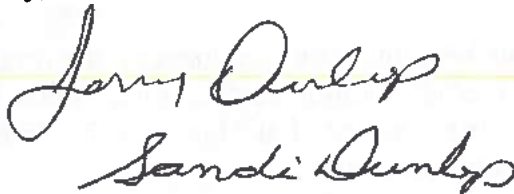
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Cc: council@springwater.ca
bill.french@springwater.ca
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1601 Rainbow Valley Rd E
Pheloston on Lot 210

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Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

This letter is in reference to the ERRC project that the County of Simcoe is planning for the Freele Tract at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road in Springwater Township.

We are a group of citizens whose homes are located past the proposed site on Rainbow Valley Road East and the adjoining Baseline Road, located at the north side of Site C-136, otherwise known as the Freele Tract.

As the County continues with its plans – something many of us never truly imagined would actually come to be, since none of us could fathom locating such a volatile facility within a forest – we must prepare for the safety of our families should this *high risk* facility become a reality in this vulnerable forest.

During a tour of the Guelph facility for near neighbours arranged through County staff, it was confirmed that fires are a common occurrence. In 2014, a facility smaller than the ERRC proposed for the Freele forest, located in Springwater Township, burned to the ground after a 16-hour battle that required the assistance of 75 fire fighters from neighbouring communities. This facility had safety precautions in place, including anti-fire devices, and as we understand, so will the ERRC. You should also note that not only was this facility located on an industrial site which was better suited to contain and control emergency situations such as this fire, but so too did it offer easier access to the facility when emergencies arose.

The proposed ERRC is slated for a natural corridor, fully surrounded by dense woodlands and nearby homes. An emergency access road from the facility is intended to enter from one of Springwater's many dead-end roads, Rainbow Valley Road East. Rainbow Valley Road and Baseline Road are narrow dirt and gravel roads that lead to a dead end, and that are in poor condition most of the year. In case of emergency, this is the only way for our families to reach our homes and it's the only way for our families to leave the area from our homes. In addition, our families *must* travel past the proposed ERRC site and its entrance onto Rainbow Valley Road if ever it became necessary to evacuate the area. The facility footprint is slated to be in closer proximity to Rainbow Valley Road than to Horseshoe Valley Road. A fire would only have to travel a very short distance north or northeast to reach Rainbow Valley Road. Should this road become unpassable due to fire, emergency vehicles, poor road conditions, or other related impediments, our families will become trapped in this dense forested area.

To date, we have been unable to locate any type of **Emergency Response Plan** that addresses evacuation routes for residents on neighbouring dead-end roads. Nor have we been able to locate anywhere in the County's plans any intentions to upgrade roads for better access to the neighbouring properties at risk.

Should a worst-case scenario occur with no proper emergency evacuation routes in place, the fate of our families and homes will be needlessly placed at *great* risk.

We implore County Council to reconsider this project for a site that is properly suited and set up for industrial use. We ask that Council NOT approve this Official Plan Amendment.

Should you have any questions for our families concerning the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Cc: council@springwater.ca
bill.french@springwater.ca
don.allen@springwater.ca



From: Mary Wagner [<mailto:yramrengaw@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 7:24 AM
To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>
Cc: ross.nichols@ontario.ca; French, Bill <Bill.French@simcoe.ca>; Allen, Don <Don.Allen@simcoe.ca>;
minister.mma@ontario.ca; council@springwater.ca
Subject: ERRC potential fire threat to neighbours

Please find attached my letter to ask Simcoe County Council to oppose the OP amendment.
Regards
Mary Wagner

May 18, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Dear Mr. Daly,

This letter is in reference to the ERRC project that the County of Simcoe is planning for the Freele Tract at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road in Springwater Township.

We are a homeowner whose home is located adjacent and east of Site C-136, otherwise known as the Freele Tract.

As the County continues with its plans we must prepare for the safety of our home which is not just a physical house. It was built by ourselves in 2001 on family land we purchased. I used due diligence and spoke with the township and county staff to determine what plans were in consideration for this area. Looking at the County of Simcoe Forest Management Plan and track record for acquiring forest for what I believed was going to be recreation and conservation, my husband and I paid significant cost to build our home deep in the interior of the 50 acres of forest on our property. Our property lines and home are contiguous with the Friele Forest. The Dunlop 100 acre forest forms our northern property line. We have one road into our house approximately 500 m long through forest.

In case of emergency, this is the only way for our families to reach our homes and it's the only way for our family to leave the area from our home. Should this road become impassable due to fire our family, horses, dogs and cats will become trapped in this dense forested area.

During a tour of the Guelph facility for near neighbours arranged through County staff, it was confirmed that fires are a common occurrence. In 2014, a facility smaller than the ERRC proposed for the Freele forest, located in Springwater Township, burned to the ground after a 16-hour battle that required the assistance of 75 fire fighters from neighbouring communities. This facility had safety precautions in place, including anti-fire devices, and as we understand, so will the ERRC. You should also note that not only was this facility located on an industrial site which was better suited to contain and control emergency situations such as this fire, but so too did it offer easier access to the facility when emergencies arose.

To date, we have been unable to locate any type of **Emergency Response Plan** that addresses evacuation routes for residents. Nor have we been able to locate anywhere in the County's plans any intentions to upgrade roads for better access to the neighbouring properties at risk.

Should a worst-case scenario occur with no proper emergency evacuation routes in place, the fate of our family, livestock and home will be needlessly placed at *great* risk.

We implore County Council to reconsider this project for a site that is properly suited and set up for industrial use. We ask that Council NOT approve this Official Plan Amendment.

Should you have any questions for our families concerning the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Mary and Robert Wagner

Cc: council@springwater.ca
bill.french@springwater.ca
don.allen@springwater.ca

From: Mary Wagner [<mailto:yramrengaw@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 7:48 AM
To: Benner, Kim (MNRF) <kim.benner@ontario.ca>; Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>
Cc: Allan, Brad (MNRF) <brad.allan@ontario.ca>
Subject: Re: Simcoe County Freele Tract Garbage transfer project

Hello Kim,

We have engaged a professional to review the EIS prepared by the county hired consulting firm for the proposed ERRC. I have very real concerns after walking the site with Jim Dougan and his associates as well as Bob Bowles. We have been observing salamander egg masses in several different locations within the Friele Forest and the "amphibian pools" in our finds are not considered in the maps provided by the county consultant. Significant pool with at least 8 egg masses were found in south east portion of tract which is to carry the access road. The required setbacks for these ponds will alter roads and footprints in our estimation. The north east wetlands also show significant numbers of egg masses and again are not shown on county consultant maps.

This is just one of many concerns being raised within the peer review.

The county council is now in review of materials to decide accepting the amendment of the OP. Our hope is that they will wait to review independent reports and that your ministry will also consider the peer review to ensure that due diligence is applied.

I am copying the county clerk, Mr. John Daly, on this email so that county can be more aware of our preliminary findings. We have shared a scoped peer review letter with county. The entire and complete report from Dougan and Associates and Mr. Robert Bowles are nearing completion. We intend to share these documents with the MNRF, MMAH, Simcoe County and Springwater Township when they are completed.

Regards
Mary Wagner

> On Feb 13, 2017, at 11:24 AM, Benner, Kim (MNRF) <kim.benner@ontario.ca> wrote:

>

> Dear Ms. Wagner,

>

> Thank you for your February 5th e-mail advising us of your forest habitat and ecosystem concerns related to the proposed Organics Processing Facility and Materials Management Facility called the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC), proposed by the County of Simcoe and located at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road in the Township of Springwater.

>

> The Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MMA) is the approval authority for amendments to Simcoe County's Official Plan. MMAH has asked various partner ministries to conduct a review of the proposed County Official Plan Amendment and supporting documentation for the ERRC. This documentation includes the Scoped Environmental Impact Study (EIS) that you refer to in your e-mail. We have been asked by MMA for our comments on the EIS. Our review will focus on the documentation of what natural heritage features (e.g. species at risk, significant wetlands, significant wildlife habitat) have been identified on and adjacent to the site and the demonstration of how these features and their ecological function will be protected from negative impacts. When our review is complete, we will respond to MMA who will then provide coordinated provincial comments to the County.

>

> Thank you for bringing your concerns regarding the proposed ERRC and associated EIS to our attention. We encourage you to bring your concerns to the County's attention through the public consultation opportunities provided. If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me.

>

> Regards,

>

> Kim Benner

> District Planner
> Midhurst District
> Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
> (705) 725-7534
> kim.benner@ontario.ca

>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Mary Wagner [<mailto:yramrengaw@hotmail.com>]
> Sent: February-05-17 9:55 PM
> To: Robinson, Suzanne (MNRF); Allan, Brad (MNRF)
> Cc: Carey, Shawn (MNRF); Cindy & Randy Mercer
> Subject: Simcoe County Freele Tract Garbage transfer project

>

> Hello Suzanne and Brad,

>

> I contacted and spoke with you in late summer regarding my concerns to the forest habitat and ecosystem of 2976 Horseshoe Valley Rd as it was selected as the site for the Simcoe County OPF and MMF.

>

> The County has placed the studies and more detailed plans on their website. They are underway with the application to rezone this agricultural land to industrial.

>

> I originally contacted you as I was very impressed with the report of Ian Thornton from the MNR and his evaluation of the EA process taken by developers in Niagara Region and he put forward your contact as his counterpart in our district.

>

> The county is the property owner, proponent, reviewer and rule maker (through zoning and Official Plan) for this project. It doesn't appear the project has had much scrutiny or undergone the proper review process i.e.. no EA process.

>

> I do not feel that the reports provide the level of analysis that should be required for a proposal of this size and nature.

>

> The EIS does not really address potential Species at Risk and Significant Wildlife Habitat finding and does not offer robust mitigation measures. I believe this would fall under the jurisdiction of the MNRF.

>

> I have lived beside the Freele Tract for 16 years. My 50 acres of managed forest and home are a mere 350 meters from this proposed site. I have deer, turtles and occasional bear on my property. Cottontails and bats have recently made a reappearance as they dwindled away to nothing 5-6 years after we first moved to our home. Partridge are another rarely sited delight on my walks through the woods. I have a personal stake, I gladly disclose this fact, but I believe preserving habitat for biodiversity and climate change strategy are every citizens concern and obligation.

>

> Cindy Mercer, my neighbour, also has forest continuum to the Freele Tract.

>

> Please feel free to contact me at any point and I would appreciate and information you could share on this subject going forward.

>

> Regards

> Mary Wagner

Thompson, Tiffany

From: Daly, John
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 9:03 AM
To: Mack, Stephanie; Thompson, Tiffany
Subject: FW: Archeology in proposed ERRC site

Questions regarding the ERRC site; for your action deemed appropriate.

John Daly
Director of Legislative Services and County Clerk Statutory and Cultural Services Ext 1623

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Wagner [mailto:yramrengaw@icloud.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 7:58 AM
To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Archeology in proposed ERRC site

Hi Mr. Daly

In reference to public meeting for the amendment to the OP submissions, I wish to ask questions regarding the archeology study. County staff stated that rather than go to a Stage 4, the significant archeological find was to remain insitu and a possible fencing of site would take place.

The find resulted in moving the footprint of the site a significant number of meters east and staff elected to move the footprint south in order to placate a near neighbour's "view of the stack".

Please advise if the archeological study has been updated to account for the movement of the footprint?

I would also ask if the roadways, access and egress plus the emergency roads have been submitted to archeological study. The presence of this significant find and the presence of a church and graveyard at the south portion of the forest would indicate to me that this forest site could have been at one time a community.

Regards

Mary Wagner

Thompson, Tiffany

From: Daly, John
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 9:08 AM
To: Mack, Stephanie; Planning; Thompson, Tiffany
Subject: FW: setbacks from near neighbours from proposed ERRC site

For the record.

John Daly
Director of Legislative Services and County Clerk Statutory and Cultural Services Ext 1623

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Wagner [mailto:yramrengaw@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 8:16 AM
To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>
Subject: setbacks from near neighbours from proposed ERRC site

Hello Mr. Daly

In reference to the public meeting for the amendment to OP I want to provide clarification. I delivered my presentation regarding the setbacks to "sensitive receptors" and believe my statements was discounted by county staff. I have viewed and received email and map from county staff advising me of the change in footprint location east resulting from the archeological find and the decision to move the footprint south due to a comment from another sensitive receptor. This movement placed the facility closer to my home, reducing my setback to less than 300 m. The west neighbour to the Friele forest has a 10 acre building lot that is intended, and has always been intended for their retirement home. The change in the footprint puts the property line of her residential lot with 100 m of the footprint. This residential lot should have been considered in the original site planning yet it seemed to be a shock to planning staff when it was discovered in a "Near Neighbour" meeting held with staff.

I ask council to question the information prepared by staff, The significant environmental findings may change the footprint again.

This is a significant a project that will impact residents and tourists for years to come. Don't make this decision uninformed. There is no need for haste. Get the facts straight by asking the right questions and listening.

Regards

Mary Wagner

From: spek.family@gmail.com

Sent: 2017/06/07 1:01:12 PM

To: info@simcoe.ca

Subject: Update? Alternate sites

Despite where the County is in the process I think its not to late to rethink the crazy idea of putting the facility on County Forest lands, beside a key agri-tourism market place, on an important tourism destination route and for fire fighting a poorly accessible site re a major fire like the one at the City of Toronto portlands. We don't have full time fire fighters or the use of harbour fire boat pumps.

Please look at sites located on the 400 corridor where road access for materials from Barrie and Orillia can be delivered.

A bad location is a bad location. Do not justify a mistake rather be progressive and open the process to a relocation even at this late date.

Sincerely,

Mrs. C. Spek
705-721-8190

June 14, 2017

**County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6**

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602

I am in receipt of the notice of a Statutory Public Meeting for the above noted County Official Plan Amendment.

I am opposed to the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

1. The County's expressed desire to locate the facility, if possible, on lands already owned by the County resulted in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the candidate waste disposal facility sites;
2. Given that the vast majority of County landholdings are County Forests, this resulted in 50% of the candidate sites for a waste disposal facility being within woodlands;
3. If you consider just the County-owned sites that were under consideration, 82% of the sites were woodland areas. This is an overwhelming proportion of candidate sites within areas that most residents of the County would consider to be protected from development;
4. County Forests should not be considered as a viable option for the construction of infrastructure and should have been excluded from the site selection process based on both natural heritage as well as social and cultural impacts to the broader community; and,
5. The decision-making matrix that was used during the Part 1 – 3 process was not consistent with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement. In addition, the Environmental Impact Study has not demonstrated that there will be no negative impact to areas of provincial interest, such as woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, as required by the *Planning Act*.

Based on the above, I would ask that the County not approve the Official Plan Amendment.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

Yours truly,

**(Mrs.) Marion Davies
64 Paddy Dunn's Circle
Springwater, ON L9X 0T2**

Michael & Rosemary Shoreman
1385 Baseline Road, R.R.#1
Phelpston, ON
L0L 2K0

June 14, 2017

Planning Department, Township of Springwater
Administration Centre
2231 Nursery Road
Minesing, ON
L7X 1A8

E-mail planning@springwater.ca

Dear Sirs,

Re: Official Plan Amendment re-designating a portion of the subject land 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Township of Springwater

This letter is in reference to the re-designation of a portion of 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road, Township of Springwater from Rural and Agricultural to Waste Disposal to facilitate the proposed ERRC project that the County of Simcoe is planning for the Freele Tract at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road in Springwater Township.

We are concerned about the notice we have received about this proposed amendment to Springwater Official Plan and an amendment to Comprehensive Zoning By-law 5000. This application does not stipulate the exact measurement of the "portion of 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road" that is being proposed for re-designation. The notice does have an erroneous Location Plan on the back of the notice showing outlined in red the "site" being 976 Horseshoe Valley Road with a filled in red area being the "facility". We have no way of knowing if the "site" or the "facility" is the land being re-designated as it is not stipulated in the application. We have been led to believe by the County of Simcoe that the area being re-designated is just over 4 acres. The "site" is a good deal more land than just over 4 acres.

The Location Plan is erroneous as it shows the road along the north side of the property turning to another road which then meets up with Flos Road 4 East. This road is Baseline Road and it dead ends well before Flos Road 3 East, where there is a swamp. The erroneous Location Plan also shows a road going from Baseline Road through to Old Second North where it meets up with Matheson Road. This is an unopened road allowance is not an existing road. If the Location Plan was truthfully presented, it would have been evident to anyone who is looking at the access in and

out of Rainbow Valley Road East and Baseline Road past the proposed ERRC site that these lands are land locked when there is an emergency as Rainbow Valley Road East to the north of the site has been indicated as the emergency access into the ERRC.

As the County continues with its plans – something many of us never truly imagined would actually come to be, since none of us could fathom locating such a volatile facility within a forest – we must prepare for the safety of our families should this *high risk* facility become a reality in this vulnerable forest.

During a tour of the Guelph facility for near neighbours arranged through County staff, it was confirmed that fires are a common occurrence. In 2014, a facility smaller than the ERRC proposed for the Freele forest, located in Springwater Township, burned to the ground after a 16-hour battle that required the assistance of 75 fire fighters from neighbouring communities. This facility had safety precautions in place, including anti-fire devices, and as we understand, so will the ERRC. You should also note that not only was this facility located on an industrial site which was better suited to contain and control emergency situations such as this fire, but so too did it offer easier access to the facility when emergencies arose.

The proposed ERRC is slated for a natural corridor, fully surrounded by dense woodlands and nearby homes. An emergency access road from the facility is intended to enter from one of Springwater's many dead-end roads, Rainbow Valley Road East. Rainbow Valley Road and Baseline Road are narrow dirt and gravel roads that lead to a dead end, and that are in poor condition most of the year. In case of emergency, this is the only way for our families to reach our homes and it's the only way for our families to leave the area from our homes. In addition, our families *must* travel past the proposed ERRC site and its entrance onto Rainbow Valley Road if ever it became necessary to evacuate the area. The facility footprint is slated to be in closer proximity to Rainbow Valley Road than to Horseshoe Valley Road. A fire would only have to travel a very short distance north or northeast to reach Rainbow Valley Road. Should this road become impassable due to fire, emergency vehicles, poor road conditions, or other related impediments, our families will become trapped in this dense forested area.

To date, we have been unable to locate any type of **Emergency Response Plan** that addresses evacuation routes for residents on neighbouring dead-end roads. Nor have we been able to locate anywhere in the County's plans any intentions to upgrade roads for better access to the neighbouring properties at risk.

We have been increasingly concerned about the lack of an emergency plan and/or escape route as we are located at 1385 Baseline Road, one of the land locked properties past the ERRC. The fire at the recycling plant in Toronto two weeks ago just heightened our concern even more.

Should a worst-case scenario occur with no proper emergency evacuation routes in place, the fate of our families and homes will be needlessly placed at *great risk*.

We are informing the Township of Springwater and by copy of this letter to the County of Simcoe that they are on notice if they proceed with this "Fort McMurray Disaster" waiting to happen, they are fully responsible. This will be a clear case of negligence for which no insurance policy will protect the legislators. We implore the Township of Springwater and the Simcoe County Council to reconsider this project for a site that is properly suited and set up for industrial use. We ask that Council NOT approve this Official Plan Amendment.

Should you have any questions for our families concerning the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Michael Shoreman
Rosemary Shoreman

Cc: Councillors for the Township of Springwater,
John Daly, County Clerk, County of Simcoe Administration Centre
The Fire Marshall of Ontario, Ross Nichols, Fire Marshal of Ontario & Chief of
Emergency Management, 25 Morton Shulman Ave, Toronto, ON M3M 0B1,
ross.nichols@ontario.ca

From: jhermann jhermann [<mailto:jhermann@sympatico.ca>]
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 1:11 PM
To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>
Subject: ERRC - On-Site Fire Protection Water Supply

Some food for thought on the matter of fire protection and your Tuesday meeting.

I live at 10 Pine Hill Drive across HVR from the site. My back ground is in civil engineering as an AutoCAD designer for more than 30 years.

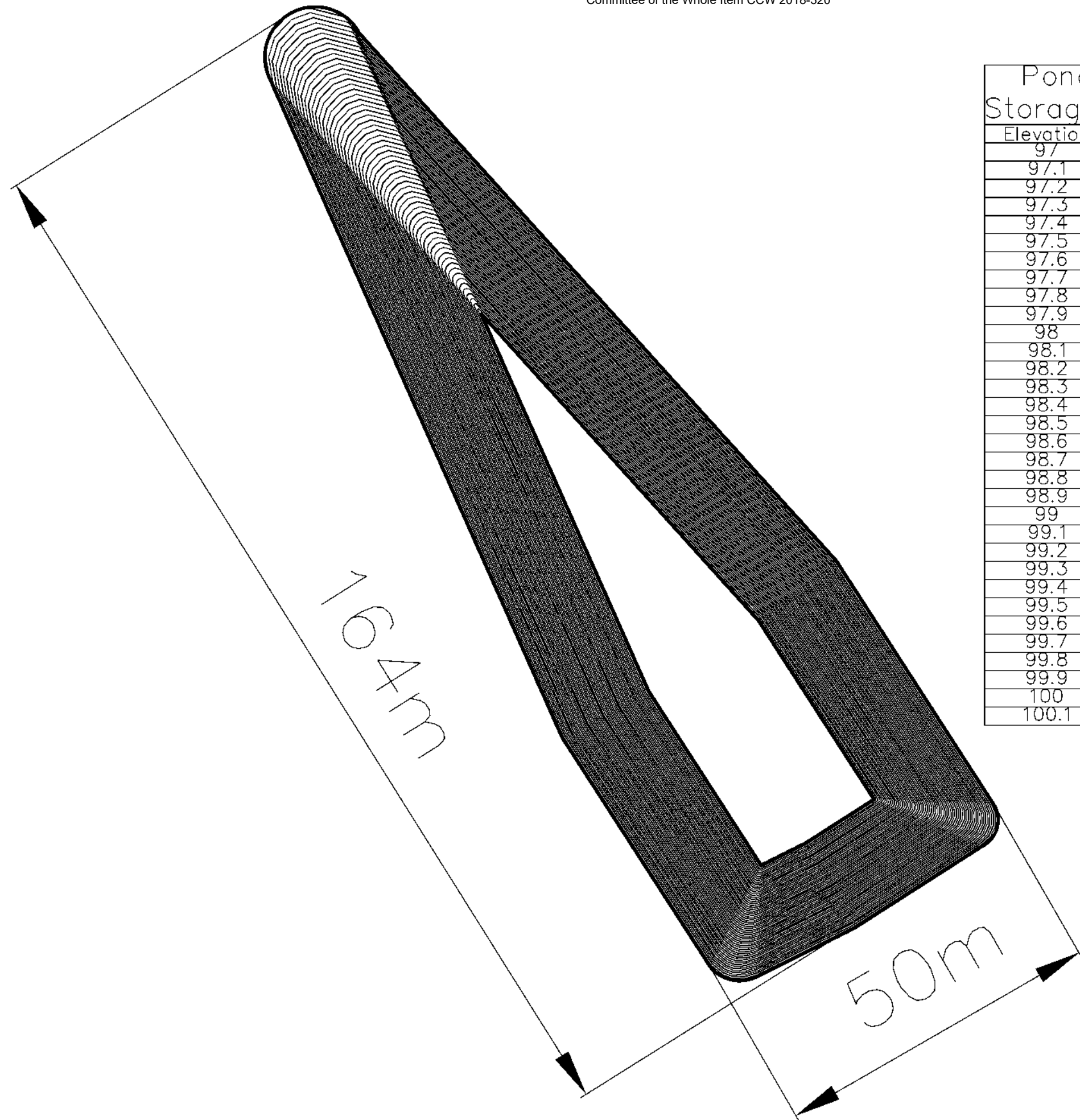
I have taken the site plan that GHD has provided and calculated some storm water management pond volumes. Some assumptions had to be made. The NVCA normally requires pond to have a combination of 5:1 and 7:1 slopes but I have calculated the volume at 5:1 throughout (maximizing the volume) as the water in the pond would be used for fire suppression. I have assumed the pond depth to be 1.5m deep at the permanent pool and have not accounted for the forebay berm in the pond with my calculations. The permanent pool elevation of the water would provide 3292 cubic metres of water stored in the pond in my model. (See attached pdf) However, in winter conditions where there is 3' of ice or in drought conditions, the pond may only be able to provide 775 cubic meters of water. This could have serious affects for fire suppression. The use of huge underground storage tanks could be used at a large increase in cost.

I have also attached the Office of the Fire Marshall Fire protection water supply guideline. In that is give the formulas to calculate the On-Site Fire Protection Water Supply. (Section 6.3) Again I had to make a few assumptions. The formulas involve building volumes, and only having the footprint of the proposed buildings and do not have any elevations of the buildings, I have assumed the building height to be 6 metres to allow front end loaders to load materials into a transport. The building volume should also include volume below ground and I am unsure if part of the operating areas will be below grade. (I recall some information that suggested there was).

Given that the guideline formula is $Q=K \times V \times S$, the volume of water required to protect the site would be 2690 cubic metres. There is an obvious shortfall of water for fire protection available.

In my calculations above, the water requirements are for building protection and are not for forest protection in the event of a fire. Putting a facility in this forest only increases the likelihood of a major forest fire. Furthermore, in the event of neighboring residents needing to evacuate due to a forest fire, many of us only have one way out. My subdivision (Pine Hill Estates) can only exit from Fox Farm Road and given the proximity to the site could only exit while fire conditions were good. If conditions were bad, then what?? What about the existing residents on Rainbow Valley road!!

Joseph Hermann
10 Pine Hill Drive
705-721-5840



Pond Stage Storage Analysis	
Elevation	Volume
97	0
97.1	132.52
97.2	275.95
97.3	430.62
97.4	596.89
97.5	775.12
97.6	965.65
97.7	1168.85
97.8	1385.06
97.9	1614.64
98	1857.94
98.1	2115.32
98.2	2387.12
98.3	2673.7
98.4	2975.42
98.5	3292.62
98.6	3625.66
98.7	3974.89
98.8	4340.67
98.9	4723.34
99	5123.27
99.1	5540.8
99.2	5976.29
99.3	6430.09
99.4	6902.55
99.5	7394.03
99.6	7904.88
99.7	8435.45
99.8	8986.09
99.9	9557.17
100	10149.03
100.1	10149.03



From: Thompson, Tiffany
Sent: Friday, July 07, 2017 4:30 PM
To: 'jhermann@sympatico.ca' <jhermann@sympatico.ca>
Cc: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>; Westendorp, Nathan <Nathan.Westendorp@simcoe.ca>
Subject: RE: ERRC - On-Site Fire Protection Water Supply

Good Afternoon Mr. Hermann,

Thank you for your comments provided to the County Clerk on June 26, 2017 regarding the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC) on-site fire protection water supply. We will review your detailed comments along with the County's project consultants on this file.

If you require anything further at this time, do not hesitate to contact me directly or via the ERRC general email (errc@simcoe.ca).

Regards, Tiffany

Tiffany Thompson BES MCIP RPP
Planner II
County of Simcoe, Planning, Development and Tourism Department
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
Phone: 705-726-9300 Ext. 1185 Fax: 705-727-4276
Email: tiffany.thompson@simcoe.ca
www.simcoe.ca

2928 Horseshoe Valley Road West
 Phelpsston, Ontario
 L0L 2K0
 June 26, 2017



G. Marshall
 Warden
 County of Simcoe
 1110 Highway 26
 Midhurst, Ontario
 L0L 1X0


Sir:

Re: Proposed Garbage Depot
 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West

I understand that your Mr. McCullough intends to hold discussions (or has already held them) with the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC), regarding the relocation of their trail through the Freele Forest. This is as a result of the proposed construction of a 60-ft wide, 1.7 km long road through the heart of that forest, which is presently a seasonal trail used in the winter by the OFSC.

The following questions arise:

- 1) Given that any relocation of the existing trail would push it closer to surrounding homes, were the 26 "near neighbours" informed of this?
- 2) Is it true that McCullough declined a request from C. Mercer (a neighbouring homeowner) to participate in those discussions? The following is an excerpt from McCullough's letter to C. Mercer dated January 20: "With respect to the relocation of the existing OFSC snowmobile trail on the property, there are no plans to relocate the trail this winter. Consideration regarding the details of the trail relocation will be considered in the future as the Sitr Plan for the ERRC is refined with the Township of Springwater, in consultation with the OFSC and the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority". What is the basis for McCullough's refusal to have "meaningful" consultation with the near neighbours in this matter?
- 3) I know from personal experience that it takes approximately 5 minutes to traverse that trail by snowmobile, meaning that any snowmobiler would be on that trail for 10 minutes during any given outing (i.e. 5 minutes outward bound, and 5 minutes return). Yet, the surrounding homeowners are resident 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Do you not see a negative impact on their quality of life, with snowmobiles (and a steady stream of off-season dirt bikes and ATV's which use that trail illegally on a daily basis) roaring past their homes? Why the apparent regard for the OFSC and illegal users, and lack of regard for the local homeowners?
- 4) Why would the OFSC trail need to be relocated, rather than simply running it alongside the proposed new road? The existing OFSC trail network runs alongside of existing roads in numerous areas. Assuming that the relocated trail is 20 feet wide (sufficient to accommodate the trail groomer), that equates to approximately 2.0 additional acres of woodland that will need to be clearcut. Has this fact been included in your representations to the Rainforest Alliance?
- 5) Why has the County avoided disclosure of this at any time during its so-called "meaningful consultations" with the public?
- 6) What is the proposed location of the relocated trail, and its distance from nearby residences?


 R.W. Wagner (Mr)

c.c. All County Councilors
 c.c. All Township Councilors

26 June 2017

Planning & Development Department
Township of Springwater
2231 Nursery Road
Minesing, ON L9X 1A8

and

County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6

Re: Part Lot 2, Concession 1
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater
Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County File: SC-OPA-1602
Township Files: OP-2016-005 and ZB-2016-021

Good evening:

My family and I attended the June 19th meeting at the Township of Springwater offices, and we were heartened by the support received from residents concerning the proposed amendment to the Township Official Plan and amendment to the Zoning By-Law with respect to the above-mentioned property. We were also alarmed by the number of concerns raised by many Springwater citizens regarding such serious issues as odour, potential fire hazard, and uncertainty of the size, technology, and future expansion of the facilities being proposed. These are only scratching the surface, but are the main focus of this letter. I will raise some of my own concerns, and follow up with questions that would require some form of response from anyone able to provide it.

Odour:

To begin, I cite an article (please visit this link: [here](#)) from the CBC titled "Hamilton wants out of environmental regulations around smelly compost facility" and dated May 23rd 2017. This article describes the serious odour problems that have been plaguing the Hamilton Central Composting Facility since the provincial government introduced a new rule in 2016 that "compost must be 40 per cent moisture or greater when cured." This has caused odours to not only become completely unmanageable, but so too has it prompted the city of Hamilton to seek various options to alleviate the problem.

One such solution that Sam Merulla, a Hamilton city councillor, has proffered, is to encourage the city to "stop following" the rule "until it figures out a way to handle the stench." To refuse to comply with the province standard, Gary Wheeler (MOE spokesperson) explains, would require Hamilton to "treat the materials as waste" rather than organics. This facility "handles compost

generated by Hamilton, Halton and Simcoe County” and, since the new rule, has received 21 formal complaints, up from three in the previous year.

According to the article, this facility is located 780 metres from the nearest residential area, which is farther from homes than the proposed ERRC location here in Springwater. I therefore have a few questions relating to odours:

- How would the County of Simcoe deal with such odour issues with its own OMF?
- Would the County opt out of provincial regulations in order to alleviate odour problems, or would it allow the odour to persist because of the relatively small number of residents who live within the area?

Fire Hazard:

Along with organics and waste management comes the risk of fire, as brought up by a few residents at the meeting. I cite another article by the CBC (please visit this link: [here](#)) titled “Massive fire at Toronto recycling plant finally under control” and dated May 25th, 2017. This article describes the devastating aftermath of a six-alarm fire at a solid waste transfer plant run by the ironically named Green For Life Environmental Inc. Luckily, no one was injured; however, the fire took about ten hours to get under control, and caused the roof of the facility to collapse. As Fire Chief Pegg stated, it would take days to completely extinguish the flames because of the materials that were involved. Residents even remarked that smoke was “widespread across the city” and “the smell was thick and inescapable for hours.” Moreover, most of the water used to extinguish the fire came from a Lake Ontario fireboat. I needn’t also mention the fire that had broken out at the BFI plant on Bertram Industrial Parkway on May 17th 2013, which would have devastated the forest had it occurred in the Freele Tract. Would this incident not serve as a wake-up call that such a facility has no place in a forest?

The County’s proposed ERRC is slated for a natural corridor, fully surrounded by dense woodlands and nearby homes. An emergency access road from the facility is intended to enter from one of Springwater’s many dead-end roads, Rainbow Valley Road East. Rainbow Valley Road and Baseline Road are narrow dirt and gravel roads that lead to a dead end, and that are in poor condition most of the year. In case of emergency, this is the only way for our families to reach our homes and it’s the only way for our families to leave the area from our homes. In addition, our families must travel past the proposed ERRC site and its entrance onto Rainbow Valley Road if ever it became necessary to evacuate the area.

The facility footprint is slated to be in closer proximity to Rainbow Valley Road than to Horseshoe Valley Road. A fire would only have to travel a very short distance north or northeast to reach Rainbow Valley Road. Should this road become unpassable due to fire, emergency vehicles, poor road conditions, or other related impediments, our families will become trapped in this dense forested area.

To date, we have been unable to locate any type of Emergency Response Plan that addresses evacuation routes for residents on neighbouring dead-end roads. Nor have we been able to locate anywhere in the County’s plans any intentions to upgrade roads for better access to the neighbouring properties at risk. I therefore have a few questions related to the fire hazard, especially when considering the provincial rules respecting moisture rates for organics:

- Are Simcoe County and Springwater Township able to properly address the fire risks involved in the use of OPF and MMF plants? If so, what strategies does it have in place to do so?
- Are Simcoe County and Springwater Township equipped to act swiftly and effectively should a fire break out in the Freele tract? If so, how?
- Are Simcoe County and Springwater Township prepared to deal with the massive mess that would result from a forest fire that would originate from the ERRC? If so, how?
- Are Simcoe County and Springwater Township prepared to take full responsibility should a fire spread to neighbouring residents?

Size, Technology, and Possible Expansion of the ERRC

While odours and fire hazards are real concerns, the elephant in the room is really the lack of transparency that characterizes this so-called “plan.” Thus far, Simcoe County is asking Springwater Council to approve an amendment to the zoning by-law for a facility that has yet to be actually identified, chosen, and specified. I apologize for the lack of tact, but this feels like the proverbial “box of chocolates” since it is unclear what we are getting. However, what is clear is that whatever “chocolate” is gotten will taste, and likely smell, like vomit to the businesses located near the sensitive Freele tract, be it the owners of Nicholyn Farm, Bridle Tree Farm, or the Krajcir’s Olympic-realm horse farm, all of which are located within 500 metres of this facility. This is not to mention the residents who will also be subjected to possible odours, as mentioned above, depending on the technology used, which is still sketchy and ostensibly unknown.

I cannot help but feel alarm, skepticism, and distrust in the face of the County’s seemingly unflinching approach to this facility, despite public outcry and countless valid, sensible, and well-researched arguments brought forward by competent residents who are well-versed and who possess a solid understanding of the issues that are at hand, as seen at the June 19th meeting. Springwater residents who were in attendance were floored and gravely disappointed in the County’s inability to be transparent about its plans for the site. A massive combined OPF, MMF, MRF plant is already shocking, especially as it stands to be located within a forest. It appears that this so-called “Environmental” Resource Recovery Centre, a clear euphemistic portrayal of a massive future dump site being located in the middle of a large forest will serve as smoke and mirrors to push the illusion of “greenwashing”: put a dump in the forest and call it environmentally sound. I therefore have a few questions that relate to the plan’s size, technology, and possible expansion:

- Will Springwater Township require Simcoe County to disclose all plans, including technology, size and exact plans for the next 30 years that relate to the ERRC?
- How will Springwater Township restrict the use of the Freele Tract as a location for the ERRC?
- How will Springwater Township limit future expansion related to the ERRC?
- How will Springwater Township protect the interests, quality of life, and enjoyment of its residents who live within the affected area?

As I am sure, most residents of Springwater Township and of Simcoe County do, I support the Township's request that the County provide a Business Case in support of the proposed use, as outlined in the Township's March 2, 2016 resolution. However, the underlying site selection process and site-specific environmental investigations are not, in my opinion, consistent with the requirements of the Planning Act, the Provincial Policy Statement, the Simcoe County Official Plan or the Township of Springwater Official Plan.

Based on the above, I would ask that the Township not approve the Official Plan or Zoning By-Law Amendments.

I would like to be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendments.

Yours truly,

Céline Laurin, Réjean Guérin, and Miguel Guérin

1205 Baseline Rd.

Phelpston ON L0L 2K0

From: Mary Wagner [<mailto:yramrengaw@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 12:49 PM

To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>

Subject: ERRC public questions

- Question: When will Ernst Young Report on the technology alternatives be available? This report is key before moving forward as MOECC notes land use planning (i.e. preferred site) and technology choice are interrelated. "Further facility details...is required to ensure land use compatibility issues and impacts have been considered to the Minister's satisfaction". (CCW 17-174, p. 8).
- Question: What are the County's plan for ERRC expansion in the future? How will that be addressed in the business case? Could that result in the need for a larger site, or one with fewer constraints (e.g. proximity to residents, natural heritage, etc.)?
- Emphasis on Prematurity of Application for Preferred Site: What additional field work has been completed by environmental consultants? Township and County received a very thorough peer review of the Environmental Impact Study by Dougan & Associates. There are environmental constraints on the site not considered by the County. E.g. significant wildlife habitat, potential for other species at risk, etc. Additional environmental site work is required this year and in Spring 2018.



July 13, 2017

Mary Wagner
2928 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Phelpston, ON
L0L 2K0

RE: Response to your email of June 28, 2017

Dear Ms. Wagner,

Thank you for your recent correspondence (sent via e-mail to John Daly on June 28, 2017). Mr. Daly has forwarded your questions to Solid Waste Management for response, outlined below.

- As indicated in Item CCW 17-174, it is anticipated that Ernst & Young's Preliminary Business Case for the Organics Processing Facility will be presented in late summer.
- Our FAQ document lists the facilities to be located on the proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Centre footprint (document found at www.simcoe.ca/errc). At this stage, business case development will be for the OPF and MMF (the first facilities to be developed).
- The Planning approvals process is on-going. This includes review of agency and public comments. Our consulting team continues to work with the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) and Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) on comments received regarding the Environmental Impact Study (EIS). For future reference, comments and questions related to the Planning approvals process can be sent directly to our Planning Department at errc@simcoe.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rob McCullough".

Rob McCullough
Director, Solid Waste Management Department

From: The Mercers [mailto:mercercr@rogers.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 11:13 AM
To: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>;
Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Solid Waste Management Infrastructure Projects - Project Update

Good morning,

I note from your webpage that there has been a recent Project Update. In past, The County of Simcoe has provided Project Updates through email to a list of individuals/agencies subscribed to receive these notifications. My understanding is that I am on this list but I don't believe I have received to date this Solid Waste Management Infrastructure Projects - Project Update.

1. **Project Update Staff Report CCW-17-174 (June 13, 2017)**

http://www.simcoe.ca/Planning/Documents/Staff%20Report%20CCW%2017-174_13-JUNE-2017.pdf

Please confirm that I am on the email distribution list and please confirm the most recent Project Update distributed.

If this update has not been sent out, please advise when it will be distributed.

Thank you,,
Cindy Mercer

On Friday, December 9, 2016 3:36 PM, Customer Service
<CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Development of the County's Environmental Resource Recovery Centre continues. Please note that the first procurement opportunity related to development of the Organics Processing Facility (OPF), a Request for Information (RFI), has been posted on the County's procurement site at www.biddingo.com/simcoe and on the project webpage at www.simcoe.ca/errc. The purpose of [RFI 2016-127 – Organics Management Options](#) is to gather information on alternatives for processing of the County's source-separated organics. These alternatives will be assessed in a preliminary business case which will examine the various options for organics processing available to the County at this time – including development of an OPF at the County's Environmental Resource Recovery Centre, located 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater.

Additional information on this project – including upcoming project milestones, communication material from public information and consultation sessions, and related staff reports – can be found at www.simcoe.ca/errc. If you no longer wish to receive updates on these projects, please reply to this e-mail with “remove from mailing list” in the subject line.

Regards,
Customer Service

County of Simcoe, Customer Service Department
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6
Phone: 705-735-6901 1-800-263-3199
Email: info@simcoe.ca
simcoe.ca

The County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member Municipalities and provides crucial Public Services to County Residents in addition to providing Paramedic and Social Services to the separated Cities of Barrie and Orillia.

ü Please consider the environment before printing this email.

“This electronic transmission and any accompanying attachments may contain privileged or confidential information intended only for use of the individual(s) or organization(s) named above.

Any distribution, copying or action taken in reliance on the contents of this communication by anyone other than the intended recipient(s) is STRICTLY PROHIBITED by the County of Simcoe.

If you receive this communication in error, please notify the sender at the above email address and delete this email immediately.”

From: info@simcoe.ca
Sent: 11/07/2017 4:00:31 PM
To: info@simcoe.ca
Subject: Incident# 2160742

Dear Cindy Mercer

Thank you for your email regarding inquiry Item CCW-17-174 - Environmental Resource Recover Centre - Project Update and whether a notification had been sent to individuals/agencies subscribed to the project contact list. I can confirm a notification was sent out to the contact list on June 7th 2017. (Please see attached) and that your email address, mercercr@rogers.com is on the contact list and was included in the notification.

Thank you again and have a great evening

Gen Willcox

Summary:

Solid Waste Management Infrastructure Projects - Project Update

Please leave the subject line intact and do not make any changes to the subject line when responding to this email.

Customer Service
County of Simcoe, Corporate Communications Dept.
[1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6](https://www.simcoe.ca/1110-Highway-26-Midhurst-Ontario-L9X-1N6)
Phone: 705-735-6901 or 1-800-263-3199
FAX: [705-719-4626](tel:705-719-4626)
E-mail: info@simcoe.ca
[simcoe.ca](https://www.simcoe.ca)

RECEIVED

JUL 25 2017

COUNTY OF SIMCOE
CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION

July 20, 2017

The Township of Springwater
2231 Nursery Road
Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1A8

Re: Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Centre at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West Springwater Township.

I understand that the Township of Springwater and the County of Simcoe are looking for public input on the above noted matter as part of the planning process.

This letter pertains to recent video posts from Simcoe County Case Files in regards to the 1992 unsolved murder of Waverly teen, Cindy Halliday. Cindy's partial remains were found in the Freele Tract County Forest on Horseshoe Valley Road.

For compassionate reasons, Cindy Halliday's family should be made aware of the intended use for this County forest and should be given the opportunity to provide privileged input on a private basis should they care to do so.

Anonymous



David R. Donnelly, MES LLB
david@donnellylaw.ca

August 1, 2017

Sent via email to errc@simcoe.ca and john.daly@simcoe.ca

Mr. John Daly
County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
County of Simcoe
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6

Dear Mr. Daly,

**Re: Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc., Retainer of Donnelly Law**

We write to advise the County of Simcoe (“Simcoe”) that we have been retained as legal counsel by Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. (“FSF”) regarding Simcoe’s *Planning Act* applications for an Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (“ERRC”) at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road, Springwater, Ontario (the “Application”).

We request that our firm be notified of the adoption or refusal of the proposed Simcoe Official Plan Amendment (“OPA”).

Our client provided written submissions to Simcoe’s Clerk regarding the ERRC Application on May 2, 2017, enclosing opinions from a registered land use planner and experienced ecological consulting firm. FSF also retained a professional hydrogeologist to review the ERRC Application. We provide a brief summary of key issues and commentary raised by each expert.

Planning

Ms Jennifer Lawrence, MCIP, RPP, President of Jennifer Lawrence & Associates Inc., prepared a detailed and comprehensive peer review of the Materials Management Facility (“MMF”) and Organics Processing Facility (“OPF”) site

selection process reports (GHD, Parts 1 -3), as well as the site-specific Scoped Environmental Impact Study (GHD, November 17, 2016) and the Planning Justification Report (GHD, November 17, 2016). In Ms. Lawrence's planning opinion, she raises the following key concerns:

- The site selection process is not consistent with the *Planning Act* requirements on natural heritage as outlined in the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS 2014). The diversity and connectivity of natural features, and the long-term ecological function and biodiversity of natural heritage systems should be maintained, restored and, where possible, improved, according to the PPS policies;
- Simcoe's applications are not consistent with the PPS, and do not conform to Simcoe or the Township's Official Plans with respect to natural heritage features and functions: Simcoe has not demonstrated there will be no negative impacts on "significant woodlands", "significant wildlife habitat" or the "habitat of endangered species and threatened species";
- The site selection process did not adequately consider the requirements of the PPS resulting in the identified short-listed sites, and ultimately the preferred site, with limited consideration for natural heritage impacts;
- Simcoe's application to co-locate the OPF and MMF contradicts earlier staff recommendations to separately locate the two facilities without explanation; and
- It is unusual for a municipality to propose the construction of substantial infrastructure within a natural heritage feature.

Please find attached the updated peer review of Jennifer Lawrence & Associates, dated June 5, 2017.

Environmental Impact

Mr. Jim Dougan, BSc, MSc, OALA (Hon) and Dougan & Associates prepared a detailed and comprehensive peer review of the *Scoped Environmental Impact Study* prepared by GHD (November 17, 2016) ("EIS"). We note the EIS was completed only after the selection of the preferred site. Dougan & Associates' peer review comments include the following:

- The EIS does not acknowledge the presence of Significant Wildlife Habitat ("SWH"). However, based on the information provided in the EIS, the subject property meets criteria for several SWH categories. This lack of acknowledgement appears to be based on misinterpretation of the data, and of provincial policy natural heritage guidance;
- The proposed location of the facility within the center of the site will result in the loss of approximately 18 hectares of "interior forest" habitat upon which many SWH species depend;

- The EIS did not adequately demonstrate the absence of Species of Risk, including species designated threatened and endangered under the *Endangered Species Act, 2007*. As a result, the claim that no impacts are anticipated on these species or their habitats is unfounded.
- The EIS inexplicably downplays the implications of the Significant Woodland designation of the site, and the impacts on ecological features and functions of the woodlands as a result of the proposed development
- The EIS fails to acknowledge that the proposed use will result in an increase in invasive, predatory and ‘pest’ species, which will lead to negative impacts on local flora and fauna populations in the remaining woodlands;
- The EIS fails to adequately address the direct and indirect impacts associated with the internal road network and traffic volumes; and
- The EIS fails to adequately consider the impacts on PPS-defined adjacent lands, as well as the cumulative effects of the proposal, given the likely future expansion of the facility.

Please find attached the updated peer review of Dougan & Associates, dated June 16, 2017.

Hydrogeology and Hydrology

Mr. Tim Lotimer, FGC, P. Geo., President of Tim Lotimer & Associates Inc. reviewed Simcoe’s *Hydrogeological Assessment, Environmental Resource Recovery Centre*, prepared by GHD (November 2016). The firm’s comments include the following:

- Changes in runoff patterns as a result of development may impact wetlands on site and associated Significant Wildlife Habitat. Additional work (including monitoring) is recommended to assess overland flow patterns to wetlands on the site to clarify the hydrological characteristics of the wetlands, for inclusion in the EIS.

FSF Requests to Simcoe County

In addition to the above and enclosed peer reviews, FSF requests a response to the following issues regarding the ERRC Application:

1. The Simcoe’s planning opinion regarding:
 - i. The 2017 Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017, and the ERRC Application;
 - ii. The application of Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (“MOECC”) Guideline D-6, *Compatibility between Industrial Facilities and Sensitive Land Uses*, to the proposed facilities; and

- iii. The impact, if any, of the selection of technology for the OPF (aerobic vs. anaerobic) on the planning application (e.g. setbacks from sensitive receptors, land needs to accommodate facility in the near and long-term, potential use of alternative OPF elsewhere in the Province at reduced cost);
2. Detail regarding meetings and correspondence between Simcoe staff and consultants with the MOECC regarding the ERRC Application; and
3. Report from Simcoe regarding consultation with Aboriginal communities.

Conclusion

We recognize that the ultimate choice of location of a large, new waste facility will undoubtedly be controversial, and likely few municipalities, if any, would advocate for their own lower-tier municipality to be chosen.

The process of selection must therefore be well-informed and reasoned, without a predetermined site in mind, guided by sound planning principles as laid out in planning policy.

The obvious first choice for a new ERRC is in an industrial zone, away from sensitive receptors – not within a natural heritage feature, with amphibian habitat, a large number of area-sensitive breeding birds, cultural heritage site(s), and within hundreds of metres of residences and working farms. What municipality in Simcoe thinks putting an ERRC in significant woodland within their own boundaries is appropriate? A good site selection process and adherence to the PPS principles is critical to ensure public confidence in the final decision.

The peer reviews undertaken at the cost of FSF and its supporters provide a solid foundation to question the suitability of Site C136 – a significant woodland with significant wildlife habitat, previously unknown and unmapped vernal pools, evidence of potential Species at Risk habitat, etc. It appears there are considerably more constraints on the site due to its natural heritage features than revealed in the perfunctory site selection assessment. Additional monitoring and surveys of all wetlands, vernal pools, species at risk, etc. is required, including a new spring field survey.

It is FSF's primary submission that in principle, any natural heritage setting in Simcoe is an inappropriate location to pave over and invite in heavy truck traffic for an ERRC that is likely to expand in the future.

The "Vision" for Simcoe County is "Working together to build vibrant, healthy, sustainable communities." Proposing commercial, infrastructure, industrial or

residential developments in Simcoe County Forests is obviously contrary to this vision. My client is entitled to wonder why the location of the proposed ERRC in the Freele Tract County Forest has given Simcoe decision-makers tunnel vision.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 416-572-0464, or by email to david@donnellylaw.ca, cc'ing anne@donnellylaw.ca, should you have any questions or comments concerning this correspondence.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Donnelly", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

David R. Donnelly

Attachments (2)

cc. C. Hibberd (NVCA)
A. Ingraldi (MMAH)



77 Wyndham Street South • Guelph ON N1E 5R3 • T 519.822.1609 • F 519.822.5389 • www.dougan.ca

June 16, 2017

Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.
c/o Bob and Mary Wagner
2928 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Phelpston, Ontario, L0L 2K0

Re: Peer Review of Scoped Environmental Impact Study, Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario prepared by GHD

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Wagner:

Dougan & Associates (D&A) was retained by Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. in March 2017 to complete a peer review of the terrestrial resources information contained within the report *Scoped Environmental Impact Study, Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario* prepared by GHD Ltd. (November 17, 2016).

This peer review applies Dougan & Associates standard approach for reviews of natural heritage planning reports, which focuses on whether the EIS adequately reflects relevant protocols and interpretation as required under the Provincial Policy Statement (OMMAH 2014) and its guiding documents, such as the Natural Heritage Reference Manual 2nd Ed. (OMNR 2010), Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (OMNR 2000), and other provincial references, as well as the Simcoe County Official Plan (2007) and other local documents, including the Simcoe County Forest Plan (2011) and the Simcoe County ONE SITE – ONE SOLUTION (2016) document. D&A peer review authors also completed a site review on May 3, 2017 to review existing conditions on the site.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF SCOPED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY

Goals and objectives for the EIS report are not clearly stated in a stand-alone report section. In Section 1.1 Introduction, the GHD goal is "...to complete a *Scoped Environmental Impact Study (Scoped EIS)* for the proposed co-located development of a *Materials Management Facility (MMF)*, an *Organics Processing Facility (OPF)*, and related support activities, collectively referred to as the *Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC)*." Two inferred objectives include "...to include an evaluation of all relevant natural features and species within the Study Area." and "This report has been prepared to address the requirements stipulated in the Simcoe County OP to satisfy the requirements of Provincial and County OP policies, as well as other relevant legislation."

MAJOR COMMENTS

In our review of the Scoped EIS document (hereafter referred to as the “EIS”) and based on site conditions observed on May 3, 2017, D&A have identified the following major inadequacies and/or inconsistencies in the report:

1. Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH)

SWH is protected under the Provincial Policy Statement (OMMAH 2014). Based on the data provided GHD (2016a), the site meets criteria for several more SWH categories than are indicated in the EIS, and there are some weaknesses in the data required to assess SWH. Specifically:

- Amphibian data is incomplete as it does not indicate calling species abundance levels per the Marsh Monitoring Program (MMP) protocols, which are required to assess SWH status; further, no documentation of the weather conditions during surveys is provided which would clarify if MMP protocols have been addressed;
- Spotted Salamander egg masses were found by GHD in 2016, and the Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Woodland) criterion is met, triggering SWH. Additional Spotted Salamander egg masses were documented by Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. in 2017 from other locations within the Simcoe County Forest “Freele Tract” site;
- Presence of Western Chorus Frog (an S3 provincially ranked species) triggers SWH;
- Twenty-one (21) area-sensitive bird species were documented, and the affected forest is sufficiently large to warrant SWH designation as Woodland Area-Sensitive Bird Breeding Habitat, which would be directly and indirectly impacted by the facility;
- Woodland Raptor Nesting Habitat may be present as three of six SWH indicator species were documented by GHD during the bird surveys, but no raptor nest surveys were apparently conducted. Two of the same species were observed on May 3, 2017; and
- The EIS opines incorrectly that cultural plantations cannot qualify as SWH; the SWH Ecoregion 6E Criteria Schedule does not exclude cultural plantations, and in some cases, highlights them as potential habitat (e.g. raptor nesting).

The facility would cause significant fragmentation of the forest patch where it is proposed; the EIS does not adequately address the impact on both quantity and quality of forest interior on the site (see also Comment 5 below). The use of this site as proposed would result in loss of forest interior functions over a much larger area than the simple footprint of the facility; we estimate that approximately 18 ha of forest interior would be eliminated, based on the definition that interior forest habitat is at least 200 m from the forest edge (OMNRF 2015).

2. Significant Woodlands

The report notes that the site qualifies as Significant Woodland but the implications of this designation are not brought forward into the impact assessment. In fact, the EIS downplays the value of the Significant Woodland without speaking to functional attributes which underlie the concept of “significance” as defined under the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). The presence of a diverse group of area-sensitive forest bird species (21 species based on MNRF criteria), and other Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH) indicates that this is currently highly functioning habitat, irrespective of the presence of planted conifers.

3. Species at Risk (SAR)

Species at Risk findings and impact assessment are insufficient. According to the EIS, no Eastern Whip-poor-will habitat is present within the study area. However, our review of the literature and our May 3rd 2017 visit to the site indicate otherwise. Potential habitat for Jefferson Salamander complex is present given the vernal pools on site. Also, no systematic bat surveys were conducted although up to three Endangered bat species could be present based on the habitats present; the Executive Summary of the EIS states that no SAR are present, but this is incorrect as several Special Concern species are present and discussed elsewhere in the EIS.

4. Vegetation Classification

Dougan & Associates is concerned with the accuracy of the vascular plant identification and Ecological Land Classification (ELC) vegetation classification completed for the Freele Tract, based on both the adequacy of the vascular plant list and the accuracy of the ELC classification. Appendix B, Vegetation Inventory has several errors and inconsistencies, and the ELC community descriptions in Section 2.2 downplay the extent of naturalization that is occurring in the 'naturalizing plantation' polygons. Based on our single spring visit, we noted species on the study site that are not listed in Appendix B, and observed that the plantation communities exhibit relatively rich native understory regeneration and a low proportion of non-native species. In particular, the community described as FODM5 is arguably FOD5-1, a natural forest community. The inadequacies in the vascular plant list and the ELC community descriptions understate the significance of impacts of the proposed facility on the ecological features and functions of the site.

5. Invasive Species and Predatory Species

The facility will handle compostable waste in the Organics Processing Facility, which would include invasive plant species and pests affiliated with waste materials, which could then invade the surrounding forest. There will also likely be effects on local wildlife, with increases in populations of species such as mice, rats, skunks, raccoons and coyotes, which can predate sensitive species such as ground-nesting area-sensitive forest birds. Based on facility experience elsewhere, pests will be introduced in waste delivered to the site; this could include mice and rats, non-native insects, and infectious organisms. Control techniques used by existing resource recovery facilities include poison baits and live trapping. These agents and their effects are neither identified nor discussed in the EIS; they would likely have implications into woodland habitats well beyond the site.

Notably, recovery facilities are considered an industrial use, and would normally be sited on designated industrial lands; the choice of a quality forested site for such a facility will undoubtedly create conflicts with natural biodiversity, which could be further exacerbated by operational management practices.

6. Adjacent Lands

There is no clear discussion of Adjacent Lands in the EIS. The PPS defines Adjacent Lands as *"those lands contiguous to a specific natural heritage feature or area where it is likely that development or site alteration would have a negative impact on the feature or area. The extent of the adjacent lands may be recommended by the Province or based on municipal approaches which achieve the same objectives* (OMMAH 2014). MNR recommends Adjacent Lands extend a minimum of 120 m beyond the limit of the following natural heritage features: Significant Habitat of Endangered and Threatened Species, Significant Wetlands, Significant Woodlands,

and SWH, (OMNR 2010). The proposed facility will create changes to ecological functions on a larger footprint, likely in the order of 200+ m, and with potential for greater impacts due to future expansion, fundamental changes to habitat quality, and introduction of invasive species.

7. Vehicular Impacts Associated with Facility

The EIS does not adequately address road and traffic impacts of the facility. The required internal road system for the facility includes the main entrance road, and an emergency access route which will be located along the existing trail to the north of the facility. Section 3 (Preliminary Development Plan) indicates that the site will also be a *“Truck Servicing Facility – a location for servicing the County’s fleet of industrial Solid Waste Management vehicles.”* With respect to construction of the facility, Section 5.2.2 (Mitigation) recommends that *“Vehicle fueling, storage, and maintenance should occur outside of the Study Area (off site)”*; this concern seems contradictory given the order of magnitude of eventual operations which is not adequately discussed, quantified, or mitigated. Vehicular traffic including waste management trucks, as well as private vehicles engaged in drop-offs, will undoubtedly produce a heavy traffic load, possibly including truck movements outside the normal drop-off hours. The Facility Characteristics Report (GHD 2016b) for the site states that the clearing for the access road will be 15–20 m (not including turn lanes); this clearing is not addressed or quantified in the EIS.

8. Lack of Site Plan

Environmental Impact Studies normally include a site concept plan which allows a clear understanding of the proposed development; the GHD EIS does not include any graphic representation of the project apart from the generic mapping of the current proposed development footprint shown on Figures 4 and 5.

9. Water Balance Impacts

The GHD EIS only makes passing reference to the GHD Hydrogeological Assessment for the ERRC, without a summary of its key findings. That assessment determined that there will be a significant reduction in infiltration due to the impervious character of the proposed development; it provided only generic mitigation measures but did not specifically address how the existing wetland features are sustained today, and will be sustained after development (GHD 2016c). Our field visit confirmed that the proposed footprint of the facility is within a topographically complex portion of the overall tract, where significant infiltration is a factor given that the proposed facility will be located on a glaciofluvial sand deposit, that behaves as an aquifer (GHD Hydrogeological Assessment, 2016). The EIS should include a fulsome discussion of the existing ecosystem features and their reliance on ground and surface water sources; the potential impact to these resources; and a detailed mitigation strategy (including reference to a site plan showing the location(s) of potential mitigation).

10. Cumulative Effects

The EIS does not address potential cumulative effects. EIS Section 3 (Preliminary Development Plan) indicates that the facility may be expanded in the future; the EIS considers a 4.5 ha development site, however the County’s *“ONE SITE, ONE SOLUTION”* (2016) document identifies the size specification as 20 ha, and also promotes this preferred site on the basis of its size (84 ha) described as *“large usable space”*, accommodating potential expansion. Given the high likelihood of expansion, and the constraints identified outside of the proposed 4.5 ha development site, it is likely that further effects will occur in the future; however cumulative effects are not identified, discussed or addressed in the EIS.

DETAILED COMMENTS

In addition to the major comments summarized above, D&A staff have other comments that support or supplement our major comments, organized according to section and page of the EIS.

Section 2 – Existing Conditions, Natural Features and Resources

Section 2.1 – Background Review

Section 2.1.1 – Secondary Sources, Page 2

1. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) Natural Heritage Information Centre should have been contacted for information on file.
2. Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (OBBA) data should have been reviewed; point count information may have been available for the site. OBBA data could also provide additional context when assessing the diversity of breeding birds documented from the site.
3. Potential sources of additional natural heritage data, such as the York-Simcoe Naturalists or individual naturalists familiar with the area, were apparently not consulted. Given the presence of trails for public access, potential users are worth consulting for background.

Section 2.1.2 – Previous Studies, Page 2

4. This section refers to “relevant documents” obtained from the County related to tree inventories and tree health surveys. These documents should have been described in more detail and sourced in the EIS report, as the report states in several places that the significance of the forests on this site are limited by their management as plantation.

Section 2.2 – Field Investigations, Page 3

5. This section contains methods, findings, and in some cases, conclusions. This is contrary to standard EIS practice, which should summarize the characterization methods and findings, examine the policy basis of findings that represent constraints, describe the proposed undertaking in sufficient detail, and then identify the potential impacts (direct, indirect, cumulative). Insertion of opinions on impacts into the characterization is inappropriate, and detracts from the objectivity of the EIS.

Section 2.2.2, Natural Heritage Features, Page 3

6. This section describes available natural heritage mapping, policy analysis, timing of field visits and findings related to the watercourse on site. The policy findings should have been addressed in a discrete policy focused section elsewhere in the report.

Section 2.2.3, Ecological Land Classification (ELC), Page 4

7. The specific dates and methods of ELC surveys are not provided. As such, it is difficult to determine whether the surveys were carried out according to normal protocols (*i.e.* surveys in all three seasons of spring, summer, fall).
8. The rationale for using the 2008 ELC codes instead of the codes contained in the 1998 ELC Manual, which is the manual formally in effect and published by the MNRF, is not given. The ELC manual (Lee *et al.*, 1998) is referenced in the text but is not included in the Reference section.
9. No areas are provided for the ELC communities, nor are coefficients of conservatism or ratios of native to non-native species calculated. This data is important for quantifying the ecological quality of a vegetation community in an objective manner.

10. The ELC data sheets for the field work are not provided in the EIS, therefore no review of the data collected can be undertaken.
11. The EIS notes that plantation trees were introduced to the study area approximately 65 years ago, and that these communities are undergoing natural succession, "*developing some characteristics of a naturalized woodlot*" (p. 4). The EIS notes that the woodlot is managed, but does not expand on how this impacts the ELC and vascular plant findings. D&A used the data in the species list (Appendix B) to generate a Floristic Quality Index (FQI) rating for the site as a whole; FQI is defined as "an evaluation procedure that uses measures of ecological conservatism (expressed numerically as a coefficient of conservatism or C value) and richness of the native plant community to derive a score (I) that is an estimate of habitat quality" (Miller *et al.*, 2006, Oldham *et al.* 1995). The FQI calculation for GHD's data is 36.07 (native) and 30.82 (with adventives), and non-native species constitute 19% of the flora observed. These calculations indicate a moderate to high-quality vegetation composition, indicating a system towards the natural end of the 'naturalization' spectrum.
12. The ELC community descriptions given in Section 2.2 are generally consistent with our own observations on May 3, 2017, except that all of the 'naturalizing plantation' descriptions tend to understate the extent of naturalization that is occurring. The plantation communities are dominated by native understory regeneration and a low proportion of non-native species. In particular, we observed that the community mapped as FODM5 (which covers most of the proposed facility footprint), contains the richest flora of spring ephemeral species on the site, as well as the most complex topography (a factor contributing to species richness). The remainder of communities identified as naturalized plantation had characteristics more indicative of cultural disturbances, including an overstory of conifers planted in rows, and trails. Based on the 1998 ELC system, we believe that the FODM5 community should be redefined as FOD5-1, Dry-Fresh Sugar Maple Deciduous Forest Type, a natural forest community, based on the following characteristics, which are indications of deciduous forest communities from the ELC Manual (Lee *et al.*, 1998):

• Tree cover >60%	• Almost entirely dominated by Sugar Maple
• Deciduous tree species >75% of canopy cover	• Limited observation of anthropogenic disturbances

Section 2.2.4, Watercourse Verification, Page 7

13. The EIS notes that GHD and Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) reviewed the site for the mapped watercourse that is identified on the NVCA mapping, but no methods are given for how it was determined not to be present.
14. There was no discussion of the potential effects of widespread drought conditions in the spring and summer of 2016, which could explain the lack of flowing water. During our site visit on May 3, 2017, we did note active surface flows across the extensive complex of wetland pools in the southeast area of the site. The EIS mapping only included 5 m contour intervals on selected maps (Figures 1, 2, 3, 6) and discussed topography only in very general terms.

Section 2.2.5, Wetland Delineation, Page 7

15. The wetland boundaries were located using handheld Garmin GPS devices, and the accuracy of the devices used was not provided. Wetland boundaries are a significant constraint for the facility siting, and forest cover affects accuracy of GPS readings; therefore, clarity on the accuracy of these boundaries is very important. On our site visit, we were surprised at the extent and complexity of vernal pools in the southeast and north sections of the site; in our opinion the EIS does not provide an adequate account of this complexity.

Section 2.2.6, Wildlife

Section 2.2.6.1 – Amphibian Surveys, Page 8

16. Western Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris triseriata*) was one of the five species of calling amphibians detected during the amphibian surveys. However, the EIS does not indicate how many were documented and exactly where.
17. In Table 2.3, the S-Rank for Western Chorus Frog was incorrectly depicted as S4. Great Lakes/St. Lawrence - Canadian Shield population, to which these individuals would belong, is listed as S3. Furthermore, it is a Species at Risk, designated “Threatened” in Canada but not in Ontario.
18. The S-Rank for Western Chorus Frog (S3) and its federal status (Threatened) would trigger Significant Wildlife Habitat designation (OMNRF 2015). According to MNRF’s Ecoregion 6E Criteria Schedules, Confirmed SWH is defined as the area of the habitat to the finest ELC scale that protects the habitat form and function.
19. It is not possible to determine whether the “Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Woodland)” SWH criterion is present (with respect to calling frogs) because the EIS Table 2.4 does not provide any abundance information and levels of calling that are normally assessed under the Marsh Monitoring Program (MMP) protocol. However, the presence of Spotted Salamander triggers SWH.
20. EIS Table 2.4 does not provide information on the weather conditions at the time of the surveys, including temperature at the beginning and end of the survey, wind speed, cloud cover etc. Given the information provided, it isn’t possible to verify that surveys were conducted according to the standardized MMP methodology, and that the results adequately capture the diversity and numbers of individuals present.

Section 2.2.6.2 – Breeding Bird Surveys, Page 8

21. Forty-nine (49) species of birds were documented during the surveys, 48 of which are possible breeders. In our experience, the list is very diverse for an entirely forested site, suggesting high quality and diversity of habitats present.
22. Twenty-one (21) area-sensitive species were documented based on the Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (SWHTG) (OMNR 2000). We would consider this an exceptionally high number, indicative of the size and high quality of the habitats present. This quality was not acknowledged in the EIS.
23. Table 2.3 (Wildlife Observations) only includes the names of the species documented, as well as their provincial and national conservation status. The EIS should consider regional conservation information (e.g. Environment Canada’s (2014) priority species for conservation in Bird Conservation Region 13). Eight of the species documented in the EIS fall under this category.
24. Table 2.3 should include polygon-specific breeding bird data to help assess potential impacts.
25. Additional tables or appendices should be included that include point count breeding bird data, to inform which species were documented within and adjacent to the proposed facility footprint, adjacent to the proposed access road, and in the vicinity of the proposed emergency access road.
26. The EIS indicated that three ‘Species at Risk’ were documented, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Wood Thrush and Red-shouldered Hawk. It also indicated that Species at Risk are discussed in greater detail in Section 2.2.7. However, aside from listing these species in Table 2.5, they are not discussed in Section 2.2.7. The EIS should indicate where these birds were observed in relation to the proposed facility footprint and main access road, so that potential impacts on these species can be adequately assessed.

27. In our opinion, the site triggers SWH “Woodland Area-Sensitive Bird Breeding Habitat” criteria, because:
- Qualifying ELC Community Series include: FOC, FOM, FOD, SWC, SWM. These communities account for the majority of the site.
 - The entire 84 ha site is forested, far larger than the 30 ha size threshold. The forest on the site is also contiguous with forested habitat located east of the site.
 - It supports interior forest habitat at least 200 m from forest edge habitat.
 - It supports breeding by 10 of the SWHTG listed species (more than the 3 required). Notably, the proposed facility will eliminate at least 18 ha of existing interior forest, based on the definition that interior forest habitat is at least 200 m from forest edge habitat a 200 m (OMNRF 2015).
28. In our opinion, portions of the site may also meet the “Woodland Raptor Nesting Habitat” SWH criterion (OMNRF 2015). Although no active nests were apparently discovered, three of the six listed species in the Ecoregional 6E Criteria Schedule were documented during the surveys (Barred Owl, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk). A single active nest would trigger SWH designation, which includes a 100 m to 400 m radius around the nest. According to the Ecoregion 6E Criteria Schedule, this category “*May be found in all forested ELC Ecosites. May also be found in SWC, SWM, SWD and CUP3*”. Note that cultural plantations are not excluded from consideration as SWH. We observed both Red-shouldered Hawk and Broad-winged Hawk calling and flying low over the site (*i.e.* probably not migrating) on May 3rd 2017.

Section 2.2.6.3 – Wildlife Habitat Features, Page 9

29. The EIS stated, “*Snags that had the potential to provide roosting habitat for bats were encountered throughout the Study Area.*” however, no bat surveys were conducted. Although snags were documented by GPS when encountered, it doesn’t appear that a systematic survey was conducted. This is a significant issue as all the listed bat species are designated Endangered in Ontario and would trigger protection under the Endangered Species Act (Government of Ontario 2007). If snags containing cavities are proposed to be removed, acoustic surveys would need to be conducted to determine presence or absence of Endangered bat species. Appropriate documentation of consultation with MNRF should be provided if consultation has determined that no acoustic surveys are required.
30. Spotted Salamander egg masses were observed in a vernal pool in 2016 by GHD. EIS Figure 5 suggests that they were present in a wetland in the north end of the site. The wetland is depicted as SWMM2-1 on Figure 4 in the EIS. Applying MNRF’s 2015 *Significant Wildlife Habitat Criteria Schedules for Ecoregion 6E* as the guide, the vernal pool where the salamander egg masses were documented is one of the ELC ecosite types listed as Candidate Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH). It also exceeds the minimum size threshold for Candidate SWH. Therefore, based on the presence of a breeding population of Spotted Salamanders, Confirmed SWH status (“Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Woodland)” is present (OMNRF 2015). According to the 6E Ecoregion Schedules, “*The habitat is the wetland area plus a 230 m radius of woodland area.*” According to MNRF staff, “naturalized” plantation would be considered “woodland area” and therefore included with the 230 m area (M. Eplett pers. comm., 2017).
31. Spotted Salamander egg masses were discovered by Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. in 2017 in a complex of wetland pools in the southeast part of the site. The wetland is generally depicted as SWCM2-1 on Figure 4 in the EIS. The presence of this breeding population also triggers Confirmed SWH status. The included 230 m radius of woodland buffer area extends across the proposed access road, into the proposed development area.

Section 2.2.7 – Species at Risk and Regionally Rare Species, Page 9

32. In addition to the sources listed, local residents and area naturalists clubs should have been consulted. Local knowledge, especially with respect to rare or cryptic species, is often more comprehensive and current than data on file with agency staff. Local residents believe that Eastern Whip-poor-will has nested within the Freele Tract in recent years.
33. Jefferson Salamander, designated Endangered in Ontario (OMNRF, 2017) and Canada (COSEWIC, 2016), should be included in Table 2.5 (Species at Risk Summary). Critical habitat for this species has been documented within approximately 50 km of this site (EC, 2015), and suitable habitat, currently supporting Spotted Salamander, is present on the site.
34. Western Chorus Frog should be included in Table 2.5 (Species at Risk Summary)
35. Eastern Milksnake was delisted as a Species at Risk in Ontario in June 2016; Table 2.5 should be corrected.
36. According to Section 2.2.6.2 of the EIS, three bird Species at Risk were documented by GHD: Eastern Wood-Pewee, Wood Thrush and Red-shouldered Hawk. However, none of them are discussed in this Section. Their observed locations with respect to the proposed development footprint and broader impact area should be discussed.
37. The EIS concluded that no habitat for Eastern Whip-poor-will was present within the Study Area due to the “relatively closed forest canopy”. However, according to the Royal Ontario Museum’s “Breeding Birds of Ontario Nidology and Distribution, Volume 1: Nonpasserines” (Peck and James 1983), Whip-poor-will “Breeds in both dense and open areas, in deciduous, mixed, or coniferous woods. Nesting habitats were large forests, small wood lots in agricultural areas, pine plantations, and tree-recovered sand dunes. Some nests were on hillsides and hilltops.” Mills (2007), in “The Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Ontario” (Cadman *et al.*, 2007) writes: “The Whip-poor-will shuns both wide-open spaces and deep forest. In Ontario, its preferred habitats included rock or sand barrens with scattered trees, savannahs, old burns in a state of early forest succession, and open conifer plantations.” Sandilands (2010) writes, “The Whip-poor-will appears to avoid extensive areas of pure conifers (except for plantations), preferring young poplar-birch stands, successional areas, and hardwood and mixed forest as mature at pole stage.” Sandilands further writes that “Nests are on well-drained, dry soils, usually near the edge of a woodlot or in a forest clearing. They are usually in areas where the forest understory is sparse, but occasionally they are among dense shrubbery in open sites, or beside logs.” Based on the descriptions above, and our assessment of the site during our May 3rd 2017 reconnaissance visit, we believe that the site could provide suitable breeding habitat for this species and that nocturnal surveys per the survey protocols prepared by Bird Studies Canada (2014) should be conducted. Until such surveys have been completed, it is premature to conclude that the proposed development would not negatively affect this Threatened species.
38. Little Brown Myotis and Northern Myotis were listed in the Species at Risk Summary (Table 2.5), yet no bat surveys were conducted in support of the EIS. “GHD documented any snags that were encountered,” but it does not appear that this was part of a systematic and comprehensive inventory. Our May 3rd 2017 site visit noted numerous sizeable snags across the site that could potentially support maternity roosts.
39. Locally significant species (Ox Eye Sunflower, *Heliopsis helianthoides*; Running Strawberry Bush, *Euonymus obovatus*; Tall Goldenrod, *Solidago altissima* var. *altissima*) observed during the field work are identified in this section, and all three species are found in ELC communities to be disturbed by development; no avoidance or mitigation is proposed. No specific locations are given for the locally significant plants observed.

Section 3 – Preliminary Development Plan, Page 11

40. The text does not adequately describe the relative areas of disturbance; in Section 4.5 (Provincial Policy Statement) the proposed footprint of development is discussed, however the text does not confirm whether this footprint is final, given the County's specification for a 20 ha site. It is not clear if the areas of the access road and emergency road are included. Details such as access road widths, grading allowances, truck turning lanes, vehicle servicing parking, waste vehicle storage etc. are important factors to be considered, yet not provided in the EIS. No information is provided on grading required to accommodate the site development and roadways.
41. EIS normally include a site concept plan which allows a clear understanding of the proposed development; the EIS does not include any graphic representation of the project apart from the generic mapping of the currently proposed development footprint shown on Figures 4 and 5;
42. Although additional information is available in the Facility Characteristics Report, as noted in the EIS, information about the development relevant to the EIS (e.g. scale, grading, and features such as fencing) should be summarized and discussed in the EIS report.
43. No indication is given how the natural heritage sensitivities of the study site were used to site the facility footprint or allowances for future expansion to meet the County's defined needs.

Section 4 – Regulatory/Policy Framework, Page 12

44. The dates of the policy documents reviewed are not given in the text, nor are these documents included in the References.
45. No overall summary of policy constraints is provided.

Section 4.1 – Township of Springwater, Page 12

46. The text describes the policy restrictions within the Township's Official Plan, but does not interpret these policies with respect to the site and the proposed development; this is inadequate to understand the conformity with Township policies.
47. The text suggests that adjacent lands to Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH) are those lands within 50 m. However, the Natural Heritage Reference Manual (NHRM) 2nd Ed., (OMNR 2010) defines adjacent lands to SWH as 120 m. The likely reason for the difference is that the Township of Springwater Official Plan (OP) has not yet undergone an OP review to bring it into conformity with the 2014 PPS. Nevertheless, Section 4.7 of the PPS (2014) directs that the policies of the current PPS apply despite less stringent policies in an OP which has not yet been updated to be in conformity with the current PPS. In other words, the 120 m adjacent lands definition provided in the NHRM should apply, regardless of the Township's OP definition.

Section 4.2 – Simcoe County, Page 12

48. The text describes the policy restrictions within the County's Official Plan, specifically the site's designation as County Greenlands, but does not interpret these policies with respect to the site and the proposed development. This is inadequate to understand the conformity with County policies.

Section 4.3 – Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, Page 13

49. The text notes that wetlands are features regulated by the NVCA, and that wetlands are present in both the north-east and south-east parts of the site. The text also states that a 120 m offset for assessment of impacts has been used for this EIS, however the wetland in the south-east portion of the study area is excluded from this offset area and no rationale for this exclusion is given.

50. A statement about a mapped watercourse not being present on the site is given, however there is no discussion of the record drought conditions in the spring and summer of 2016.

Section 4.4 – Species at Risk Legislation, Page 13

51. The EIS states that *“As the Study Area is not on federal lands, and aquatic features are absent from the Study Area, SARA is not applicable to this review.”* This statement is incorrect, as the identification of Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH) requires consideration of SARA status, specifically COSEWIC status. Page 54 of the SWHTG (OMNR, 2000) states: *“Species that can be considered species of conservation concern include: species identified as nationally endangered or threatened by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, which are not protected in regulation under Ontario’s Endangered Species Act.”* This SWH criterion applies to Western Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris triseriata*); the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence – Canadian Shield population (to which those individuals documented during the EIS belong) are designated Threatened in Canada, but Not at Risk in Ontario. Therefore, habitat of the Western Chorus Frog merits designation as SWH.

Section 4.5 – Provincial Policy Statement, Page 14

52. The EIS notes that *“the Study Area is predominantly comprised of mixed tree plantation, with limited natural woodland communities in the northeast and southeast corners. Conservatively, these natural woodlands within the Study Area comprise less than 25% of the Study Area, but are associated with the contiguous communities on adjacent lands to the East.”* However, according to the Ecological Land Classification information provided in the EIS (see Figure 4), this statement is incorrect. Only two of the 12 vegetation communities are “Cultural” (*i.e.* not “Natural” or “Naturalized”). They are: TAGM1 (Course Mineral Coniferous Plantation) and CVI-1 (Transportation). Of the 84 ha site, they occupy approximately 2.8 ha and 0.5 ha respectively, or just under 4% of the total site.
53. The EIS states that the proposed ERRC footprint is 4.5 ha. However, the direct impact of the proposed facility alone appears to be closer to 4.7 ha based on our own aerial photo interpretation. Regardless, the calculation of the “footprint” does not quantify the potential extent of indirect impacts, which will likely extend onto adjacent lands. The footprint should also include the indirect impacts associated with the laneway accessing the facility. Traffic, noise and other disturbances (including the introduction of potential invasive species and predators), directed into the centre of the forest, will clearly have a negative impact on resident flora and fauna. Further, the potential impacts of the County’s stated intentions to expand the facility in the future are not addressed in the EIS.
54. The EIS acknowledges that the site meets one Significant Woodland criteria, *i.e.* the presence of interior forest 20 ha or greater where woodland cover is greater than 60%, however, it downplays the significance of this determination by stating: *“this function is temporary as the proposed ERRC footprint is part of a managed and actively-harvested woodlot.”* However, clear-cutting is not part of the normal forest management approach identified in the Simcoe County Forest Plan (Simcoe County 2011), which identifies as high priorities sustaining forests including maintaining ecological processes, and conservation of biodiversity. Developments other than for recreation are not anticipated in the SCFP, a guiding document which recommends that *“High Conservation Value Forests”* be identified, mapped, and maintained/enhanced. Notably, the EIS does not mention the SCFP.
55. With respect to Significant Wildlife Habitat, the only potential SWH criterion discussed is *“Woodland area-sensitive breeding bird habitat”*. The EIS states: *“As natural blocks of mature woodland within the Study Area are limited to the northeast and southeast corners, the area of the*

proposed ERRC footprint **does not satisfy the considerations as candidate Significant Wildlife Habitat** for Woodland Area-Sensitive Breeding Bird Habitat." However, according to ELC information depicted on Figure 4, only natural or naturalized vegetation communities occupy the ERRC footprint. In fact, about 96% of the lands are categorized as natural or naturalized. Because the majority of tree planting was completed in 1949 (Simcoe County 2017), the site currently supports mature forest (*i.e.* > 60 years old), consistent with the SWH designation criteria.

56. Based on the field data provided in the EIS and our May 3, 2017 field visit to the site, we believe that additional SWH criteria are present and should also be addressed (*e.g.* Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Woodland), Special Concern and Rare Wildlife Species, *etc.*).

Section 5 – Potential Environmental Impacts and Mitigation

Section 5.1 – Impact Assessment Process, Page 15

57. As a site handling compost, the introduction and spread of invasive or otherwise deleterious species should be considered as an impact in Table 5.1.
58. Re: Table 5.1:
- Impacts are not adequately defined (*i.e.* direct / indirect / cumulative)
 - Limiting daily construction and facility operation hours from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. does not represent adequate mitigation, as:
 - the stated hours also reflect the hours of peak wildlife activity;
 - the public hours may not adequately reflect actual operations as the site is intended to be the County's Truck Servicing Facility and a major transfer site for the County's growing waste stream.
 - Additional options to mitigate noise impacts should be provided. Noise and disturbance associated with the access roads is an impact to be mitigated.
 - An increase in the local abundance or concentration of omnivorous and carnivorous wildlife species such as mice, rats, Striped Skunks, Raccoons, and Coyotes, (C. McCausland *pers. com.*, 2017), as well as Weasels, American Crows, Blue Jays, Common Grackles, *etc.*) should be considered as a potential impact, which will lead to greater depredation of ground-nesting birds. Approximately 20% of the breeding bird species documented are ground-nesting.

Section 5.2 – Vegetation Communities (Including Wetlands), Page 19

Section 5.2.1 – Potential Impacts, Page 19

59. We are concerned that the inadequate vascular plant list and the ELC community descriptions downplay the significance of the ecological features, and therefore the EIS understates impacts of the proposed facility on the ecological features and functions of the site. The main footprint of the ERRC facility is proposed in the FODM5 community, which we observed to be the most 'natural' community on the site apart from the wetlands and associated lowland forests.
60. The EIS states that vegetation loss will be restricted to the proposed facility footprint and "entrance". However, it is reasonable to assume that the entire length of the access road will need to be widened to accommodate inbound and outbound truck traffic, along with necessary roadside verges and grading allowances. The roadway standards (including requirements for future expansion), and for parking accommodation of the County's fleet of Solid Waste Management vehicles are not clearly described or included in the discussion of impacts.
61. Text in Section 5.3.1 indicates that the existing portion of the north access road is intended to be retained for emergency access. The standards for the emergency access road, which

presumably must be capable of handling trucks and emergency vehicles, will undoubtedly require vegetation removal and significant works to provide a full-season access road. In addition, this proposed road is very close to the SWMM2-1 community and within the 230 m SWH buffer recommended by MNRF; therefore, impacts to wetlands and ecological functions can be expected.

62. As per Section 4.3, the wetland in the south-east corner of site is excluded from discussion of impacts to wetlands.
63. There is no discussion of impacts to locally significant plant species, and the specific locations of plants found are not identified.

Section 5.2.2 – Mitigation, Page 19

64. The EIS states the vegetation communities that will be altered are not unique or locally rare/significant. However, the vegetation communities clearly trigger Significant Wildlife Habitat policy as “Woodland area-sensitive breeding bird habitat”, which will be impacted.
65. There is no Mitigation Plan included with the EIS, which would normally include a figure indicating the development concept plan, ecological features and functions (e.g. SWH extent, including buffers) being protected, and indicating the locations for measures being applied on the development site or adjoining lands where mitigation is proposed.
66. No discussion of mitigation is provided related to locally significant plant species.
67. No specific monitoring of impacts and mitigation approaches is discussed or recommended; this is relegated to a future Environmental Monitoring Plan, however the limited detail in the EIS discussion of impacts renders it inadequate to guide design, construction and operation of the facility.

Section 5.3 – Wildlife and Habitat, Page 21

Section 5.3.1 – Potential Impacts, Page 21

68. The text should acknowledge impacts to Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH). Based on the field data provided in the EIS and our May 3, 2017 field visit to the site, we believe that several SWH criteria are present (e.g. Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Woodland), Woodland Area-Sensitive Bird-Breeding Habitat, Special Concern and Rare Wildlife Species) (OMNRF 2015).

Section 5.3.2 – Mitigation, Page 21

69. Operating the facility during 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. should not be considered mitigation, since these hours correspond to when wildlife are most active, i.e. the daylight hours required for foraging and feeding young.
70. To protect pond-breeding salamander species, the EIS suggests that terrestrial buffer zones should extend away from the edge of breeding ponds by approximately 160 m, as “*this distance represents the movements of 95% of the adults in a population (Savage and Zamudio, 2016.)*” However, the Significant Wildlife Habitat Ecoregion 6E Criteria Schedule defines SWH habitat as the wetland area plus a 230 m radius of woodland area. On this basis, a portion of the proposed ERRC facility footprint would overlap with the SWH.
71. The EIS states that “*Provision of permanent amphibian tunnels north of the ERRC, beneath the emergency access road, with associated drift nets along the perimeter of the emergency access road should mitigate loss of connectivity and collision mortalities of amphibians under increased road traffic.*” It is not clear why this recommendation merits the required effort and expense, as the emergency access road will only be used in emergency situations. Notably, wildlife impacts and mitigation of the main access road are not considered with the same level of detail, e.g. the

"Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Woodland)" SWH criterion (OMNRF 2015) overlaps with the proposed main access road. The main access road will be within the 230 m buffer recommended by MNR for this category of SWH.

72. The EIS discusses enhancing the habitat in vegetation community TAGM1 for Spotted Salamanders by placing felled logs on the ground for additional cover and hibernation habitat, however Spotted Salamanders typically hibernate underground in small mammal burrows.
73. The EIS recommendation that "*Clearing, grubbing, and tree removal works should be conducted in a manner to avoid nesting birds and wildlife where possible.*" is too vague. General operational dates should be provided, with explicit reference to the Migratory Birds Convention Act (Government of Canada 1994 a,b).
74. No avoidance or other mitigation is provided for loss of habitat for bat species, *i.e.* snag removal.
75. Based on our review of the information contained in the EIS and its appendices, the conclusion that "*negative impacts to the identified natural features and ecological function are not anticipated*" is without foundation.

Section 6 – Conclusions, Page 23

76. The EIS again states that the site meets woodland significance targets under the Simcoe County Official Plan's Greenlands designation and the Provincial Policy Statement, but downplays the importance of the feature. The rationale is not supported adequately in the text, and our review indicates that the site is more significant than indicated in the EIS.
77. The statement of no negative impacts is not supported by EIS evidence, particularly given the inconsistencies, misinterpretations and exclusions noted by D&A.

Appendix A: Environmental Impact Study Terms of Reference

78. No minutes are provided confirming TOR approval at the April 1, 2016 agency meeting.

Appendix B: Vegetation Inventory

79. Our review of the vascular plant list provided in the EIS (Appendix 2) identified some inaccuracies and inconsistencies. First, several plants are identified with the incorrect botanical name (*i.e.* *Geum virginianum* is listed as Rough Avens, but should be Pale Avens; Common dock is listed as *Rumex* sp., this should be Dock sp.), and several plants listed to genus level have the wrong genus attributed to the common name listed (*i.e.* Sedge sp. is listed as *Scirpus* sp., and should be *Carex* sp.; Grass species is listed as *Panicum* sp. but could be one of many species of graminoid. In addition, some records have incorrect capitalization. These errors should have been addressed as part of normal reporting data quality control. Second, plants are listed which are not known to be present in Ontario (*Anemone nemorosa*, Wood anemone; *Lactuca virosa*, Bitter lettuce). Finally, during the site visit, D&A staff encountered several easily-identifiable species which would have been present during the ELC visits conducted by GHD. These species include Common Oak Fern (*Gymnocarpium dryopteris*), Wild Red Raspberry (*Rubus occidentalis*), Common Mullein (*Verbascum thapsis*), and Plantain-leaved Sedge (*Carex plantaginea*). These weaknesses are a concern given that a major conclusion of the EIS is that the vegetation communities are mostly low quality plantations.
80. The vascular plant list does not identify vegetation communities where plants were found; ELC field data is not provided; Coefficient of Conservatism (CC) values for plants are not provided. This weakens the understanding of the significance of particular ELC communities, their levels of disturbance, and the overall diversity of the site.

Figures

81. Policy constraints are not mapped *i.e.* no 'opportunities and constraints' figure is provided. A figure would clarify whether negative impacts to significant constraints (*i.e.* sensitive features and functions) are being avoided or require impact mitigation consideration.
82. The overall extent of the proposed development (*i.e.* the facility footprint, the access route, emergency access route, associated grading, future expansion area) is not shown on any of the Figures; Figure 4 and 5 do show the facility footprint and access road separately, but not the emergency access. This omission downplays the potential physical scale of these features and therefore the impacts associated with their construction and operation.
83. Figure 4 (Ecological Land Classification) does not provide numbers for vegetation communities, making references difficult between the figure, its legend, and EIS text. Where there are multiple polygons of the same ELC community, this omission makes Sect. 2.2.3 difficult to interpret.
84. No locations of locally significant plant species are provided. An understanding of the abundance and location of the plants would give a more quantified understanding of the impacts to these populations due to the proposed work.
85. No conceptual or detailed mitigation plans are provided. These plans would help to demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed works.

CONCLUSION

Based on this review, D&A believes that the GHD *Scoped EIS* does not adequately characterize the study area, provide appropriate interpretation of policy, or discuss impacts and mitigation in sufficient detail. Figures lack sufficient detail on the proposed development, policy constraints, location and extent of impacts, and mitigation.

LIMITATION

The opinions in this letter report document are based on the *Scoped Environmental Impact Study, Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario* (GHD Ltd., November 17, 2016), other documents referenced; opinions are subject to modification if revised documents are provided.

Sincerely,



Jim Dougan, BSc, MSc, OALA (Hon)
Director, Senior Ecologist



Mary Anne Young, BLA, OALA, ISA
Landscape Architect, Arborist, Ecologist



Karl Konze, B.Sc.
Senior Wildlife Ecologist

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June 5, 2017

Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.
c/o Mrs. Mary Wagner
2928 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Phelpston, ON
L0L 2K0

Dear Mrs. Wagner:

**Re: County of Simcoe Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
Regional and Local Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-Law Amendment
Files: SC-OPA-1602, OP-2016-006 and ZB-2016-021
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater**

Further to my letter dated April 28, 2017, I have had an opportunity to complete my review of the background documents and amendment application. This letter builds on the findings in my earlier letter and provides some additional detail.

I have reviewed the following reports, prepared by the County of Simcoe, in support of the above noted applications:

- *County of Simcoe Materials Management Facility, Part 1 – Planning – Siting Methodology and Evaluation Criteria*, prepared by Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, dated February 2015;
- *County of Simcoe Organics Processing Facility, Part 1 – Planning – Siting Methodology and Evaluation Criteria*, prepared by Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, dated February 2015;
- *County of Simcoe – Materials Management Facility, Part 2 – Long List Evaluation*, prepared by GHD, dated July 12, 2015;
- *County of Simcoe – Organics Processing Facility, Part 2 – Long List Evaluation*, prepared by GHD, dated July 23, 2015;
- *County of Simcoe Organics Processing Facility, Materials Management Facility and Co-Located Facility, Part 3 – Short List Evaluation*, prepared by GHD, dated February 26, 2016;
- *Scoped Environmental Impact Study, Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario*, prepared by GHD, dated November 17, 2016;
- *Planning Justification Report, Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario*, prepared by GHD, dated November 17, 2016;
- *Agricultural Impact Assessment Report*, prepared by AgPlan, dated November 16, 2016;

- *Environmental Resource Recovery Centre 'Get the Facts', 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater, County of Simcoe, September 2016;*
- *County of Simcoe Environmental Resource Recovery Centre, Summary of Consultation and Notification (to December 2016); and,*
- *Neighbourhood Landowner Meeting, Final Meeting Notes and Follow-Up, Thursday September 8, 2016.*

In preparing my professional opinion on the proposal, I have also referenced the following documents:

- *Planning Act and Provincial Policy Statement (2014)*
- *Environmental Assessment Act, Ontario Regulation 101/07 and the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Waste Management Projects*
- *Simcoe County Official Plan (2016)*
- *Springwater Official Plan (1998) and Comprehensive Zoning By-Law (2004)*
- *Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Statement of Environmental Values*
- *Simcoe County Forests 2011-2030*
- *Guidelines for the Siting and Operation of Waste Transfer Stations, Nova Scotia Environment and Labour, 2006*
- *Environmental Standards for Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Stations / Local Waste Management Facilities, Guidance Document, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2010*
- *Waste Transfer Stations: A Manual for Decision-Making, United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2002*
- *Letter to Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc., prepared by Dougan and Associates Inc., dated June 2, 2017; and,*
- *Letter to County of Simcoe from Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, dated March 2, 2017, NVCA ID #30106*

Overview

In 2010, the County of Simcoe approved a Solid Waste Management Strategy. Within that strategy, it was recommended that the County assess the development of a central composting facility as well as assess the long-term requirements for collection and processing of organics and recycling and waste export. The Strategy further recommended that consideration be given to developing a transfer station type facility. In August 2014, County Council endorsed Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (CRA) to determine an optimal site for a transfer facility, referred to as a Material Management Facility (MMF) as well as an Organics Processing Facility (OPF). The siting for these two facilities began as independent searches with specific, but similar, siting criteria. The methodology and evaluation criteria for siting the MMF and OPF is outlined in the CRA reports entitled *County of Simcoe Materials Management Facility, Part 1 – Planning – Siting Methodology and Evaluation Criteria* (February 2015) and the *County of Simcoe Organics Processing Facility, Part 1 – Planning – Siting Methodology and Evaluation Criteria* (February 2015), respectively. The purpose of the Part 1 studies was the same for both the OPF and the MMF; that is, the Part 1 study was to establish the framework for how the potential sites would be identified and evaluated by defining the search area, identifying a comprehensive list of candidate sites

(including County-owned and privately owned sites) and establishing a series of criteria to screen and evaluate potential sites. The Part 1 study created a list of exclusionary criteria that would be used to screen the comprehensive list of candidate sites. This exclusionary criteria is referred to as Screen 1. Screen 1 was applied to arrive at a long list of sites which would then be screened against a second set of criteria referred to as Screen 2.

The next set of reports are the Part 2 – Long List Evaluations for the MMF and OPF, prepared by GHD (formerly CRA), dated July 12 and July 23, 2015, respectively. The Part 2 reports include the Screen 2 criteria that were used to create a short list of sites which were then vetted through the final screen, referred to as Screen 3.

The final report associated with the siting process is the *Part 3 – Organics Processing Facility, Materials Management Facility and Co-Located Facility Short List Evaluation*, prepared by GHD dated February 26, 2016. This report combines the OPF and MMF selection process into one document and evaluates the short list of properties, identified in the respective Part 2 reports, to determine whether it is appropriate to continue siting these facilities independently or whether it would be appropriate to co-locate the two facilities on one site. Screen 3 was applied to the short-listed sites and each were subjected to a comparative evaluation process to identify a preferred location that has an appropriate balance of strengths (advantages) and weaknesses (disadvantages) and evaluated to determine how well the site satisfies the goals and objectives of the project. Of note, the comparative evaluation did not include site specific Environmental Impact Studies for each site to determine whether they could meet the federal, provincial, County and local natural heritage policies. Rather, this evaluation was deferred until the preferred site was selected. A preferred location for the co-located site is identified in the Part 3 report as 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road in Springwater, a wooded parcel known as the Freele County Forest. The Freele County Forest was purchased by the County in 1948 with the majority of the planting completed in 1949¹. In addition to the OPF and MMF, the preferred site is also intended to include a Solid Waste Management truck servicing area, a public education area and the potential for future expansion to include a recycling sorting facility. These additional uses were noted in the Part 1 reports but not mentioned specifically in either the Part 2 or 3 reports.

The preferred site is within the Greenlands designation of the County of Simcoe Official Plan. Waste disposal sites are not a permitted use within the Greenlands designation so the County has initiated an Official Plan Amendment (SC-OPA-1602). The proposed amendment is as follows:

- Modifying Schedule 5.6.1 by (a) renaming Schedule 5.6.1 "County Waste Disposal Sites" to Schedule 5.6.1 "County Waste Management System"; (b) adding Environmental Resource Recovery Centre to the legend; and, (c) adding a symbol for Environmental Resource Recovery Centre to the Schedule within Part Lot 2 Concession 1 Springwater Township.

¹ Website. <http://www.simcoe.ca/SolidWasteManagement/Pages/ERRC/What-is-the-history-of-the-Freele-Tract.aspx>. Obtained April 13, 2017.

- The addition of the following Section and text after Section 4.9.17:

***Section 4.9.18, Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
Part of Lot 2, Concession 1, Springwater (2976 Horseshoe Valley Road)***

Permitted uses on a portion of Part of Lot 2, Concession 1, Springwater Township (2976 Horseshoe Valley Road) as identified on Schedule 5.6.1 as Environmental Resource Recovery Centre shall include facilities for the purpose of the consolidation and transfer of various waste streams such as organics, recyclable materials and non-hazardous household garbage, processing of organic green bin materials under controlled conditions for conversion into other materials. Other ancillary uses would include a public education area, truck maintenance and servicing area and facility administration area. The temporary storage of waste is permitted on the lands but no permanent disposal of waste materials or landfilling of any kind is permitted within the lands subject to Section 4.9.18.

The County has also submitted applications to the Township of Springwater for an Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendment (OP-2016-005 and ZB-2016-021). Within the Springwater Official Plan (OP), the site is designated Rural and Agriculture on Schedule A-2 and Environmental Protection Category 2 on Schedule B. Section 2.20.4 of the OP requires that the establishment of new waste disposal sites shall require an amendment to the Official Plan. The property is zoned "A" Agriculture in the Springwater By-law 5000. The Agricultural zone does not permit waste disposal sites which has triggered the need for a Zoning By-Law Amendment.

In addition to the three site selection reports, supporting documentation has been prepared for the preferred site as part of the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendment applications. These include a Scoped Environmental Impact Study, Planning Justification Report, Agricultural Impact Assessment and Hydrogeological Assessment.

Below is a review and assessment of the supporting documentation that ultimately led to the selection of the preferred location as well as the site-specific reports prepared for the preferred site.

Part 1 – Planning – Siting Methodology and Evaluation Criteria MMF and OPF Reports (CRA, February 2015)

The methodology and evaluation criteria in both studies are similar so, when providing my review, I will refer to them as if they are one document, unless there is a specific item that is relevant to only one of the reports, in which case I have referenced that specific report.

Executive Summary (OPF) – the summary notes that aerobic composting is being considered as part of the Phase I development of a site and that anaerobic digestion will be considered as part of a future expansion (Phase II). The Concept Plan (Figure 3.1) that was eventually prepared by GHD, dated November 15, 2016 as part of the OPA and ZBLA identifies an area of 1.0ha for an OPF. It is unclear whether this 1.0ha can accommodate both an aerobic and an anaerobic composting facility. The Concept Plan does not identify a location for any future expansion to accommodate anaerobic digestion. It is unclear whether anaerobic digestion would require

additional setbacks to sensitive land uses, to those considered for aerobic composting, and/or whether Phase II would result in sufficient quantities of waste being shipped to the site so as to trigger an Environmental Assessment. This requires further explanation.

Section 1.3 (Goals and Objectives) states that, in order to ensure that the optimal location is identified for the facility, the siting process should:

- Follow a clearly defined methodology
- Meet all applicable regulations and standards
- Be consistent with best practices
- Consider relevant evaluation criteria
- Provide opportunities for stakeholder input

Within this same section, it is noted that the general approach has been modeled on the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) Statement of Environmental Values (SEV) which, as stated in **Section 4.1** is, an "*Ontario with clean and safe air, land and water that contributes to healthy communities, ecological protection, and environmentally sustainable development for present and future generations*". **Section 2.2.1** goes on to state the mandate of the MOECC as being "*to ensure protection and, where degraded, rehabilitation of the natural environment, and the conservation of environmental and material resources for the enjoyment and benefit of present and future generations of people, as well as for other users of the environment*". Within **Section 4.1**, the report goes on to state that, in this regard, the siting and development of the facilities will be based on:

- Prevention, reduction, and elimination of impacts to the environment
- Protection and conservation of natural resources and ecologically sensitive areas
- Integration of social, economic and other considerations
- Provision of opportunities for an open and consultative process

A significant emphasis is placed on the MOECC SEV and MOECC mandate at the outset of this siting process which leaves the reader with the impression that the siting of these facilities will take an 'environment-first' approach whereby the protection and conservation of natural heritage features will be a top priority in the site selection process.

The report notes that an evaluation was undertaken at the beginning of the process to determine whether the facilities should be subject to the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA) or Ontario Regulation 101/07 (*Waste Management Projects*). The reports conclude that, since neither facility will transfer, on an annual basis, an average of more than 1,000 tonnes of residual waste per day from the site for final disposal, they will not require any EAA approvals as they are not designated as an undertaking to which the Act applies. I have reviewed O.Reg. 101/07 as well as the *Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Waste Management Projects*, prepared by the Ministry of Environment, dated March 15, 2007 and, in my opinion, this determination is correct. Although the consulting team concludes that an Environmental Assessment is not required, **Section 2.2** states that they intend to follow the EA process closely

given that the public can request that the application be subjected to a discretionary hearing and/or be designated under the EAA.

Given that the EAA does not apply, I would expect that the Siting and Methodology Criteria would then defer heavily to the *Planning Act* requirements, given that any future applications would be subject to *Planning Act* approvals (i.e., Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-Law Amendment, Site Plan) and that Section 4.9.8 of the County OP specifically highlights the need for the establishment of waste disposal sites to be in accordance with the *Planning Act*. However, the Part 1 reports do not speak in any detail to the *Planning Act* or the PPS. Section 2.2 (Regulatory Framework) of both reports outline in some detail the EAA, the *Environmental Protection Act* (EPA) and the *Ontario Water Resources Act* (OWRA) but only mentions in passing that standard municipal approvals such as building permits and site plan approval will be required and that the *Planning Act* establishes land use by way of Official Plans at the County and local level and through zoning by-laws at the local level. There is no mention of the potential for an Official Plan or Zoning By-Law Amendment as part of the OPF/MMF siting process and there is no detailed description of the *Planning Act* or the requirement for planning authorities to be consistent with the policies of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). Section 4.2.2 (Evaluation Criteria) in both reports, does not include the *Planning Act* or PPS in the list of technical guidance documents that were used to create the evaluation criteria. In my opinion, this is a critical oversight at this preliminary stage of establishing methodology and evaluation criteria that is carried through the remainder of the study stages, resulting in the selection of locations based on criteria that is not in-keeping with the requirements of the PPS.

In the absence of this specific policy and legislative analysis in the MMF and OPF Part 1 documents, I provide the following brief outline of the *Planning Act* and its associated requirements:

Planning Act and Provincial Policy Statement

The purposes of the *Planning Act* are set out in Section 1.1 of the Act as follows:

- a. to promote sustainable economic development in a healthy natural environment within the policy and by the means provided under this Act;
- b. to provide for a land use planning system led by provincial policy;
- c. to integrate matters of provincial interest in provincial and municipal planning decisions;
- d. to provide for planning processes that are fair by making them open, accessible, timely and efficient;
- e. to encourage co-operation and co-ordination among various interests;
- f. to recognize the decision-making authority and accountability of municipal councils in planning.

Section 2 of the Act outlines those areas of Provincial interest that municipalities must have regard to and Section 3 of the Act further states that the Minister may issue policy statements on matters relating to municipal planning that are of provincial interest. Specifically, Section 3(5) requires that:

A decision of the council of a municipality, a local board, a planning board, a minister of the Crown and a ministry, board, commission or agency of the government, including the Municipal Board, in respect of the exercise of any authority that affects a planning matter,

- (a) shall be consistent with the policy statements issued under subsection (1) that are in effect on the date of the decision; and*
- (b) shall conform with the provincial plans that are in effect on that date, or shall not conflict with them, as the case may be. (emphasis added)*

In addition to Section 3(5), Section 3(6) requires that:

Comments, submissions or advice affecting a planning matter that are provided by the council of a municipality, a local board, a planning board, a minister or ministry, board, commission or agency of the government,

- (a) shall be consistent with the policy statements issued under subsection (1) that are in effect on the date the comments, submissions or advice are provided; and*
- (b) shall conform with the provincial plans that are in effect on that date, or shall not conflict with them, as the case may be. (emphasis added)*

The PPS is issued under the authority of Section 3 of the *Planning Act* and came into effect on April 30, 2014. Based on the requirements of the Act, any exercise of any authority that affects a planning matter "shall be consistent with" policy statements issued under the Act. Prior to the 2014 PPS, the 2005 PPS was in effect. Given that this project started in 2014, the 2014 PPS is applicable to the decision-making process however, as explained later, some of the planning documents being referred to by GHD were prepared pursuant to either the 2005 PPS or, in the case of the Springwater Official Plan (OP) and Comprehensive Zoning By-Law (CZBL), prior to the 2005 PPS.

Section 4.7 of the 2014 PPS notes that the OP is the most important vehicle for the implementation of PPS policies and that OPs shall identify provincial interests and set out appropriate land use designations and policies. It is further noted that, to determine the significance of some natural heritage features and other resources, evaluation may be required. Section 4.7 goes on to state that OPs shall provide clear, reasonable and attainable policies to protect provincial interests and direct development to suitable areas and that, to protect these interests, planning authorities shall keep their OPs up-to-date with the PPS. Of note, the Section also states that the policies of the PPS continue to apply after adoption and approval of an OP. In other words, when reviewing an application, even if an OP has been approved by the Province pursuant to the PPS, the PPS policies must still be reviewed when considering any application.

Section 4.8 of the PPS notes that zoning and development permits are important for implementation of the PPS and that planning authorities shall keep their zoning and development permit by-laws up to date with their OPs and the PPS.

Sections 4.7 and 4.8 are key considerations when assessing any planning application as it is important to know under which PPS (2005 or 2014) the OP and ZBL were created and whether those policy documents have had an opportunity to catch up to the requirements of the most current PPS, through an OP and CZBL Review. The Simcoe County OP was approved by Council

on November 25, 2008 (with an updated version approved by Council on January 22, 2013) and approved by the OMB on December 29, 2016. One of the challenges facing the study team was the fact that, while Council had approved the new OP, it was not yet in force due to the OMB appeal. As a result, the study team refers to both the in force (i.e. older) OP as well as the Council approved OP in the reports. From a natural heritage perspective, the in force OP was much less restrictive, in terms of both policy and mapping, and included a Greenlands designation that only identified Provincially Significant Wetlands as features to be protected whereas, the Council approved OP took a natural heritage system approach to defining the Greenlands designation, as required by the 2014 PPS, which resulted in significantly larger areas of the County being identified in this more restrictive designation.

The Springwater OP was approved by Council on October 6, 1997 and by the OMB on January 28, 1998. The Springwater CZBL was approved by Council on August 5, 2003 and by the OMB on May 1, 2004 with mapping and text changes in January 2014. As such, the Springwater OP and ZBL will need to be updated to reflect the policy requirements of the upper tier municipal OP as well as the 2014 PPS. Springwater Township launched their OP Review in the fall of 2016 with the intention of having an updated OP by Spring 2018². Regardless, the 2014 PPS applies to all the background documents prepared in support of the County's planning applications related to the MMF/OPF site however, the County and local OP policies are at various stages of conformance with the PPS.

With respect to Natural Heritage Resources, the PPS requires municipalities to use a natural heritage system approach to planning. Section 2.0 of the PPS provides a preamble to the natural heritage policies, outlining the Province's vision for the wise use and management of resources. Specifically, the preamble reads:

Ontario's long-term prosperity, environmental health, and social well-being depend on conserving biodiversity, protecting the health of the Great Lakes, and protecting natural heritage, water, agricultural, mineral and cultural heritage and archaeological resources for their economic, environmental and social benefits.

The PPS natural heritage policies that, in my opinion, should have been outlined in the Part 1 reports and carried into the evaluation criteria in Table 4 (Criteria Rationale) in each report, are outlined below:

2.1.1 Natural features and areas shall be protected for the long term.

2.1.2 The diversity and connectivity of natural features in an area, and the long-term ecological function and biodiversity of natural heritage systems, should be maintained, restored or, where possible, improved, recognizing linkages between and among natural heritage features and areas, surface water features and ground water features.

² Website. http://www.springwater.ca/municipal_services/planning_development/official_plan_review/. Obtained from website April 16, 2017.

- 2.1.3** Natural heritage systems shall be identified in Ecoregions 6E & 7E, recognizing that natural heritage systems will vary in size and form in settlement areas, rural areas, and prime agricultural areas.
- 2.1.4** Development and site alteration shall not be permitted in:
- significant wetlands in Ecoregions 5E, 6E and 7E; and,
 - significant coastal wetlands.
- 2.1.5** Development and site alteration shall not be permitted in:
- significant wetlands in the Canadian Shield north of Ecoregions 5E, 6E and 7E;
 - significant woodlands in Ecoregions 6E and 7E (excluding islands in Lake Huron and the St. Marys River);
 - significant valleylands in Ecoregions 6E and 7E (excluding islands in Lake Huron and the St. Marys River);
 - significant wildlife habitat;
 - significant areas of natural and scientific interest; and
 - coastal wetlands in Ecoregions 5E, 6E and 7E that are not subject to policy 2.1.4(b) unless it is demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or their ecological functions.
- 2.1.6** Development and site alteration shall not be permitted in fish habitat except in accordance with provincial and federal requirements.
- 2.1.7** Development and site alteration shall not be permitted in habitat of endangered species and threatened species, except in accordance with provincial and federal requirements.
- 2.1.8** Development and site alteration shall not be permitted on adjacent lands to the natural heritage features and areas identified in policies 2.1.4, 2.1.5 and 2.1.6 unless the ecological function of the adjacent lands has been evaluated and it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or on their ecological functions.

The PPS effectively creates a list of features that are 'no touch', such as Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs), fish habitat (subject to federal/provincial requirements) and habitat of endangered and threatened species (subject to federal/provincial requirements) as well as a list of features whereby development and site alteration *may be* permitted however, the onus is on the proponent to demonstrate that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or their ecological functions. The importance however, of Policies 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 cannot be overlooked. Policy 2.1.1 states that it is the Province's intention that natural features and areas be **protected in the long term** while Policy 2.1.2 expands on this by stating that the long-term ecological function and biodiversity of natural heritage systems should be **maintained, restored or, where possible, improved**. This requires a comprehensive consideration of natural heritage features and functions and one cannot simply focus on the 'no touch' areas identified in Policies 2.1.4, .2.1.6 and 2.1.7 when evaluating impacts to a natural heritage system.

In establishing the evaluation criteria, **Section 2.3** of the reports states that, "*GHD considered the evaluation criteria presented in various technical guidance documents applicable to the proposed undertaking (i.e., guidelines for siting/establishing waste transfer stations from other provinces including Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador and Waste Transfer Stations: A Manual for Decision Making from the United States Environmental Protection Agency*". Again, given the requirement for planning authorities to be consistent with the PPS policies, and the requirement in Policy 4.9.8 of the County OP that the establishment of waste disposal sites be in accordance with the *Planning Act*, it is concerning that reference is made to guidelines from other Provinces and the U.S., but not specifically to Ontario's *Planning Act*, the PPS or the natural heritage guidelines released in support of the PPS including the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) *Natural Heritage Reference Manual 2nd Edition (2010)* and the MNR *Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (2000)*.

Figure 3 in the reports is of significance when understanding the Screen 1 Evaluation Criteria and how it compares to the requirements of the PPS. Eight categories of criteria are included on the figure with an associated description (emphasis added):

- **Suitability – meets** minimum size requirement (OPF 13ha; MMF 7ha; facility and buffer)
- **Surface Water – avoids** wetlands and flood plains
- **Groundwater – avoids** Source Water Protection Areas
- **Agricultural – avoids** confirmed Prime Agricultural Areas (Specialty Crop Areas, Class 1, 2 and 3 Agricultural lands with noted exemptions)
- **Terrestrial – considers** impacts to County Greenlands, Niagara Escarpment and Oak Ridges Moraine areas with noted exemptions
- **Sensitive Receptors – avoids** sensitive receptors (e.g. residential areas, parks, recreational areas, and institutions)
- **Archaeological – avoids** known archaeologically significant areas;
- **Heritage – avoids** areas of known important cultural heritage.

In contrast to the other seven criteria, the Terrestrial criteria does not include the term 'avoid' but rather 'consider' impacts to County Greenlands, Niagara Escarpment and Oak Ridges Moraine areas. County Greenlands, at the time of the 2015 reports were only PSWs as per the in-force OP land use designations but included all the features listed in PPS policies 2.1.4 – 2.1.7 in the Council-approved OP.

In my opinion, for the siting methodology and evaluation criteria to be consistent with the PPS, and to be transparent as a decision-making tool, the report should have included reference to the *Planning Act* and the relevant PPS policies in Sections 2.2 and 4.2.2 of the Part 1 reports. In addition, to be consistent with the PPS, Screen 1 exclusionary criteria should have been to, at a minimum, avoid the habitat of endangered and threatened species, in addition to PSWs and floodplains. However, in addition to those exclusionary criteria, given: (1) the screening size criteria of the two facilities, including facility and buffer (OPF 13ha; MMF 7ha); (2) the purported reliance on the MOECC SEV; (3) the four principles upon which the siting and development of the facilities are to be based on; and, (4) the PPS natural heritage requirements, it would seem reasonable to assume, in an effort to be conservative, that a facility of the anticipated size(s)

would likely not be able to be constructed within an area of natural heritage significance without having a negative impact on the natural features or their ecological functions. As such, to be conservative, it would have been appropriate to eliminate any sites meeting these criteria, through Screen 1. Alternatively, if the County wanted to keep their options open with respect to undertaking additional environmental evaluations (as provided for in PPS Policy 2.1.5), certain natural heritage features could have been included in the evaluation criteria and, if properties passed all other exclusionary criteria, the property could have been carried forward to the Part 2 study for further consideration and closer and more detailed environmental evaluation. However, this additional evaluation during the Part 2 study would need to include natural heritage features and functions related specifically to significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat, fish habitat, significant valleylands and areas of natural and scientific interest.

Section 4.4.2 outlines the net effects analysis that will be undertaken on the short-listed sites. Of interest, the term 'net effect' is based in the EAA however, the PPS does not allow for 'net effect' to be considered. To be consistent with the PPS, an application must demonstrate *no negative impact* to the natural heritage feature and function. The provision of mitigation measures (or net effects) can only be considered after no negative impact has been demonstrated and cannot be used to assist with demonstrating no negative impact. In determining the net effects, the reports indicate that, after the Avoidance, Mitigation, Compensation and Enhancement (AMCE) measures are applied to the short-listed sites, the remaining net negative and net positive effects will be determined. This approach allowed for sites to remain on the short-list even though they may not meet the requirement of 'no negative impact' as required in the PPS, County OP and Springwater OP. The reports defer the detailed evaluation of no negative impact to the Environmental Impact Study only after the preferred site is selected. By doing so, the County created a decision-making matrix that could end up identifying a preferred site that may not be able to meet the 'no negative impact' test under the PPS, County and Springwater OPs.

The following is a summary of the issues raised with respect to the Part 1 documents:

1. The document does not contain sufficient reference to the *Planning Act* and PPS;
2. Screen 1 Evaluation Criteria should have, at a minimum, included the avoidance of the habitat of endangered species and threatened species. Without this criterion, the Screen 1 evaluation is not consistent with the PPS;
3. Screen 1 Evaluation Criteria could have taken a conservative approach and eliminated all sites within the Council approved Greenlands designation;
4. When establishing evaluation criteria, reference is made to technical documents from other Provinces and the United States with no apparent reference to technical documents created pursuant to the PPS for evaluating impacts to natural heritage features and functions;
5. Screen 3 evaluation criteria refer to 'no net effects' which is not the same as the 'no negative impact' test established by the PPS. As such, the Screen 3 evaluation is not consistent with the PPS, County of Simcoe OP and Springwater OP.

Part 2 – County of Simcoe – Materials Management Facility – Long List Evaluation (GHD, July 12, 2015) and Organics Processing Facility – Long List Evaluation (GHD, July 23, 2015)

As with the Part 1 reports, the content of the MMF and OPF reports are essentially the same and, as such, are referred to as one report unless otherwise noted.

The Part 2 reports apply the Screen 1 exclusionary criteria process to candidate sites and then apply another layer of screening to narrow the sites further. For both the MMF and OPF, a total of 502 sites (302 County-owned sites and 200 privately-owned sites) were evaluated against the Screen 1 criteria. Of the 302 County-owned sites, 249 of the sites (82.5%) were County Forests. Stated in another way, 50% of all sites considered for the MMF and OPF were covered in woodland.

Section 2.3.2 of the Part 2 report outlines that there were certain exemptions that were considered during the application of the Screen 1 evaluation criteria. Sites that were exempt from meeting a given criteria were allowed to pass Screen 1 and were to be evaluated in greater detail in Screen 2. The report states the following:

Given that a number of the potential sites that are County-owned are forest tracts, or "Greenlands" under the County's Official Plan, an exemption was reviewed for this type of site. County-owned Greenlands sites that met the rest of the Screen 1 criteria were carried forward to Screen 2 in order to confirm the current land use and the Official Plan designation of the lower-tier municipality. Further the County's Official Plan does allow for developments to re-designate lands in the Greenlands designation if an EIS is prepared and demonstrates:

- i) That the subject lands do not contain natural features, or if they do, that the proposed development or site alteration will have no negative impacts on those natural features or their ecological functions or to natural features or their ecological functions on adjacent lands.*
- ii) That the lands are not required as a connection or ecological function to the natural heritage systems.*

This is a critical piece to the decision-making framework that sets up a problematic evaluation methodology. The first problem is that sites with significant natural heritage features and functions were exempt from Screen 1 on the basis that there would be a more rigorous environmental evaluation during Screen 2 however, the Screen 2 Environmental evaluation criteria (as outlined below on pages 19-20), does not include any natural heritage feature/function criteria for the sites to be screened against.

The second problem results from the expressed preference to find a site that is already owned by the County. Given that the vast majority of the candidate County landholdings (82.5%) are County Forests, the study team must work around PPS and OP policies that would, in almost all cases, direct them to look for sites outside of the natural heritage system before ever considering the placement of such infrastructure within a natural heritage feature or system. As a result, GHD relies on Policy 3.3.6 of the County OP (2016) which states the following:

- 3.3.6** Where feasible, and subject to local municipal policies and bylaws, infrastructure and passive recreational uses may be located in any designation of this Plan, subject to Sections 3.8 and 4.2, and the requirements of the Niagara Escarpment Plan, Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, Greenbelt Plan and Lake Simcoe Protection Plan where applicable, and applicable provincial and federal policy and legislation. Where applicable, only such uses permitted in the Greenlands designation (see Section 3.8) are those which have successfully completed any required provincial and/or federal environmental assessment process or proceedings under the Drainage Act.

Of note, the policy states that infrastructure *may be* located in any designation but that such infrastructure would be subject to Section 3.8 and 4.2 of the OP as well as applicable provincial and federal policy and legislation. This would suggest that the PPS natural heritage policies are applicable when considering placing infrastructure within any land use designation as well as provincial and federal species at risk legislation. The wording of the policy also suggests that there is an opportunity for the County, especially if they are the proponent, to exclude a land use designation from consideration. In other words, Policy 3.3.6 *does not require* the County to consider Greenlands for the purpose of siting infrastructure and provides them with the ability to exclude Greenlands from such consideration.

Based on the requirements of Section 3.3.6, any proposal for infrastructure must be assessed against the requirements of Sections 3.8 and 4.2 of the OP. Section 3.8 (Greenlands) notes that the rationale for the Greenlands designation is based on a 1996 background report, revised in 2008, titled "*Development of a Natural Heritage System for the County of Simcoe*". The Objectives of the Greenlands designation are:

- 3.8.1** To protect and restore the natural character, form, function, and connectivity of the natural heritage system of the County of Simcoe, and to sustain the natural heritage features and areas and ecological functions of the Greenlands designation and local natural heritage systems for future generations.
- 3.8.2** To promote biodiversity and ecological integrity within the County's natural heritage features and areas and the Greenlands designation.
- 3.8.3** To improve the quality, connectivity and amount of woodlands and wetlands cover across the County.
- 3.8.4** To ensure that species and communities of conservation concern can continue to flourish and evolve throughout the County.
- 3.8.5** To contribute to the protection, improvement, and restoration of the quality and quantity of surface water and ground water and the function of sensitive surface water features and sensitive ground water features within the County.
- 3.8.6** To ensure that the Greenlands designation complements and supports the natural heritage systems established in provincial plans and is linked with the natural heritage systems of adjacent jurisdictions, and to require local municipalities to identify and

protect natural features and ecological functions that in turn complement and support the Greenlands.

3.8.7 To ensure that the location, scale and form of development respect and support the protection of the County's natural heritage system.

3.8.8 To provide opportunities for natural heritage enjoyment and appreciation and for recreational and tourism uses in keeping with the Greenlands objectives, that foster healthy and liveable communities and enhance the sense of place and quality of life that characterize the County.

The criteria for inclusion in the Greenlands designation is listed in Section 3.8.10:

3.8.10 The County's natural heritage system primarily includes the following natural heritage features and areas, wherever they occur in the County:

- a) Habitat of endangered species and threatened species;
- b) Significant wetlands, significant coastal wetlands, other coastal wetlands, and all wetlands 2.0ha or larger in area which have been determined to be locally significant, including but not limited to evaluated wetlands;
- c) Significant woodlands;
- d) Significant valleylands;
- e) Significant wildlife habitat;
- f) Significant areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSIs);
- g) Regional areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSIs)
- h) Fish habitat;
- i) Linkage areas in accordance with Section 3.3.16; and,
- j) Public lands as defined in the Public Lands Act.

The County's natural heritage system is generally identified as the Greenlands designation on Schedule 5.1.

Section 3.8.11 goes on to recognize that the mapping may not reflect certain features such as habitat of endangered and threatened species.

Section 3.8.15 outlines the permitted uses within the Greenlands designation outside of settlement areas as:

- i. Agricultural uses;
- ii. Agricultural-related uses;
- iii. On-farm diversified uses;
- iv. Forestry on public lands or in County forests in accordance with an approved management plan and sustainable forest practices;
- v. Forestry on private lands as permitted by the County's Forest Conservation Bylaw or by a local municipality's tree bylaw under the Municipal Act, 2001;

- vi. Mineral aggregate operations, if approved through a local Official Plan amendment;
- vii. Outdoor passive recreational use; and,
- viii. Subject to demonstrating that the lands are not within a prime agricultural area, residential dwelling units on lots which were approved prior to the approve date of this policy (May 9, 2016).

Infrastructure is not among the permitted uses in the Greenlands designation however, Section 3.8.19 speaks to infrastructure. Specifically, it states:

3.8.19 Infrastructure authorized under an environmental assessment process may be permitted within the Greenlands designation or on adjacent lands. Infrastructure not subject to the environmental assessment process, may be permitted within the Greenlands designation or on adjacent lands in accordance with Section 3.3.15.

Given that it was determined that this Infrastructure was not subject to the environmental assessment process, the requirements of Section 3.3.15 (Natural Heritage) must be considered which state:

- 3.3.15** Despite anything else in this Plan, except Section 4.4 as it applies to mineral aggregate operations only, development and site alteration shall not be permitted:
- i. In significant wetlands and significant coastal wetlands.
 - ii. In the following unless it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or their ecological functions: Significant woodlands, significant valleylands, significant wildlife habitat, significant areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSIs), and coastal wetlands (not covered by 3.3.15i) above).
 - iii. In the following regional and local features, where a local official plan has identified such features, unless it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural heritage features or their ecological functions: wetlands 2.0ha or larger in area determined to be locally significant by an approved EIS, including but not limited to evaluated wetlands, and Regional areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSIs).
 - iv. In fish habitat except in accordance with provincial and federal requirements.
 - v. In habitat of endangered species and threatened species, except in accordance with provincial and federal requirements.
 - vi. On adjacent lands to the natural heritage features and areas listed above, unless the ecological function of the adjacent lands has been evaluated and it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or on their ecological functions. Adjacent lands shall generally be considered to be:
 - a. Within 120m of habitat of endangered species and threatened species, significant wetlands, significant coastal wetlands, wetlands 2.0ha or larger determined to be locally significant by an approved EIS, significant

- woodlands, significant wildlife habitat, significant areas of natural and scientific interest – life science, significant valleylands, and fish habitat;
- b. Within 50m of significant areas of natural and scientific interest – earth science;
 - c. A reduced adjacent lands from the above may be considered based on the nature of intervening land uses. The extent of the reduced area will be determined by the approval authority in consultation with the applicant prior to the submission of a development application, and supported by an EIS, demonstrating there will be no negative impacts beyond the proposed reduced adjacent lands area.

The County is applying to re-designate a portion of the subject property to allow for the MMF/OPF. As such, Sections 3.8.22 and 3.8.23 apply which state:

- 3.8.22** Proposals to re-designate lands in the Greenlands designation shall not be permitted unless an EIS is submitted to the satisfaction of the County demonstrating that the policies of Section 3.3.15, 3.3.16, 3.8.15, 3.8.16 or 4.4.1 as applicable, and the relevant policies of the local municipal official plan are satisfied.
- 3.8.23** Proposals to re-designate lands in the Greenlands designation are required to demonstrate if the lands are within a prime agricultural area. Re-designation proposals for lands within a prime agricultural area shall only be permitted to the Agricultural designation.

Of interest, as noted within the Part 1 report description, GHD referred to both the in-force County OP as well as the Council-approved OP however, when preparing the mapping for the short-listed sites in the Part 2 report, they only use the Greenlands mapping from the in-force (i.e., older) OP. This results in a misrepresentation on the figures that would lead the reader to believe that the majority the sites, including the site that was ultimately identified as the preferred site (Site C136), have limited natural heritage features present whereas, in many cases, the entire site is within the Greenlands designation of the Council-approved OP. The provision of such mapping in the report and at public meetings, in my opinion, does not achieve the stated goal of having an open and consultative process. I do note that later, in the Part 3 report, GHD does recognize that both sets of Greenlands mapping were utilized in evaluating the short-listed sites. It is unknown why such an approach was not incorporated into the Part 2 process.

Given the reliance by GHD on the provisions of the County OP, that would allow for the consideration of infrastructure within the Greenlands designation, I would have expected that the Part 1 and 2 reports would have taken a much more critical examination of the County's OP objectives and policies related to natural heritage system conservation and enhancement to assess whether it was appropriate to only exclude wetlands and floodplains in Screen 1 or whether, given GHD's reliance on the MOECC SEV, MOECC mandate and the stated principles for siting and developing the facilities (all of which have words that would direct GHD to create site selection criteria that would avoid natural heritage features and functions) it would have been appropriate to expand the exclusionary criteria to all areas designated as Greenland in the County OP.

As outlined above, Section 2.3.2 of the report allows for sites to be exempt from the Screen 1 process if they meet all other requirements, other than the Greenlands requirements, because to do otherwise, would have likely removed all the County Forests from consideration. The reports justify this by suggesting that this would allow the County to more closely examine these parcels in the context of their existing land uses (which, for the County Forests, are already well-known) as well as the local OP designations. Deferral to the local OP designations is problematic because, as outlined earlier, the County OP was still under appeal at the OMB which means that the existing local OPs would only be reflective of the requirements of the 1997 County OP, a Plan which pre-dates even the 2005 PPS. GHD and the County should have known that the land use designations within the local OPs would have been much less restrictive than what current PPS policy requires as it relates to natural heritage. This establishes a decision-making framework whereby the County Forests will be assessed with a local land use designation that is not reflective of the natural heritage features and functions that exist on the parcel simply given the natural heritage policies under which those local OPs were created.

In addition to the County OP policies, it is important to understand the requirements of the Springwater OP given the requirement for a local OPA. One must keep in mind the age of the OP when considering the policy requirements and the fact that it has not been brought into conformity with the PPS or County OP. As a result, in my opinion, the Springwater OP policies are informative however, the application would still need to meet the requirements of the PPS.

The first Goal listed in the Springwater Official Plan is:

2.2.1 To ensure the maintenance, protection and enhancement of natural heritage features.

Section 2 of the OP outlines the purpose and basis of the Plan. Section 2.3.5 outlines three primary functions that the Township is intended to have. These three are related to natural heritage protection, growth management and economic development. With respect to the natural environment, Section 2.3.5.1 states:

2.3.5.1 That of a rural municipality focusing on protection of its natural resource base and natural heritage systems as follows:

- a) Lands of good agricultural potential;
- b) Provincially and locally significant wetlands and significant regional and local groundwater aquifer areas;
- c) Significant woodlands;
- d) Valley lands;
- e) And wildlife habitat and endangered and threatened species;
- f) ANSI's;
- g) Aggregate Resources;
- h) Surface and groundwater resources;
- i) Streams, rivers and lakes.

The goals and purpose of the Township clearly articulate the municipality's interest in protecting its natural heritage features and functions. This direction is further articulated in the Natural Heritage (Environmental Protection Policies) in Section 16. Specifically, the Natural Heritage Objectives are:

- 16.1.1** To conserve, maintain and enhance the quality and integrity of the Natural Heritage features and ecological processes of the Township including air, water, land, and living resources for the benefit of future generations.
- 16.1.2** To preserve and protect all internationally, Provincially and Locally significant Wetlands and Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (A.N.S.I.'s) situated within the Township.
- 16.1.3** To prevent the diminishment of ecosystem biodiversity and provide for the long term viability of the Natural Heritage System by approving only those land uses which are demonstrated to be environmentally sound and do not negatively impact natural features or environmental functions.
- 16.1.4** To encourage and promote the use of a variety of planning engineering and resource management approaches and techniques to realize the hydrological, biological and socio-economic benefits derived from the long-term protection of the Natural Heritage System.
- 16.1.5** To ensure the wise use and conservation of the ground and surface water resources of the Township and to maintain and protect the function of sensitive groundwater recharge/discharge, aquifer and headwaters areas on a watershed and subwatershed basis.
- 16.1.6** To prevent loss of life, minimize property damage and social disruption through the proper management and regulation of flood plain lands or lands possessing steep slopes, areas of soil or bedrock instability, high water tables, or other constraints or natural hazards.

The OP then goes on to create two categories of natural heritage protection. Category 1 lands are defined as undeveloped natural areas of high environmental quality and significance and/or sensitivity. The following features are designated Category 1: Internationally, provincially and locally significant wetlands; Provincially significant ANSIs or other combinates of habitat or landform which could be essential for scientific research or conservation education; significant portions of the habitat of threatened and endangered species; and, significant natural watercourses and ravines. Category 2 lands are defined as areas of lesser environmental significance and/or sensitivity although areas of high environmental quality may also be present. The following features are designated Category 2: lands situated adjacent to provincially and locally significant wetlands and other Natural Heritage (Environmental Protection) – Category 1 lands; unique and significant biologically sensitive wildlife habitat; forests and woodlots; natural connections through valley corridors or other linkages between core areas of the Natural Heritage

System; groundwater recharge and discharge, aquifer, and shoreline areas; and, natural fish habitat.

It is important to note that the description of natural features, and the division of environmental protection areas into categories of varying significance, is reflective of the planning framework at the time that the Springwater OP was created (1990s). Given the updated County OP, Springwater Township is in the process of updating their OP which will need to be consistent with the County OP policies. This will lead to the creation of a Greenlands designation within the Springwater OP that will need to be, at a minimum, as restrictive as the County's OP as it relates to natural heritage protection. In other words, lands that were previously identified as Category 2 lands, will be incorporated into the overall Greenlands designation with the associated protective policies.

Of interest, Schedule A-2 of the Springwater OP designates the property as Rural and Agriculture with only a small portion designated as Environmental Protection Category 2 on Schedule B-2 however, the Category 2 criteria designation includes forests and woodlots as features that merit an Environmental Protection Category 2 designation. It would be interesting to know how the Township has approached such discrepancies in the past whereby the OP mapping is not representative of the environmental features that are now known to exist on the property. Section 16.2.1.3 does acknowledge that the municipality should amend the Schedules of the OP and ZBL to incorporate more detailed mapping of components of the Natural Heritage System when such mapping becomes available.

The Township's wetland policies (Section 16.2.1.4.1) prohibit development within wetlands that are designated as Category 1 on Schedule A and within unclassified wetlands not shown on Schedule A. The policies also prohibit development within 30m of a Class 1-3 wetland and within 15m of a Class 4-7 wetland. The Township's Significant Habitat of Endangered and Threatened species policies prohibit development in areas of habitat of endangered or threatened species and require the preparation of an EIA to identify the location, size amount, configuration and quality of the habitat requiring protection (Section 16.2.1.4.1(c)(ii) and (iv)). Section (v) also indicates that, as conditions change or new information becomes known regarding areas of habitat of endangered species, these lands/or waters may be designated Natural Heritage (Environmental Protection) Category 1 Lands on Schedule A and shall be placed in the appropriate zoning category to ensure no development or site alteration.

Section 16.2.1.4.2(b) contains the Township's policies related to Significant Biologically Sensitive Wildlife Habitat. Again, the policies are reflective of the planning process that was in place in the 1990s. The list of features that are considered significant wildlife habitat are not in-keeping with the vast list of habitats that would be considered as significant under the 2014 PPS and associated technical guidelines.

Within Section 16.2.1.4.2(c) Forests and Woodlots, forests are defined as treed areas that vary in their level of significance and provide a variety of diverse environmental and economic benefits such as erosion prevention, water retention, a sustainable harvest of wood and other forest products, provision of habitat, public recreational opportunities where permitted and aesthetic enjoyment. Subsection (d) indicates that significant forests may be determined by the Township

according to the combination of various factors such as species composition, age and maturity, contiguous size, terrain characteristics, Natural Heritage System linkages and connections, aesthetic and historical values and productive capacity. Again, subsequent to the approval of the Springwater OP, the Province has released criteria pursuant to the PPS for identifying significant woodlands. Subsection (e) allows for the consideration of development within or adjacent to significant forests if an EIA demonstrates that the proposal will not negatively impact the forest area and the values for which it is identified. Interestingly, this wording is very similar to the 2014 PPS requirement to demonstrate no negative impact.

Section 16.2.4.1 provides three levels of Environmental Impact Assessments (Studies) that may be required: Comprehensive, Site and Scoped. A Scoped EIA is defined as one which consists of a focused review which assesses small scale development where environmental impacts can reasonably be expected to result in minimal disruption and change and/or where the expected impacts can be easily mitigated. I am not certain whether the Scoped EIS that was prepared by the County was based on this definition. Regardless, in my opinion, the provision of a Scoped EIS, for a proposed development that had no detailed environmental evaluation undertaken as part of the site selection process, is not appropriate and the site should have been subject to a comprehensive assessment.

Based on the above, although the Springwater OP is not up to date with the most current Provincial and County natural heritage requirements, there are many policies that are at least similar to the current policies related to natural heritage conservation and the OP does require the demonstration of no negative impacts to natural heritage features and functions associated with wetlands, habitat of endangered and threatened species and woodlands.

Upon completion of the Screen 1 evaluation process, 23 sites were carried forward to the long list evaluation in Screen 2 for the MMF and 53 sites for the OPF. Of the 23 MMF sites, 16 were County Forests (70%) and of the OPF sites, 41 were County Forests (77%). Figure 5 (Screen 2 – Evaluation Criteria) illustrates the technical, environmental and social criteria upon which the long-list of sites were evaluated. The evaluation criteria are as follows:

Technical

- Suitability – site layout, topography and soil conditions
- Utilities and Services – availability and distance from utilities and services
- Permitting/Approvals – feasibility and complexity of permitting/approvals

Environmental

- Air Quality – Proximity to sensitive receptors
- Odour – Proximity to sensitive receptors
- Noise - Proximity to sensitive receptors

Social

- Land Use/Zoning – Compatibility with existing land uses/zoning designations on adjacent lands

- **Land Use/Zoning** – current land use, zoning, approved development plans and proposed land use change
- **Transportation** – existing/required transportation infrastructure

Given that many sites were exempted from the Screen 1 criteria for environmental reasons so that a more detailed evaluation could take place at the Screen 2 level, I would have expected specific reference to features such as significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat, significant valleylands, fish habitat and ANSIs within the Environmental category. The absence of these brings into question whether the Screen 2 evaluation is consistent with the requirements of the PPS and whether it was appropriate to allow certain sites to advance to Screen 2, on the promise of a more detailed environmental evaluation, when such criteria are lacking from the Screen 2 process.

Upon completion of the Screen 2 evaluation process, 5 sites were carried forward to the short list evaluation for the MMF and 7 for the OPF site. Of the 5 MMF sites, 4 were County Forests (80%) and of the 7 OPF sites, 5 were County Forests (71%).

The following is a summary of the issues raised with respect to the Part 2 documents:

1. The County's stated preference for finding a site that is already owned by the County results in the inclusion of County-owned forests in the site selection process;
2. 82.5% of the County-owned sites that are included in the candidate sites are County Forests;
3. 50% of all candidate sites are County Forests;
4. After Screen 1 is applied, 70% of the MMF long-list sites are County Forests and 77% of the OPF long-list sites are County Forests;
5. After Screen 2 is applied, 4 out of 5 of the MMF short-list sites are County Forests (80%) and 5 out of 7 of the OPF short-list sites are County Forests (71%);
6. The preponderance of County Forests in the list of candidate sites, the lack of consideration for natural heritage features such as habitat of endangered and threatened species, significant woodlands and significant wildlife habitat as exclusionary criteria and the consideration of 'no net effect' rather than the PPS requirement of 'no negative impact' has led to the identification of a short-list of sites that may not be consistent with the PPS, County and Local OP policies;
7. The Springwater OP policies would suggest that the County Forest sites would, at a minimum, meet the Natural Heritage (Environmental Protection) Category 2 criteria however, the mapping has not been updated;
8. The County is relying on the out-of-date Springwater OP and zoning designations whereas they would be aware that the OP and ZBL will need to be brought into conformance with the County OP thereby resulting in the County Forests having a Greenlands designation at the local level.

Part 3 – County of Simcoe – Organics Processing Facility, Materials Management Facility, and Co-Located Facility – Short List Evaluation (GHD, February 26, 2016)

The Part 3 report merges the previous Part 1 and 2 reports for the OPF and MMF given that the majority of the short-list of sites in each report were identical, and ultimately recommends co-locating the facility on the same property. This is in direct contrast to Section 1.2 of the MMF Part 1 report which states the following:

As noted in the Strategy and as previously directed by Council, the County is also currently considering the development of an Organics Processing Facility. While initial consideration would appear beneficial to co-locate these facilities, staff did not recommend siting the MMF and OPF together for the following reasons:

- **Different Siting Requirements** – an OPF and MMF are each suited to different types of properties. An OPF is best suited to a more rural setting, away from significantly populated areas and would require a large property to ensure compliance with provincial odour unit requirements. A MMF, with less potential for odour impacts, would not require a significant amount of land. It will be best suited in proximity to the 'waste centroid' – with a greater emphasis on access to transportation routes and a more central location.
- **Approvals Complexities** - siting two facilities together has the potential to further complicate already lengthy and difficult provincial approvals processes. The composting technology approvals process is more complicated than that for a transfer facility.
- **Continuity of Service** – in regards to business continuity planning, separate facilities would reduce the risk to the County in the event of an emergency situation. Impacts from a natural disaster, fire, or even a lengthy power outage would be mitigated by operating these facilities independently.

The Part 3 report does not reflect on these original staff recommendations or how these concerns have been addressed through the co-location of the facility. Reference is made, in Section 1.1, to a technical memorandum that GHD prepared, outlining the potential to co-locate both facilities, that was submitted with the Part 2 reports however, a copy of the memorandum could not be located online.

The Part 3 report evaluates the short-listed sites against the Screen 3 criteria and, according to the Executive Summary, is intended to include a discussion of how public and stakeholder feedback was addressed and incorporated into the evaluation of the short-listed sites. Of interest, I reviewed the public feedback that was appended to the Part 3 report. Of 234 comments received (not including comments that appear to be from either a Twitter account or the County website because it was not possible to determine whether I would be double counting comments by the same person given the lack of identification), 169 comments either specifically commented against the County's inclusion of County Forests in the candidate sites or, more generally, commented on the importance of not locating such a facility within a natural area. That represents 72% of the comments received. In addition, the County received petitions against the use of

several of the County Forest Sites, including the Sanford Forest (348 signatures), the Craighurst/Millennium Forest (317 signatures) and Sites C270 (Unnamed County Forest) and the Freele Forest (655 signatures combined) however, there is little to no dialogue in the Part 3 report with respect to the significant and valid concerns raised by the public and how the concerns have been addressed. This is especially concerning given the commitment at the outset of the process to provide opportunities for stakeholder input, to have an open and consultative process and to follow the MOECC SEV. In fact, the public's substantial concerns are diminished later in the *Scoped Environmental Impact Study*, prepared by GHD, dated November 17, 2016, by stating that the proposed area of forest removal represents less than a 1% loss of total contiguous woodland. By making this statement, the author of the EIS is essentially missing the point that the public was trying to make which is that, in their opinion, no forest removal is appropriate for the construction of such a facility.

It is difficult to evaluate the Part 3 report given that, in my opinion, the short-list of sites that have been derived has not been done based on a process that is consistent with the PPS or with current natural heritage systems planning. The evaluation of the sites refers to net effects which, again, is not the same as no negative impact. Thus, the Part 3 evaluations cannot be considered to be consistent with the PPS. Section 2.3.7 [Identification of the Preferred Site(s)] states that the rationale (trade-off) that favours one site over all others was derived from:

1. Study purpose
2. Legislation, policies/guidelines
3. Issues/concerns identified during consultation with stakeholders
4. Experience and expertise of the Project Team
5. The site rankings as completed during the comparative analysis.

Such an approach is problematic when you consider the following:

Study Purpose

A review of the three background documents reveals that a 'Study Purpose' was never specifically stated. As noted previously, GHD places heavy reliance on the MOECC SEV so, perhaps it would be reasonable to assume that Item 1 above is intended to refer to the site and development criteria listed in Section 4.1 of the Part 1 report, which were based on the SEV. If so, one would expect that the preferred site would:

- Prevent, reduce and eliminate impacts to the environment;
- Protect and conserve natural resources and sensitive areas;
- Integrate social, economic and other considerations; and,
- Provide opportunities for an open and consultative process.

Based on my analysis, the selection of a site that is entirely forested does not prevent, reduce or eliminate impacts to the environment and does not protect or conserve natural resources or sensitive areas. The substantial concerns raised by the public against the use of the County Forests, the specific petition against the use of several of the County Forest, and the general lack

of response from the study team to those concerns, is not indicative of an open and consultative process that has taken public concerns into consideration.

Legislation, policies/guidelines

The background reports include limited discussion of the *Planning Act*, Provincial Policy Statement and County and local OP policies and provide no analysis as to how the site selection process is consistent with the requirements of the Act and PPS. In my opinion, the County has not demonstrated that through the selection of the preferred site, they have adhered to the required legislation, policies and guidelines.

Issues/Concerns identified through consultation with stakeholders

In order to achieve this, GHD would have had to address the issues and concerns identified by the stakeholders during the consultation process. As noted above, little to no significance has been placed on the concerns raised by the public with respect to the inclusion of forested areas in the site selection process.

Experience and Expertise of the Project Team

I cannot speak to the experience and expertise of the Project Team in terms of evaluating development applications however, it would be interesting to know if the Project Team has been involved in any similar municipal study that included such a preponderance of natural heritage sites within the candidate site selection process.

Site Rankings as completed during the comparative analysis

Finally, given that the comparative analysis is qualitative, and that it considered **net effects**, rather than **no negative impacts**, the preferred site has not been selected based on the requirements of the PPS. Deferring the detailed environmental evaluation to a later stage in the process also eliminated the ability to evaluate the preferred site against other sites using the required test of no negative impact.

The following is a summary of the issues raised with respect to the Part 3 document:

1. The report concludes that co-locating the facilities is appropriate, contrary to a staff recommendation made earlier in the process. The issues raised by staff previously have not been addressed in the report;
2. At a minimum, 72% of the written comments received from the public requested that the County not consider the placement of these facilities within natural areas and, more specifically, within County Forests. In addition, a total of 1,320 signatures were collected on several petitions speaking out against the use of several of the County Forests under consideration in the short-list evaluation. The report does not provide sufficient discussion with respect to these numerous and valid concerns;
3. The evaluation uses a test of no net effects rather than no negative impact, which is not consistent with the requirements of the PPS, County or Springwater OPs; and,
4. The County has not demonstrated that they have adhered to the requirements of the PPS throughout the site selection process.

Neighbourhood Landowner Meeting Notes and Follow-Up, County of Simcoe, September 8, 2016

Meeting notes were prepared following a landowner meeting that was held by the County on September 8, 2016. On page 8, under the topic of County Forests, the following question and associated response is recorded:

Question – *Residents believe the County fixed the selection of the forested tract by allowing 48% of the long list to include Simcoe county forest assets. The process to evaluate the sites showed a clear bias in favour of returning Simcoe County Forest to wasteland instead of selecting an industrial site which would be a more appropriate location to dump waste.*

Response – *There is no requirement to declare a property surplus to change its use. We have been through the siting process, the County started with the premise that we did not want to expropriate land for this site, all County owned properties were looked at. We are past the siting process and now at the stage of proving the site is viable by the studies done.*

I have two concerns with the response provided by the County. First, the response states that they are past the siting process. While it is true that the County has completed the background studies, those studies are supporting documentation to an Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendment process that, at the time of the meeting, had yet to take place. At the time of the neighbourhood meeting there had been no ability for the public to participate in a legislated process (i.e. a process pursuant to the *Environmental Assessment Act* or the *Planning Act*). As such, the siting process is not complete but rather, still needs to be vetted through the *Planning Act* process. In my opinion, the response provided by the County gives the erroneous impression that the public has no further say in the site selection process and that they must simply accept the preferred site. My second concern is that the response reads, "now at the stage of proving the site is viable by the studies done". The meeting was held on September 8. The supporting studies (EIS, Agricultural Impact Assessment, Hydrogeologic Assessment, etc.) were not released until November so County staff could not have known, at that time, whether the studies supported the preferred site selection. In addition, the purpose of the studies is not to prove the site is viable but rather, to determine whether the site meets the requirements of the PPS and OPs from the perspective of natural heritage, water and agricultural policies. The response, in my opinion, further suggests to the public that the determination of viability has already been made based on the Part 1 – 3 reports even though those reports undertook no detailed site investigations of any of the candidate sites.

Scoped Environmental Impact Study, GHD, November 17, 2016

The purpose of the Scoped Environmental Impact Study (EIS) is to evaluate the proposed OPF/MMF at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road against the PPS requirements related to natural heritage and water. As this is mainly an ecological analysis, I will defer most of the review to Dougan and Associates and have relied on their professional opinion, as outlined in their letter dated June 2, 2017 with respect to whether the fieldwork and analysis has demonstrated no

negative impact to the following: Provincially Significant Wetlands, habitat of endangered and threatened species, significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat, significant valleylands, significant areas of natural and scientific interest and fish habitat. My review relates to the policy context of the assessment as well as some of the assumptions/conclusions that were drawn before and during the assessment.

Section 2 (Existing Conditions, Natural Features and Resources), Table 2.1 lists Secondary Source Information Reviewed. The list is missing the Provincial Policy Statement as well as the Springwater Official Plan. In addition, 'Freele County Forest management documents' are listed however, no specific reference is provided. A copy of these management documents should be provided as it appears that they are being relied upon as part of this report.

Section 3 (Preliminary Development Plan) describes the proposed development and refers the reader to GHD's *Facility Characteristics Report*, provided under separate cover, for additional details. A site concept plan/layout is not included in the EIS for the reader to reference. There is no discussion of grading works that may be required to facilitate the entrance, site preparation, staging areas, etc. and the associated potential environmental impacts.

Section 4 (Regulatory/Policy Framework) provides a brief outline of the Springwater and County OP, the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, Species at Risk Legislation and Provincial Policy Statement. Given that the detailed natural heritage policy implications have been deferred to the EIS, I would have expected a robust explanation of all the applicable PPS policies, County and Local OP policies, and federal/provincial legislation within the document.

Within **Section 4.5 (Provincially Policy Statement)**, GHD states, "Overall, the proposed ERRC footprint of 4.5ha represents an extremely small disturbance to a greater than 475ha contiguous woodland of the 32,000ha Simcoe County Forest (less than 1% and 0.01% respectively)". It is unclear why GHD mentions this as this fact has nothing to do with the on-site evaluation that they have been tasked with undertaking. The size of the overall feature is only one aspect that needs to be considered when evaluating significance. It is concerning that such a statement is made within this document. Reference to the overall forested landholdings of the County (32,000 ha) also suggests that the author is minimizing the potential impacts associated with the proposed development. Again, the overall amount of landholdings by a municipality is not a criteria upon which to measure negative impact.

Also within **Section 4.5**, with respect to significant woodlands, GHD concludes that, based on the size of wooded area, the Study Area contributes to an interior forest habitat that meets the County's minimum size criteria for consideration as a Significant Woodland. The report then goes on to state that this interior forest habitat is temporary because the property (and ERRC footprint) is part of a managed and actively harvested woodlot. In my opinion, this conclusion is false and it is unclear what facts that author is using to support this conclusion. To remove the interior forest habitat, much of the site would need to be clear cut. Over a period of 69 years (1948 – 2017) such a forestry practice has not taken place on this tract nor does the County Forest Plan suggest that such a practice is contemplated in any County Forest. In fact, through good forestry practices, such as those practiced by the County according to their County Forest Plan, selective harvesting would have no impact on the extent of interior forest habitat. Building on their

conclusion, GHD then states that, 'As an actively managed and harvested plantation woodlot, the proposed ERRC footprint and immediately adjacent areas does not exhibit uncommon characteristics or economic and social functional values as defined in the Natural Heritage Reference Manual (MNR, 2010).' I will defer to Dougan and Associates' analysis of significance however, I would recommend that GHD is building on an erroneous statement with respect to interior forest habitat so I would question the accuracy of the follow-up conclusion.

Finally, within Section 4.5, GHD concludes that the site does not meet the criteria of Significant Wildlife Habitat. This analysis takes place within one paragraph of the report. I will defer to Dougan and Associates with respect to their opinion as to whether it has been demonstrated that Significant Wildlife Habitat does not exist however, I would have expected the analysis to have been much more robust considering that a minimum of 4.5 ha of wooded area is proposed for removal to facilitate the footprint of the ERRC. Additional impacts associated with the need to widen the existing trail to create a driveway of an appropriate width to accommodate the truck traffic, the relocation of the existing trail and the potential for future expansion also requires additional consideration in the evaluation of no negative impacts.

As stated previously, GHD seems to be relying on no net effects. This is further demonstrated through their suggestion that the loss of forest cover can be compensated through the planting of trees elsewhere to offset the loss. Such an approach is not consistent with the PPS requirement to demonstrate no negative impact. The proponent must first demonstrate that the proposed development will not have a negative impact on the feature and/or function and only then, if no negative impact is demonstrated, can there be a suggestion of mitigation measures such as off-site tree planting. Even if one was to accept that off-site tree planting could be contemplated as a mitigation measure, the County should be obligated, as part of the EIS and OPA process, to identify where such a location exists that could accommodate 4.5-9ha of tree planting (based on a 1:1 or the preferred 2:1 ratio of planting expressed by GHD on page 23). If such a parcel of land is not already in County ownership, presumably the previous evaluation matrix (Parts 1 – 3 of the siting process) should have considered the cost of purchasing such a parcel as well as the cost of tree planting and maintenance. The parcel not only needs to be large enough to accommodate the 4.5-9ha worth of planting, it would also need to be an environmentally appropriate site that is adjacent to existing Greenlands, etc.

I have reviewed the letter prepared by Dougan and Associates dated June 2, 2017. Based on that letter, in their professional opinion, the County has not demonstrated no negative impact on significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat or the habitat of endangered and threatened species. As such, from a planning perspective, the Scoped EIS has not demonstrated that the proposed development is consistent with the requirements of the *Planning Act*, PPS, County and Springwater OP. As a result, the County and Local Official Plan Amendments and the Local Zoning By-Law Amendment should not be approved as they do not meet the requirements of the Province, County or Township.

I have also reviewed the comments provided by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) dated March 2, 2017 and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) dated April 7, 2017. The NVCA and MMAH raise similar concerns to those raised by Dougan and

Associates related to insufficient documentation in the report to support the conclusion that significant wildlife habitat and species at risk habitat does not exist on the property.

Planning Justification Report, GHD, November 17, 2016

The Planning Justification Report provides an analysis of several PPS policies including those related to Land Use Compatibility, Infrastructure and Public Service Facilities, Waste Management, Natural Heritage, Water and Agriculture. With respect to Natural Heritage, the report relies on the assumptions and conclusions of the Scoped EIS which, as outlined above, has not, in my opinion, demonstrated consistency with the PPS.

Within Section 6.1 (County of Simcoe Official Plan – Greenlands Section 3.8), the report concludes that the development of the ERRC will not result in a negative impact as defined in the PPS based on: the proposed location of the ERRC; the plantation history of the Site; the actively managed nature of the Study Area; and, the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, which adequately avoid, compensate and replace natural features (i.e. vegetation plantings) within the wider wooded feature. Section 10.2 (Scoped EIS & Natural Hazard Land Assessment) again concludes by stating that no net environmental impacts on the larger woodlot feature are anticipated from the development of the proposed ERRC. These conclusions reflect the erroneous inclusion of mitigation measures, and the idea of no net impacts, when determining whether a proposed development will have a negative impact on the natural heritage system, which is inconsistent with the requirements of the PPS.

Section 7.4 (Springwater Official Plan – Section 17, Agriculture), states that the proposed site area to be used by the ERRC is not currently used for agriculture and that further, due to conditions on the site, it is not considered to be prime land for agricultural use. It then states that, from a review of the proposed ERRC site, it is generally confirmed to be less capable for agriculture than other portions of the site. It would appear that GHD is suggesting that, because the site is forested, it is not currently used for agriculture and therefore not considered prime land for agriculture. The County however, is proposing to remove 4.5ha of woodland which would, presumably, open up that portion of the site for agriculture. In my opinion, the report is suggesting that the existence of a natural heritage feature on the site precludes it from being used for agriculture but does not preclude it from being used for a waste disposal site.

Summary/Recommendation

Of interest, the Simcoe County Forestry Department has prepared a report entitled *Simcoe County Forests 2011-2030*. The document outlines a 20-year management plan for the Simcoe County Forests (SCF) and includes a summary of how the SCF came to exist in Simcoe. The document outlines that, in 1922, Simcoe was the first County in Ontario to enter into an agreement with the Minister of Lands and Forests, under the *Reforestation Act*, to buy land for the purpose of planting and managing trees. By the 1980s, the County had purchased or acquired 10,525ha of land and, in 1982, the Canadian Forestry Association chose the County as the 'Forestry Capital

of Canada³. The report notes that SCF lands now total 12,663ha. Section 3.2 of the report includes a table that provides the number of forest tracts and number of hectares of forest tract in each municipality. The preamble to the table notes that the representation is much higher in the areas where the most significant problems (deforestation resulting in erosion and flooding) were occurring in the early 20th century. Of note, Springwater has the second highest number of forest tracts (37) and the largest acreage of forest tracts (4,056.2ha) within the County. This would suggest that Springwater experienced some of the most significant problems in the early 20th century related to soil erosion and flooding. In addition to the information provided in the County Plan, a fact sheet prepared by the County titled *Environmental Resource Recovery Centre, 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Springwater, Get the Facts*, dated September 2016, notes that the Simcoe County Forest is the largest municipally-owned forest in Ontario and among the largest of its kind in Canada. Such an important legacy of forest creation, and the problems such creation was intended to solve, should be acknowledged and given significant weighting in the decision-making process. This is an addition to the PPS requirements that must also be considered.

In my experience working for, and with, government agencies, it is unusual for a municipality to propose the construction of substantial infrastructure within a natural heritage feature. In general, given the requirements of the PPS related to natural heritage, and the resulting OP requirements, many municipalities make every effort to avoid the placement of infrastructure within the natural heritage system. Municipalities have policies that only allow for the consideration of *essential* infrastructure (such as roads or utilities) within the natural heritage system and, in such cases, only if the placement of the infrastructure is supported by an Environmental Assessment. In doing so, they model the very behaviour that their OPs are expecting of the public – that natural heritage systems are to be identified, conserved and protected from the impacts of development.

Based on my review of the Part 1 – 3 siting documents, it is my opinion that the site selection process is not consistent with the *Planning Act* requirements pursuant to the Provincial Policy Statement natural heritage policies as sufficient consideration has not been given to PPS policies 2.1.1 through 2.1.8. In addition, the documents prepared in support of the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendments are also not consistent with the PPS as it has not been demonstrated that the proposed development will have no negative impact on the habitat of endangered and threatened species, significant woodlands and significant wildlife habitat as required by PPS policies 2.1.2, 2.1.5, 2.1.7 and 2.1.8. As a result, the amendments are also not consistent with the County of Simcoe Official Plan policies 3.3.15, 3.8.11, 3.8.19 and 3.8.22 or the Springwater Official Plan policies 16.2.1.2(ii)(c), 16.2.1.3(iii) and (vii), 16.2.1.4.1(c), 16.2.1.4.2(a) and (b)(i)(iii)(vi) and 16.2.1.4.2(b) and (c)(i)(e). I trust the above is of assistance. If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,



Jennifer Lawrence, MCIP, RPP
President

³ Simcoe County Forests 2011-2030, Simcoe County, page 5.

<http://www.simcoe.ca/Forestry/Documents/SCF%20final%20report.pdf>

From: The Mercers [<mailto:mercercr@rogers.com>]
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2017 11:23 AM
To: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Release of the Business Plan for the proposed ERRC

Good morning,

I attended the June 27, 2017 County Council meeting. As I recall, County staff provided two possible dates for the release of the Business Plan, August 8th or September 12th. It does not appear that the Business Plan came forward on the agenda at either of these County Council meetings.

I am inquiring into the date/timeline in which County staff expect to produce the Business Plan for the proposed ERRC.

Thank you,
Cindy Mercer
Springwater Twp.

From: info@simcoe.ca [mailto:info@simcoe.ca]
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2017 12:41 PM
To: Mack, Stephanie <Stephanie.Mack@simcoe.ca>
Cc: Fairchild, Jillian <Jillian.Fairchild@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Incident# 2179105 - OPF/MMF Comments/Feedback

Comments, Feedback or Concerns on OPF/MMF

Incident # 2179105

Summary: Release of the Business Plan for the proposed ERRC

Notes: PASSING ALONG

Department: Solid Waste Management

Customer Service Agent: Email Listener

Location: NONE

Customer Name: MERCERS

Customer Phone:

Customer Email: mercercr@rogers.com

Category: Organics Processing Facility

Subcategory: Other (see Description)

Description

Good morning,
I attended the June 27, 2017 County Council meeting. As I recall, County staff provided two possible dates for the release of the Business Plan, August 8th or September 12th. It does not appear that the Business Plan came forward on the agenda at either of these County Council meetings.
I am inquiring into the date/timeline in which County staff expect to produce the Business Plan for the proposed ERRC.
Thank you, Cindy Mercer Springwater Twp.

From: Mack, Stephanie
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2017 1:43 PM
To: 'mercercr@rogers.com' <mercercr@rogers.com>
Cc: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; 'info@simcoe.ca' <info@simcoe.ca>
Subject: ERRC - response to September 14 e-mail

Good afternoon, Ms. Mercer. Your e-mail dated September 14, 2017 was forwarded to us from Customer Service for response.

Work continues on finalizing business cases for both the OPF and MMF projects – noting that the timing of when these reports will be presented to Committee of the Whole will be determined by the Clerk's office. As we can't provide you a definite date at this time, we would suggest that you confirm that you are on our project contact list. As a courtesy and as we have done for ERRC-related staff reports, we will notify the project contact list that the reports are on the agenda for a forthcoming meeting (agendas are posted on the County's website [here](#)).

Regards,

Stephanie Mack, P.Eng.
Special Projects Supervisor
County of Simcoe, Solid Waste Management
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6
Phone: (705) 726-9300 ext. 1924, Cell: (705) 794-0605
E-mail: stephanie.mack@simcoe.ca
simcoe.ca

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Mack, Stephanie

From: Mack, Stephanie
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 1:10 PM
To: 'The Mercers'
Subject: RE: ERRC - response to September 14 e-mail

Good afternoon. I can confirm that all who have requested to be on the project contact list have been added unless they have requested to subsequently be removed. Should anyone have any questions about whether they are on the list, they can let us know and we will follow-up with them directly.

Regards,

Stephanie Mack, P.Eng.
Special Projects Supervisor
County of Simcoe, Solid Waste Management
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6
Phone: (705) 726-9300 ext. 1924, Cell: (705) 794-0605
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simcoe.ca

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From: The Mercers [mailto:mercercr@rogers.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 10:17 AM
To: Mack, Stephanie <Stephanie.Mack@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Re: ERRC - response to September 14 e-mail

Good morning Ms. Mack,

I appreciate your prompt response however I would like clarification from you on the following:

At near land owner meetings, attendees provided email addresses to County staff at their request for such things as communications and updates from the County on this project. Please confirm that all of the email addresses provided were added and are on the "project contact list".

Thank you,,

Cindy Mercer

On Tuesday, September 19, 2017 9:39 AM, "Mack, Stephanie" <Stephanie.Mack@simcoe.ca> wrote:

Ms. Mercer,

On July 11, you contacted Customer Service noting that you had not received the last e-mail sent to the project contact list regarding Item CCW 17-174. We confirmed that you were on our list and the e-mail was sent to mercercr@rogers.com on June 7. Given the confusion over that message, I wanted to follow-up with you to ensure that you receive any future notifications and that the matter was settled to your satisfaction.

In regard to your request for more notice regarding forthcoming agenda items, we note again that the management of committee agendas is not within our control. Solid Waste Management is only one of many departments within the County and the scheduling of numerous staff reports, presentations, and agenda items are the responsibility of the Clerk's office. County Councillors and the public are all given one week's notice when the final agenda is posted.

Regards,

Stephanie Mack, P.Eng.

Special Projects Supervisor

County of Simcoe, Solid Waste Management

1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6

Phone: (705) 726-9300 ext. 1924, Cell: (705) 794-0605

E-mail: stephanie.mack@simcoe.ca

simcoe.ca

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From: The Mercers [<mailto:mercercr@rogers.com>]

Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 12:59 PM

To: Mack, Stephanie <Stephanie.Mack@simcoe.ca>

Cc: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>

Subject: Re: ERRC - response to September 14 e-mail

Good afternoon Ms. Mack,

We have had multiple communications over the past year and a half so it surprises me that you are unclear as to whether I am on the project contact list or not. At near land owner meetings, attendees provided email addresses to County staff for such things as communications and updates from the County on this project. My email was one of those provided. Please confirm if the email addresses collected by County staff at these meetings have been added to the "project contact list".

There is one more meeting in September and I suspect at this point County staff has a good idea whether the Business Plan will be put forth on next weeks County agenda or held over for the months to come.

You must appreciate the difficulty the working public faces trying to get time off work on a regular business day during regular business hours to attend County Council meetings. I had hoped County staff, including yourself would recognize these challenges and extend the courtesy of offering an approximate timeline.

Kind Regards,

Cindy Mercer

On Friday, September 15, 2017 1:44 PM, "Mack, Stephanie" <Stephanie.Mack@simcoe.ca> wrote: (2 of 2 continued)

Good afternoon, Ms. Mercer. Your e-mail dated September 14, 2017 was forwarded to us from Customer Service for response.

Work continues on finalizing business cases for both the OPF and MMF projects – noting that the timing of when these reports will be presented to Committee of the Whole will be determined by the Clerk's office. As we can't provide you a definite date at this time, we would suggest that you confirm that you are on our project contact list. As a courtesy and as we have done for ERRC-related staff reports, we will notify the project contact list that the reports are on the agenda for a forthcoming meeting (agendas are posted on the County's website [here](#)).

Regards,

Stephanie Mack, P.Eng.

Special Projects Supervisor

County of Simcoe, Solid Waste Management

1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6

Phone: (705) 726-9300 ext. 1924, Cell: (705) 794-0605

E-mail: stephanie.mack@simcoe.ca

simcoe.ca

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September 22, 2017

Mr. John Daly, County Clerk
County of Simcoe Administration Centre
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON
L9N 1X6



Re: Planning approvals process for proposed ERRC Horseshoe Valley Road W. Springwater

We write to you today to express our deepest concerns for the path in which the County of Simcoe is taking in regards to pursuing planning approvals to build a major Waste Management Facility (known as the ERRC) in a Natural Heritage feature, the Freele County Forest Tract in Springwater Township.

We are the proud owners of a 100 acre forest in Springwater Township. Our forest is part of a natural corridor which is made up of private forests and includes the County owned Freele Tract. In pursuit of family severance on our property, we hired a team of professionals to assist. Our approach was environmentally driven and offered to subject 97% of our property to Environmental Protection Zoning *plus* a conservation easement under the Conservation Land Act. We faced heavy opposition from The County of Simcoe and the Township of Springwater at the Ontario Municipal Board. Despite the OMB's sympathetic comments towards our efforts and those of the NVCA in attempting to devise an environmental dimension to the project, our case was dismissed because it did not meet the Township Official Plan. The County of Simcoe's proposed ERRC in the Freele forest does not meet the Township Official Plan nor does it meet the County's *own* Official Plan.

We struggle to understand how the same County that successfully fought and dismissed the proposal put forth on behalf of our family can in good conscience pursue planning approvals to build major infrastructure in the very forest next door, inviting heavy truck traffic and industrial business operations into the heart of a sensitive forest interior.

It is our understanding that planning changes have occurred within the County of Simcoe since the implementation of the Growth Plan 2017 on July 1, 2017. This new plan appears to demand increased protection of our agriculture and natural heritage as well as direct future development to settlement areas with existing services such as water and sewer. It has also come to our attention that The County of Simcoe may now be acting more like a Regional Authority when it comes to planning approvals within the County. In the case of the ERRC, we have serious concerns about the example being set by the County. Development in a natural heritage feature such as the Freele Tract that has been identified as a "Significant Woodlot" with "Significant Wildlife" appears to place very little value on our greenspace which seems to stray from the new Provincial legislation.

We request clarification from County staff on how the ERRC project proposed for the Freele Tract corresponds with the Growth Plan 2017 and how this project at the "preferred location" demonstrates responsible land use planning within the Greater Golden Horseshoe area.

We look forward to your response.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Dunlop". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jerry and Sandra Dunlop
1601 Rainbow Valley Road E
Phelpston, On. L0L 2K0

Cc: Township of Springwater
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

Thompson, Tiffany

From: Jesse Johnson <jesse.johnson@hotmail.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 3:31 PM
To: ERRC; Customer Service
Subject: Friends of Simcoe Forest

Hello,

Just curious as to why you would want to destroy beautiful forests and replace them with a garbage facility? You shouldn't only think of the money and contracts involved.

Let's start using our brains.

Thanks,

Jesse Johnson
jesse.johnson@hotmail.ca

From: info@simcoe.ca [mailto:info@simcoe.ca]
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 3:49 PM
To: Mack, Stephanie <Stephanie.Mack@simcoe.ca>
Cc: Fairchild, Jillian <Jillian.Fairchild@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Incident# 2197924 - OPF/MMF Comments/Feedback

Comments, Feedback or Concerns on OPF/MMF

Incident # 2197924

Summary: Friends of Simcoe Forest

Notes: Please see resident's email. I thought you would like to respond? Geneva.

Department: Solid Waste Management

Customer Service Agent: Email Listener

Location: NONE

Customer Name: jesse johnson

Customer Phone:

Customer Email: jesse.johnson@hotmail.ca

Category: Organics Processing Facility

Subcategory: Environmental Impact

Description

Hello,
Just curious as to why you would want to destroy beautiful forests and replace them with a garbage facility? You shouldn't only think of the money and contracts involved.
Let's start using our brains.
Thanks,

Jesse Johnson
jesse.johnson@hotmail.ca

Mack, Stephanie

From: Mack, Stephanie
Sent: Friday, December 01, 2017 9:45 AM
To: 'jesse.johnson@hotmail.ca'
Cc: ERRC; 'info@simcoe.ca'
Subject: County of Simcoe - Environmental Resource Recovery Centre

Good morning. Thank you for submitting comments on our Environmental Resource Recovery Centre project. As we are currently in the Planning process, I will forward your e-mail to our Planning Department for their review.

In addition, please note that information on this project – including details on the siting process – can be found at www.simcoe.ca/errc.

Regards,

Stephanie Mack, P.Eng.
Special Projects Supervisor
County of Simcoe, Solid Waste Management
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6
Phone: (705) 726-9300 ext. 1924, Cell: (705) 794-0605
E-mail: stephanie.mack@simcoe.ca
simcoe.ca

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Thompson, Tiffany

From: The Mercers <mercercr@rogers.com>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 9:59 AM
To: Clerks; ERRC; Customer Service; Renee Chaperon; French, Bill; Allen, Don
Cc: Ingraldi Aldo (MMA/MHO)
Subject: ERRC proposed site Horseshoe Valley Road Springwater

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

*Good morning,
Below is a letter to the editor shared and posted through multiple media sources. My opinion letter pertains to the proposed location to build the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC). I request that it be included and addressed as part of the public planning process.*

Letter to the editor

I was very interested and intrigued to read that the County of Simcoe submitted a bid to invite Amazon to build their new facility in Simcoe County. The County website states “Simcoe County meets all of the key requirements to satisfy the needs of Amazon HQ2.”

Included in the list provided by the County are the following:

- ▶ Greenfield options of at least 100 acres
- ▶ Proximity to major highways and arterial routes

The website goes on to say that Simcoe County presents Amazon with “*good shovel-ready options*”. My understanding is that 3 sizable potential locations were put forth by the County in the bid to Amazon.

This directly contradicts with my understanding of this county’s availability of sizable acreage suitable for development purposes.

I believe we are all well aware of the extensive opposition received from the public over the County of Simcoe’s decision to select from and choose one of our precious county forest tracts to build a new major waste management facility, referred to as the ERRC. County staff are still working diligently to obtain planning approvals to allow this industrial operation into the interior of a sensitive forest tract. I believe county staff continue to suggest that more suitable land for operations such as industrial use are not readily available in Simcoe County.

County of Simcoe staff appear to paint a bleak picture of available land for development in the County of Simcoe, in particular sizable parcels similar to what Amazon would require.

At a May 9, 2017 mandatory County Council meeting regarding the proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Centre, Debbie Korolnek, the County’s general manager of engineering, planning and environment, indicated existing industrial areas were considered. “It has to be a certain size and a suitable site did not come up through that process,” she said. “It has to be a certain size...”

It appears as though The Economic Development Office at the County of Simcoe was able to offer Amazon what they consider to be 3 top choices of “*good shovel-ready options*” over 100 acres in size.

The proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC) requires far less land than Amazon's HQ2 yet the County of Simcoe is planning to deface a county forest tract to build the ERRC.

Why would the County of Simcoe build infrastructure, invite heavy truck traffic and industrial operations into a forest when their proposal to Amazon indicates that there is no shortage of land in this county suitable for development?

It's very encouraging to learn that this county has the means to offer a giant like Amazon a sizable location to build their facility. Why is this county **not** doing everything within their power to keep our forest tracts off the chopping block for development?

Cindy Mercer

Springwater, Ontario

Mack, Stephanie

From: Mack, Stephanie
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 2:07 PM
To: 'The Mercers'
Cc: 'info@simcoe.ca'; ERRC
Subject: ERRC - correspondence dated December 18

Good afternoon, Ms. Mercer. I wanted to confirm that County Planning staff have received your e-mail dated December 18 regarding your letter to the editor.

Regards,

Stephanie Mack, P.Eng.
Special Projects Supervisor
County of Simcoe, Solid Waste Management
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6
Phone: (705) 726-9300 ext. 1924, Cell: (705) 794-0605
E-mail: stephanie.mack@simcoe.ca
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Thompson, Tiffany

From: Erik & Connie Spek <spek.family@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 2:37 PM
To: ERRC
Subject: Little brown bats in Freele Tract

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

The finding of this endangered bat is reason enough for Simcoe County to put a hold on rezoning.

The County is home to many special and endangered species, please obtain the data from Mr. Bob BOWLES, a highly respected field naturalist.

Sincerely,

Mrs. C. Spek

47 Doran, MIDHURST, L9X 0L5

Thompson, Tiffany

From: hibooteboot hibooteboot <hibooteboot@bell.net>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 5:09 PM
To: ERRC
Cc: Cindy & Randy Mercer
Subject: Freeze Tract

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Another winter storm, another problem on Horseshoe Valley Road! Cars in ditches, large trucks unable to make it up the hill; long line-ups of cars waiting in line! Another reason why the chosen site for the materials management facility is so unsuitable.

Recently, an endangered species was found at the site by a very well qualified naturalist. The little brown bat requires no trees be cut in the habitat it frequents. Just another reason why the Friends of Simcoe Forest have proved to be correct in their opposition to this site.

I realize the efforts of Simcoe County to be a leader in the field of recycling are well intentioned. It is unfortunate that they have not been well served by those who selected the final list. I urge you to step back and re-examine this decision. There are too many cons that far outweigh the pros as it regards this site. Do the right thing! Let not pride nor prejudice cloud your judgement!
Find a more suitable site!

Sincerely

Karen L. Smith

Thompson, Tiffany

From: freemoth <freemoth@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 8:27 AM
To: ERRC
Subject: Opposition to Materials Handling and Organic Processing Facility

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

We are writing to oppose the building and operation of a waste transfer and industrial scale composting facility in the Freele Tract of Simcoe County Forests. Converting a valuable forestry ecosystems into an industrial processing plant is an extremely poor and frankly irresponsible idea.

The Freele Tract is recognized as an important habitat for wildlife and contains a wetland area that provides breeding grounds for amphibians and many other animals. Wetlands are also vital groundwater filters purifying and creating drinking water and therefore extremely important for all of us. Ecosystems like these should be protected at all costs.

Dropping a recycling plant into the middle of a forest, in an area that completely lacks the necessary industrial infrastructure not only poses an environmental risk it sets a dangerous precedent for the industrial development of other forest properties in Simcoe County.

This is also particularly disturbing because there are already industrially zoned areas, with the necessary infrastructure, that would be much better suited near Hwy 93 and Hwy 11. Situating a processing plant in a spot capable of handling the constant truck traffic that comes with this type of facility makes much more sense.

As others have noted there is an ongoing risk for fire in recycling plants and we agree that placing a fire hazard in the middle of a forest is very risky. However, we are more concerned about potential damage this facility will bring to the environment, area farms, and our aquifer.

As Anten Mills residents we are close to Horseshoe Valley Road (Hwy 22) which is already an increasingly busy roadway. The added truck traffic that this site will bring to the area is very disturbing from both a noise and a safety perspective.

Originally from Toronto we moved to Anten Mills to get away from the constant hustle and bustle. To quote a friend of mine: "There are reasons people move up here." We don't think recycling plants is one of them.

We urge you to locate industrial sites like these in areas that have the necessary infrastructure and are already zoned as industrial or for commercial purposes. Our forests should not be used for industrial activities. Forests are valuable environmental assets sustaining life and contributing to the well-being of all of us. They should be protected not developed.

Sincerely,

Tim and Judy Knight

52 Lawrence Ave.

Comments, Feedback or Concerns on OPF/MMF

Incident # 2201867
Summary: Opposition to Materials Handling and Organic Processing Facility
Notes:
Department: Solid Waste Management
Customer Service Agent: Email Listener
Location: 52 LAWRENCE AVENUE, SPRINGWATER
Customer Name: KNIGHT FREDERICK TIMOTHY
Customer Phone:
Customer Email: freemoth@gmail.com
Category: Organics Processing Facility
Subcategory: Environmental Impact

Description

We are writing to oppose the building and operation of a waste transfer and industrial scale composting facility in the Freele Tract of Simcoe County Forests. Converting a valuable forestry ecosystems into an industrial processing plant is an extremely poor and frankly irresponsible idea.

The Freele Tract is recognized as an important habitat for wildlife and contains a wetland area that provides breeding grounds for amphibians and many other animals. Wetlands are also vital groundwater filters purifying and creating drinking water and therefore extremely important for all of us. Ecosystems like these should be protected at all costs.

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Originally from Toronto we moved to Anten Mills to get away from the constant hustle and bustle. To quote a friend of mine: "There are reasons people move up here." We don't think recycling plants is one of them.

We urge you to locate industrial sites like these in areas that have the necessary infrastructure and are already zoned as industrial or for commercial purposes. Our forests should not be used for industrial activities. Forests are valuable environmental assets sustaining life and contributing to the well-being of all of us. They should be protected not developed.

Sincerely,

Tim and Judy Knight

52 Lawrence Ave.
Anten Mills, Ontario

Mack, Stephanie

From: Mack, Stephanie
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 2:37 PM
To: 'freemoth@gmail.com'
Cc: 'info@simcoe.ca'; ERRC
Subject: County of Simcoe - Environmental Resource Recovery Centre

Good afternoon. Thank you for submitting comments on our Environmental Resource Recovery Centre project. As we are currently in the Planning process, I have forwarded your comments to our Planning Department for their consideration.

Please note that information on this project – including details on the Planning process – can be found at www.simcoe.ca/errc.

Regards,

Stephanie Mack, P.Eng.
Special Projects Supervisor
County of Simcoe, Solid Waste Management
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6
Phone: (705) 726-9300 ext. 1924, Cell: (705) 794-0605
E-mail: stephanie.mack@simcoe.ca
simcoe.ca

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Thompson, Tiffany

From: Lisa Ficher-Jenssen <ploughpennypottery@bellnet.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 7:10 PM
To: ERRC
Subject: Please protect our county forests..

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

OK you people at County of Simcoe it's time for you to step up and protect our lands and Our Natural Heritage needs to be protected.. and that they not be developed to manage garbage. There are existing industrially-zoned sites which would be far more suitable and cost effective.. The employees of our townships have a tax paid duty to protect our lands and our future for a healthy Simcoe county.. You must have some kind of common sense... We can't have this happen to our small amounts of Green spaces we have left. It is not just a protection of a Simcoe forest but of our Ontario and our Canada..

Thank you for your time and hopefully your good wisdom...

**Lisa Bostlund
1476 Rainbow vy Rd W.
Phelpston. LOL2LO**

Comments, Feedback or Concerns on OPF/MMF

Incident # 2202142
Summary: Our Natural Heritage
Notes:
Department: Solid Waste Management
Customer Service Agent: Email Listener
Location: 1476 RAINBOW VALLEY ROAD WEST, SPRINGWATER
Customer Name: BOSTLUND LISA
Customer Phone:
Customer Email: ploughpennypottery@bellnet.ca
Category: Organics Processing Facility
Subcategory: Environmental Impact

Description

OK you people at County of Simcoe it's time for you to step up and protect our lands and Our Natural Heritage needs to be protected.. and that they not be developed to manage garbage. There are existing industrially-zoned sites which would be far more suitable and cost effective.. The employees of our townships have a tax paid duty to protect our lands and our future for a healthy Simcoe county.. You must have some kind of common sense... We can't have this happen to our small amounts of Green spaces we have left. It is not just a protection of a Simcoe forest but of our Ontario and our Canada..

Thank you for your time and hopefully your good wisdom...

Lisa Bostlund

1476 Rainbow vy Rd W.

Phelpston. L0L2L0

Mack, Stephanie

From: Mack, Stephanie
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 12:28 PM
To: 'ploughpennypottery@bellnet.ca'
Cc: 'info@simcoe.ca'; ERRC
Subject: County of Simcoe - Environmental Resource Recovery Centre

Good afternoon, Ms. Bostlund. Thank you for submitting comments on our Environmental Resource Recovery Centre project. As we are currently in the Planning process, I have forwarded your comments to our Planning Department for their consideration.

Please note that information on this project – including details on the Planning process – can be found at www.simcoe.ca/errc.

Regards,

Stephanie Mack, P.Eng.
Special Projects Supervisor
County of Simcoe, Solid Waste Management
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6
Phone: (705) 726-9300 ext. 1924, Cell: (705) 794-0605
E-mail: stephanie.mack@simcoe.ca
simcoe.ca

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From: info@simcoe.ca [mailto:info@simcoe.ca]
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2017 8:39 AM
To: Mack, Stephanie <Stephanie.Mack@simcoe.ca>
Cc: Fairchild, Jillian <Jillian.Fairchild@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Incident# 2202403 - OPF/MMF Comments/Feedback

Comments, Feedback or Concerns on OPF/MMF

Incident # 2202403

Summary: SAVE the FREELE FOREST

Notes:

Department: Solid Waste Management

Customer Service Agent: Email Listener

Location: NONE

Customer Name: DENEAULT DONNA

Customer Phone:

Customer Email: ddeneault88@gmail.com

Category: Organics Processing Facility

Subcategory: Environmental Impact

Description

Dear Sir/Madam

We are awaiting tests that could prove this habitat is extremely significant to wildlife.

Our Natural Heritage needs to be protected, not developed to manage garbage; especially when there are already existing industrially-zoned sites, which would be far more suitable and cost effective. This is evidenced by the County's recent offer of multiple 100 acre + site options to Amazon.

The project will make our roads less safe, as hundreds of trucks will be coming and going on a steep and hilly stretch of road.

This forest is critical habitat to species like the brown bat and salamanders.

Please select an already existing industrially-zoned site.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donna Deneault

Fairchild, Jillian

From: Fairchild, Jillian
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2017 9:00 AM
To: 'ddeneault88@gmail.com'
Cc: Customer Service; ERRC
Subject: County of Simcoe - Environmental Resource Recovery Centre

Good morning, Ms. Deneault.

Thank you for submitting comments on our Environmental Resource Recovery Centre project. As we are currently in the Planning process, I have forwarded your comments to our Planning Department for their consideration.

Please note that information on this project – including details on the Planning process – can be found at www.simcoe.ca/errc.

Regards,

Jillian Fairchild, C.E.T.

Project Coordinator

County of Simcoe, Solid Waste Management Dept.

1110 Hwy. 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6

Phone: (705) 726-9300 ext. 1040, Fax: (705) 726-9832

E-mail: jillian.fairchild@simcoe.ca

www.simcoe.ca

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Thompson, Tiffany

From: Sher Arnfinson <sher@shiatsubysher.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 04, 2018 1:23 PM
To: ERRC
Cc: Customer Service
Subject: Freele Forest

County of Simcoe,

You need to find an appropriate site other than the Freele Forest, better suited for your industrial project. Our **Natural Heritage** needs to be protected, not developed to manage garbage. There are existing industrially-zoned sites which would be far more suitable and cost effective, as evidenced by the County's recent offer of multiple 100 acre+ site options to "Amazon".

Concerned resident,
Sher Arnfinson



Cell: 416-345-0000

[Shiatsu by Sher](#)

[LightWorkers](#)

Add me on [Facebook](#)

[Click to unsubscribe](#)



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

www.avast.com

From: Jim Dougan [<mailto:jdougan@dougan.ca>]

Sent: Monday, March 05, 2018 4:12 PM

To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>; Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>; ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>

Subject: Letter to Ministry of Municipal Affairs re: County of Simcoe ERRC

Attn: County Clerk

Please find attached a digital copy of a letter sent to Mr. Aldo Ingraldi at Ministry of Municipal Affairs, and cc'd to Township of Springwater

Jim Dougan, BSc, MSc, OALA (Hon)
Director & Senior Ecologist

DOUGAN & ASSOCIATES - Ecological Consulting & Design
77 Wyndham Street South, Guelph, ON, N1E 5R3
ph: 519.822.1609 x.24, fax: 519.822.5389
jdougan@dougan.ca www.dougan.ca



From: Friends of Simcoe Forests [<mailto:info@friendsofsimcoeforests.com>]

Sent: April 06, 2018 4:54 PM

To: 'renee.chaperon@springwater.ca' ; 'john.daly@simcoe.ca' ; 'errc@simcoe.ca'

Subject: Natural Heritage concerns with the County ERRC proposal

We kindly request this information be included in public record

Good day,

A number of constituents from communities throughout Simcoe County have legitimate concerns over the County's desire to build the proposed ERRC (Environmental Resource Recovery Centre) in one of Simcoe County's Forest Tracts. In response, a great deal of time, money and effort has been invested by the Friends of Simcoe Forests in studying and exploring the Freele Tract to bring to light the very real impacts this forest will endure if faced with site alternations and infrastructure.

Attached is a letter prepared by a well-respected Ecological Consulting & Design firm, Dougan & Associates. This letter identifies the following **Natural Heritage Features present on the site** and Natural Heritage concerns with the County ERRC proposal.

- **Significant Woodlands**
- **Significant Wetlands**
- **Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH)**
- **Habitat of Endangered and Threatened Species**

Please extend us the courtesy of reviewing this letter and giving it your serious consideration.

We welcome and encourage any feedback or questions you may have.

Kind Regards,

Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.

info@friendsofsimcoeforests.com



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March 2, 2018

Aldo Ingraldi, MCIP, RPP
Senior Planner
Municipal Services Office – Central Ontario
Ministry of Municipal Affairs
777 Bay Street, 13th Floor
Toronto ON M5G 2E5

Dear sir;

**Re: Impacts to Regional Natural Heritage System by Proposed County of Simcoe
Environmental Resource Recovery Center (ERRC), Springwater, Ontario**

Dougan & Associates Ecological Consulting and Design (D&A) was retained by Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. in March 2017 to provide peer review services for natural heritage impact studies being completed for the proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario. This facility has been proposed by the County of Simcoe to be located within the Simcoe County Forest, within an area known as the Freele Tract.

Our purpose in writing at this time is to inform MMAH of the known significance of the natural heritage system at the site and in its vicinity, based on our review of documents prepared in support of the facility by GHD Ltd., our own site reconnaissance, and observations of others affiliated with the Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc., including Mr. Bob Bowles, a highly respected field scientist who is also engaged by the FSF Inc.

We note that the Province has published its own Regional Natural Heritage System (RNHS) mapping that will form the basis of planning under the Growth Plan (2017), and under the Greenbelt Plan (2017). On-line mapping of this system currently indicates the County's preferred ERRC site is located within the RNHS, with woodland cover throughout the site, and unevaluated wetlands in the northeast corner of the site.

Based on the GHD studies and reconnaissance on behalf of FSF Inc., we believe that the following Provincial Policy Statement categories of natural heritage features are present on the site:

Significant Woodlands – the site includes natural forest (upland deciduous forest and swamp) as well as plantations that are all in an advanced stage of succession towards mixed natural forest with associated understorey flora typical of natural forest. At least 21 species of area-sensitive birds (based on MNR criteria) have been documented by GHD, indicating that this forest is part of a larger forested system and the site itself is relatively free of forest edge influences. The forest is located on varied terrain, ranging from low-lying areas with vernal pools, to significant sandy feature deposits (the latter directly under the proposed ERRC).

Significant Wetlands – the site contains two areas of wetlands with swamp and marsh cover; the RNHS mapping shows the northeast component; a second area of forested swamp is located in the southeast corner of the site, tied to a seasonal headwater watercourse. Vernal pools are present in both areas of wetland (see Significant Wildlife Habitat). These wetlands are not currently evaluated, but given their connection to offsite wetlands, and the documented presence of significant and diverse biota, we believe that it is quite feasible that they would score as a Provincially Significant Wetland.

Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH) – the following categories of Significant Wildlife Habitat, per MNRF SWH Criteria Schedules for Ecoregion 6E (2015):

- Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Woodland) which is present in both the northeast and southeast wetlands; MNRF guidelines recommend a 230 m buffer around such features;
- Special Concern and Rare Wildlife Species (Western Chorus Frog, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Red-Shouldered Hawk, Wood Thrush); rare plants;
- Woodland Area-Sensitive Bird Breeding Habitat, well exceeding the MNRF threshold for significance;
- Woodland Raptor Nesting Habitat (potential) as three of six indicator species were documented by GHD;
- Bat Maternity Colonies.

Notably, in 2016 GHD incorrectly concluded that cultural plantations do not qualify as SWH; this is counter to MNRF Ecoregion 6E Criteria, which do not exclude plantations, and in some cases (e.g. raptor nesting) highlights them as potential habitat.

Habitat of Endangered and Threatened Species – Three Provincially Endangered bat species have been documented on the Freele Tract site, and habitat use by these species includes maternity roosts, day roosting and foraging. We believe that there is also potential for Endangered Jefferson Salamander hybrids to be using the vernal pools.

Natural Heritage Concerns with the County ERRC Proposal

Our June 2017 review of the studies supporting the County's proposal to locate the ERRC in the Freele Tract identified several key concerns regarding natural heritage impacts, including the following:

1. The facility will cause significant fragmentation of the forested NHS, and will degrade the quality of forest. We estimate that approximately 18 ha of forest interior will be eliminated.
2. The proposed facility is within identified Significant Woodlands, as recognized in the County Official Plan (2016), and the Province's Regional NHS.
3. Habitat for Endangered Species at Risk will be removed or otherwise impacted.
4. The site contains Key Hydrologic Features and Key Hydrologic Areas as defined by the Province; impacts to these resources are likely, particularly given the ultimate scale of infrastructure development (20 ha) to meet the County's future requirements.
5. Invasive and/or predatory species are typically transported or attracted by recycling waste, based on the experience of established recycling centres. Introduction of such an infrastructure facility into a high-functioning area of the RNHS is clearly a high risk venture that will inevitably affect many sensitive plant and wildlife attributes.
6. Site studies to date have not adequately addressed 'adjacent lands' as defined under the PPS and its supporting documents. The waste facility will have effects capable of extending well beyond the minimum 120 m recommended in the Natural Heritage Reference Manual (2010).

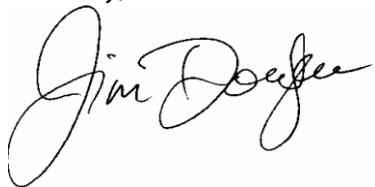
7. The proposed facility will double as a waste handling and fleet maintenance facility. In our opinion the effects of traffic and emergency access cannot be adequately addressed without serious harm to the RNHS and its functions on the site and in its vicinity.
8. Although the proposed facility and access roads will occupy 5.5 ha, the County's "ONE SITE, ONE SOLUTION" study criteria include adequate space for a 20 ha facility as a basic requirement. Therefore significant cumulative effects are considered very likely once the initial facility is established.

Conclusions

We believe that the County's proposal to place this facility within the RNHS is not consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement or the RNHS policies within the Growth Plan. The area protected under the Greenbelt Plan (2017) may be extended in the future to cover this area of the Oro Moraine; Greenbelt Policy 4.2.1.2(h) would prohibit such a use.

We understand that MMA will be serving in a review capacity when Official Plan Amendments and re-zoning applications are put forward by the County and Township. We strongly recommend that the serious implications and precedents affecting the RNHS for the long term be carefully considered by the Province.

Sincerely,



Jim Dougan, BSc, MSc, OALA (Hon)
Director and Senior Ecologist

c.c. County of Simcoe
Township of Springwater
Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.

Thompson, Tiffany

From: ERRC
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 4:01 PM
To: Friends of Simcoe Forests; Daly, John; ERRC
Subject: RE: Natural Heritage concerns with the County ERRC proposal - 2nd Attempt

Good Afternoon,

County Planning has received this submission and it will be included in the public comments received on this file. If you require anything further, do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards, Tiffany

Tiffany Thompson BES MCIP RPP
Planner III
County of Simcoe, Planning, Development and Tourism Department
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
Phone: 705-726-9300 Ext. 1185 Fax: 705-727-4276
Email: tiffany.thompson@simcoe.ca
www.simcoe.ca

From: Friends of Simcoe Forests [mailto:info@friendsofsimcoeforests.com]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 2:36 PM
To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>; ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Natural Heritage concerns with the County ERRC proposal - 2nd Attempt

Good afternoon,

Please confirm receipt of our email from last Friday containing information for public record.

Thank you,

Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.
info@friendsofsimcoeforests.com

**Help Us preserve our County Forests**

Donations always graciously accepted to:

Mailing Address:
2928 Horseshoe Valley Road W
Phelpston, On. L0L 2K0

email: info@friendsofsimcoeforests.com

website: www.friendsofsimcoeforests.com
assistance: www.gofundme.com/simcoeforest
facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofsimcoeforests/>

If you no longer wish to receive emails from us then please email to info@friendsofsimcoeforests.com with the subject line "Remove". Thank you.

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From: Friends of Simcoe Forests [<mailto:info@friendsofsimcoeforests.com>]
Sent: April 06, 2018 4:54 PM
To: 'renee.chaperon@springwater.ca' <renee.chaperon@springwater.ca>; 'john.daly@simcoe.ca' <john.daly@simcoe.ca>; 'errc@simcoe.ca' <errc@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Natural Heritage concerns with the County ERRC proposal

We kindly request this information be included in public record

Good day,

A number of constituents from communities throughout Simcoe County have legitimate concerns over the County's desire to build the proposed ERRC (Environmental Resource Recovery Centre) in one of Simcoe County's Forest Tracts. In response, a great deal of time, money and effort has been invested by the Friends of Simcoe Forests in studying and exploring the Freele Tract to bring to light the very real impacts this forest will endure if faced with site alternations and infrastructure.

Attached is a letter prepared by a well-respected Ecological Consulting & Design firm, Dougan & Associates. This letter identifies the following **Natural Heritage Features present on the site** and Natural Heritage concerns with the County ERRC proposal.

- **Significant Woodlands**
- **Significant Wetlands**
- **Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH)**
- **Habitat of Endangered and Threatened Species**

Please extend us the courtesy of reviewing this letter and giving it your serious consideration.

We welcome and encourage any feedback or questions you may have.

Kind Regards,

Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.
info@friendsofsimcoeforests.com



www.friendsofsimcoeforests.com
Help. Join. Donate. Volunteer.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

NOTICE: This message is intended for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is confidential, privileged and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any printing, copying, dissemination, distribution, disclosure or forwarding of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete it from your system. Thank You.

From: Mary Wagner <yramrengaw@hotmail.com>

Date: March 6, 2018 at 8:29:52 AM EST

To: "bmauro.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org" <bmauro.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org>, "kwynne.mpp@liberal.ola.org" <kwynne.mpp@liberal.ola.org>, "ahoggarth.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org" <ahoggarth.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org>, "julia.munro@pc.ola.org" <julia.munro@pc.ola.org>, "ahorwath-qp@ndp.on.ca" <ahorwath-qp@ndp.on.ca>, "jim.wilson@pc.ola.org" <jim.wilson@pc.ola.org>, "vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org" <vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org>, "leader@gpo.ca" <leader@gpo.ca>

Cc: Renee Chaperon <Renee.Chaperon@springwater.ca>, "Daly, John" <john.daly@simcoe.ca>, "info@simcoe.ca" <info@simcoe.ca>, "errc@simcoe.ca" <errc@simcoe.ca>, Heather Rutherford <rutherford_heather@hotmail.com>, "Cindy & Randy Mercer" <mercercr@rogers.com>

Subject: Re: Grow the Greenbelt to Simcoe County

March 5, 2018

Protecting Water Consultations
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Local Government and Planning Policy Division
Provincial Planning Policy Branch
777 Bay Street, Floor 13
Toronto ON
M5G 2E5

Re: Protecting Water for Future Generations: Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring
EBR Posting #013-1661

I am writing on behalf of the Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. (FSF), a non-profit organization consisting of concerned citizens within Simcoe County, Ontario. Our long-term goal is to inform and unite people who are interested in the conservation of our County's forests. We encourage all local residents, visitors and friends of our environment to realize that they can enjoy the natural flora and fauna of the region, as well as the natural beauties of the forests within Simcoe County. As a group, we encourage beautification, preservation, and extension of parks and Green Belts. Through our mutual love and concern for the County's forests, we strive to make available all known statistical, scientific, horticultural and botanical information that positively impacts the future of our forests. It is our goal to promote the protection and appreciation of the environment and lands which are there for all of us and future generations to use and enjoy.

As an organization, FSF was thrilled to discover that the Province is considering an expansion to the Greenbelt Plan Area within Simcoe County (Oro Moraine – Study Area 4). While we understand that the Province's intention is to protect important water features, given the complex inter-relationship between ground and surface water and terrestrial features such as woodlands, we are confident that the protection of water resources will also assist in protecting the valuable woodlands within the Oro Moraine study area. As a result, we fully support the expansion of the Greenbelt Plan Area into Simcoe County.

The Province recently released the Growth Plan Natural Heritage System which identified a natural heritage system within Simcoe County. FSF appreciates the Provincial recognition of the important natural heritage features and functions that exist within Simcoe County and recommend that the next step is to protect these areas within a permanent Greenbelt Natural Heritage System. We recommend that the Province incorporate the Growth Plan Natural Heritage System, within Simcoe County, into the Greenbelt Plan Natural Heritage System.

FSF was formed in 2016 in response to a County proposal to construct a waste management facility within a significant woodland in Springwater Township. The preferred site that was selected by the County is currently the subject of a County and Local Official Plan Amendment (OPA) and Zoning By-Law Amendment application process. The Province (MMAH), as the approval authority for the County OPA, should be aware that the facility is proposed within the Growth Plan Natural Heritage System as well as within the Oro Moraine Study Area for Greenbelt Plan expansion. We trust that the Ministry will take this into consideration when reviewing the County OPA.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. Please keep us informed of any future public consultation opportunities.

Yours truly,

Mary Wagner
President
Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.

From: Davis, Graeme
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2018 10:29 AM
To: Mary Wagner <yramrengaw@hotmail.com>
Cc: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>
Subject: RE: Incident# 2222019 - Logging, Report or Request for Information

Please be advised that your comments have been forwarded to errc@simcoe.ca for inclusion in the formal land use planning process.

From: Mary Wagner <yramrengaw@hotmail.com>
Date: March 6, 2018 at 4:19:12 PM EST
To: "Dixon, Brett" <Brett.Dixon@simcoe.ca>
Cc: Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Re: Incident# 2222019 - Logging, Report or Request for Information

I want to know if the MNR has been asked to consult on fire hazard of placing a waste management facility in a forest.
 I live adjacent to the forest selected for placement of a facility where fires are common. My forest is a continuum of the Freele forest and could be trapped in event of a fire. I have asked the county to account for their forest fire planning and logically copied the MNRF.
 Mary Wagner

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 6, 2018, at 16:11, Dixon, Brett <Brett.Dixon@simcoe.ca> wrote:

Hello there. Could you please give me more details of what you are looking for?

Brett Dixon R.P.F.
 Forest Technician
 County of Simcoe, Forestry Department
 1110 Highway 26 West, Midhurst, ON, L9X 1N6
 705 726-9300 ex. 1172
 Email: brett.dixon@simcoe.ca
www.simcoe.ca

On Mar 6, 2018, at 8:39 AM, "info@simcoe.ca" <info@simcoe.ca> wrote:

Request for Service and or Information

Incident #	2222019
Customer Service Agent:	Email Listener
Summary:	Re: Grow the Greenbelt to Simcoe County
Notes:	passing along for your persual
Customer Name:	yramrengaw yramrengaw

Customer Phone:

Customer Email:

yramrengaw@hotmail.com

Customer Alt. Phone:

Location:

NONE

Category:

Forestry Conservation By-Law

Subcategory:

Description

Re: Grow the Greenbelt to Simcoe County

From: Mary Wagner [<mailto:yramrengaw@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2018 1:40 PM

To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>; Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>; ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; Renee Chaperon <renee.chaperon@springwater.ca>; French, Bill <Bill.French@simcoe.ca>; Allen, Don <Don.Allen@simcoe.ca>; Warden <Warden@simcoe.ca>

Cc: Heather Rutherford <rutherford_heather@hotmail.com>; Cindy & Randy Mercer <mercercr@rogers.com>; Lynda <lynda@nicholyn.com>; Bob Wagner <bob.wagner@cibc.com>; Joe Hermann <Jhermann@sympatico.ca>

Subject: ERRC site selection

Dear Sirs/Madams

It has come to our attention that the Region is considering the selection of 2976 Horseshoe Valley Rd West as the site for the Simcoe County ERRC.

This decision would be bad for local residents and the environment. Most importantly, such a decision is not consistent with the Growth Plan 2017.

The Growth Plan (2017) replaced "Places to Grow – the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2006".. The Growth Plan is the province's long term planning strategy to protect the natural environment and curb sprawl while building complete communities. The Growth Plan is a provincial plan that Simcoe County and Springwater Township planning authorities must conform to when making planning decisions.

Simcoe County is within the 2017 Growth Plan Area and the province has created an Agricultural System and a regional scale Natural Heritage System for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH). The mapping for these systems was released in February 2018.

Below please find an excerpt cut from the MMAH webpage.

Infrastructure

The Greenbelt Plan and the Growth Plan both state that existing, expanded or new infrastructure approved under the *Environmental Assessment Act* is permitted if it serves the significant growth and economic development expected in southern Ontario. Locating infrastructure in the NHS, key natural heritage features, key hydrologic features and key hydrologic areas is discouraged wherever possible. Where there is no reasonable alternative, impacts on the features and their functions must be minimized and mitigated.

Both plans also discourage locating infrastructure within prime agricultural areas. In situations where avoiding prime agricultural areas is not possible, an Agricultural Impact Assessment or equivalent analysis as part of an environmental assessment is required to demonstrate how impacts on the Agricultural System will be avoided, minimized or mitigated.

In some cases, the Greenbelt Plan includes more specific requirements on planning, design and construction of infrastructure than the Growth Plan. These include:

- **requiring that planning, design and construction practices minimize the disturbance of the existing landscape, including impacts caused by light intrusion, noise and road salt, wherever possible**
- **requiring that, where practical, existing capacity and co-ordination with different infrastructure services be optimized to maintain the existing character of the Protected Countryside**
- **requiring that infrastructure planning, design and construction practices maintain or improve connectivity between features where reasonable**
- **prohibiting new waste disposal sites and organic soil conditioning sites in key natural heritage features, key hydrologic features, and their associated vegetation protection zones**

Given the clear direction from the province that the site of [2976 Horseshoe Valley Rd](#), or another forest within the greenbelt is not to be used for prohibited infrastructure or settlement expansion, why does the county continue to spend taxpayer money in pursuit of this apparently misguided project? This ERRC is an industrial facility that belongs in an urban or developed setting, not in nature.

The update of studies by GHD at the request or direction of Simcoe County Planning Authority are not consistent with provincial policy as stated. Our lawyer will be providing the County with an opinion letter shortly outlining the consequences of proceeding in the Horseshoe Valley Rd location.

Regards.
Mary Wagner
President
FSF

From: Mary Wagner [mailto:yramrengaw@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 4:43 PM
To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>; Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>; ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; French, Bill <Bill.French@simcoe.ca>; Allen, Don <Don.Allen@simcoe.ca>; Warden <Warden@simcoe.ca>; MCSCS.Customer.Service.Complaints@ontario.ca
Cc: Heather Rutherford <rutherford_heather@hotmail.com>; Cindy & Randy Mercer <mercercr@rogers.com>; Lynda <lynda@nicholyn.com>; Bob Wagner <bob.wagner@cibc.com>; John Herman <Jhermann@sympatico.ca>
Subject: ERRC fire hazard concerns

Dear Sirs/Madams

You have been in receipt of several letters, emails and various communiques from the ratepayers of Simcoe County and Springwater Township for several months. Residents of Horseshoe Valley Road and Rainbow Valley Road have voiced and raised concerns in regard to the known fire history that follows waste management facilities similar to the proposed ERRC within the woodland at 2976 Horseshoe Valley RD, West in Springwater Township, County of Simcoe.

Fire within this forest poses a threat to the homes, livestock and residents that would have no egress due to a single access road from their homes to a place of safety.

Please advise if you have involved the experts in fighting MERF fires combined with the experts in fighting fires within a forest. Please advise if you have consulted and budgeted for the upgrade of roads to withstand the equipment movement to fight a fire of this nature and possible magnitude. Please advise if you have considered what the impact will be to the environment and waterways when such a fire is battled with chemicals and large volumes of water.

The rate payers do await your response.

Regards
Mary Wagner
Homeowner
2928 Horseshoe Valley Rd. West

Thompson, Tiffany

From: ERRC
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 9:31 AM
To: Mary Wagner; Daly, John; Customer Service; ERRC; French, Bill; Allen, Don; Warden; MCSCS.Customer.Service.Complaints@ontario.ca
Cc: Heather Rutherford; Cindy & Randy Mercer; Lynda; Bob Wagner; John Herman
Subject: RE: ERRC fire hazard concerns

Good Morning Ms. Wagner,

Thank you for your email regarding the ERRC and fire hazard concerns. GHD has prepared an amended Facilities Characteristic Report dated February 1, 2018 which has been posted on the County's website - <http://www.simcoe.ca/Planning/Pages/Simcoe-County-Environmental-Resource-Recovery-Centre.aspx>.

The amended Facilities Characteristic Report contains further details related to fire protection in Sections 4.4.1.5 to 4.4.1.7. This amended report has been circulated to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and Township of Springwater for review and comment. Those comments will be made available to the public when they are received and would be addressed in any reports to County Council. No comments related to amended reports have been received from the agencies at this time.

If you require any further information or clarification on the above, do not hesitate to use the ERRC email to contact County Planning staff on this file.

Regards, Tiffany

Tiffany Thompson BES MCIP RPP
Planner III
County of Simcoe, Planning, Development and Tourism Department
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
Phone: 705-726-9300 Ext. 1185 Fax: 705-727-4276
Email: tiffany.thompson@simcoe.ca
www.simcoe.ca

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Wagner [<mailto:yramrengaw@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 4:43 PM
To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>; Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>; ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; French, Bill <Bill.French@simcoe.ca>; Allen, Don <Don.Allen@simcoe.ca>; Warden <Warden@simcoe.ca>; MCSCS.Customer.Service.Complaints@ontario.ca
Cc: Heather Rutherford <rutherford_heather@hotmail.com>; Cindy & Randy Mercer <mercercr@rogers.com>; Lynda <lynda@nicholyn.com>; Bob Wagner <bob.wagner@cibc.com>; John Herman <Jhermann@sympatico.ca>
Subject: ERRC fire hazard concerns

Dear Sirs/Madams

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Fire within this forest poses a threat to the homes, livestock and residents that would have no egress due to a single access road from their homes to a place of safety.

Please advise if you have involved the experts in fighting MERF fires combined with the experts in fighting fires within a forest. Please advise if you have consulted and budgeted for the upgrade of roads to withstand the equipment movement to fight a fire of this nature and possible magnitude. Please advise if you have considered what the impact will be to the environment and waterways when such a fire is battled with chemicals and large volumes of water.

The rate payers do await your response.

Regards
Mary Wagner
Homeowner
2928 Horseshoe Valley Rd. West

From: The Mercers [<mailto:mercercr@rogers.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:08 PM
To: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>
Subject: ERRC Amended Planning Justification Report dated February 2018

Good afternoon,

Referring to the Amended Planning Justification Report dated February 2018.
Distances to Sensitive Receptors and Settlements Figure 6

Please provide justification/explanation as to why the home located at 1293 Rainbow Valley Road East is not identified in Figure 6 of this report.

Thank you,
Cindy Mercer

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Thompson, Tiffany

From: ERRC
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 5:20 PM
To: The Mercers; ERRC
Subject: RE: ERRC Amended Planning Justification Report dated February 2018

Good Afternoon,

Figure 6 of the Planning Justification Report is only meant to provide a general overview of the built up areas surrounding the ERRC, including distances to sensitive receptors, settlements, estate developments, etc.

All sensitive receptors within 500 metres of the site boundary are shown in Figure 2.1 of the Facility Characteristics Report, which includes 1293 Rainbow Valley Road East.

Hopefully this is helpful.

Regards, Tiffany

Tiffany Thompson BES MCIP RPP
Planner III
County of Simcoe, Planning, Development and Tourism Department
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
Phone: 705-726-9300 Ext. 1185 Fax: 705-727-4276
Email: tiffany.thompson@simcoe.ca
www.simcoe.ca

From: The Mercers [mailto:mercercr@rogers.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:08 PM
To: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>
Subject: ERRC Amended Planning Justification Report dated February 2018

Good afternoon,

Referring to the Amended Planning Justification Report dated February 2018.
Distances to Sensitive Receptors and Settlements Figure 6

Please provide justification/explanation as to why the home located at 1293 Rainbow Valley Road East is not identified in Figure 6 of this report.

Thank you,
Cindy Mercer

From: The Mercers [<mailto:mercercr@rogers.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2018 10:15 AM
To: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Re: ERRC Amended Planning Justification Report dated February 2018

Good morning Tiffany,

Figure 6 is clearly labelled "Distances to Sensitive Receptors". If it's intention is to *only* provide an overview of *some* of the sensitive receptors then it should be labelled accurately. To exclude one home owner (sensitive receptor) from Figure 6 yet include other home owners (sensitive receptors) that are located at further distances appears misleading and doesn't seem to paint a clear overview of the intended information.

Whether the home at 1293 Rainbow Valley Road East is shown on Figure 2.1 of the Facility Characteristics Report appears to be completely irrelevant to it's exclusion from Figure 6 of the Planning Justification Report.

Please provide further clarification.

Thank you,

Cindy Mercer

On Thursday, March 29, 2018 5:19 PM, ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca> wrote:

Good Afternoon,

Figure 6 of the Planning Justification Report is only meant to provide a general overview of the built up areas surrounding the ERRC, including distances to sensitive receptors, settlements, estate developments, etc.

All sensitive receptors within 500 metres of the site boundary are shown in Figure 2.1 of the Facility Characteristics Report, which includes 1293 Rainbow Valley Road East.

Hopefully this is helpful.

Regards, Tiffany

Tiffany Thompson BES MCIP RPP
Planner III
County of Simcoe, Planning, Development and Tourism Department
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
Phone: 705-726-9300 Ext. 1185 Fax: 705-727-4276
Email: tiffany.thompson@simcoe.ca
www.simcoe.ca

From: The Mercers [<mailto:mercercr@rogers.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:08 PM

To: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; Customer Service <CustomerService.Service@simcoe.ca>
Subject: ERRC Amended Planning Justification Report dated February 2018

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Referring to the Amended Planning Justification Report dated February 2018.
Distances to Sensitive Receptors and Settlements Figure 6

Please provide justification/explanation as to why the home located at 1293 Rainbow Valley Road East is not identified in Figure 6 of this report.

Thank you,
Cindy Mercer

From: The Mercers [mailto:mercercr@rogers.com]
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 3:00 PM
To: Renee Chaperon <renee.chaperon@springwater.ca>; Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>
Cc: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; French, Bill <bill.french@springwater.ca>; Allen, Don
<don.allen@springwater.ca>
Subject: Proposed ERRC - Secondary Emergency Access Route for residents

I am submitting the attached letter for public record as part of the planning process for the proposed ERRC.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Thank you,

Cindy Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Phelspton, On. L0L 2K0

Township of Springwater
County of Simcoe

Attention: Renee Chaperon, Town Clerk By E-mail: renee.chaperon@springwater.ca

Attention: John Daly, County Clerk By E-mail John.daly@simcoe.ca

Re: Applications OP-2016-001 and ZB-2016-002

A tree fallen across Rainbow Valley Road East last evening rendered the road completely unpassable. Families residing beyond the proposed ERRC emergency access route on Rainbow Valley Road East were unable to leave the area of their homes until this morning when the tree was cut and removed from the road through the efforts of local residents. Although this past weekend's storm was extreme, this type of occurrence in this heavily wooded area is not uncommon.



Tree blocking Rainbow Valley Road East, Springwater

Emergencies occur and this is something that needs to be planned and prepared for. Operating a high-risk, fire prone industrial facility in this area poses undue risk to the residents and invites the potential for multiple emergency situations that may require the evacuation of families from their homes.

It's my understanding that the families trapped during last night's storm have previously taken the initiative of raising concerns to both the Township of Springwater and the County of Simcoe in regards to a lack of **emergency response plans for residents** in the area of the proposed ERRC residing on dead end roads. Updated reports/studies recently released by the County still do not adequately address these legitimate concerns.

The County allocated in their plans to build the ERRC a secondary access route onto Rainbow Valley Road East to gain access to and from the facility in case of emergencies. In the case of last evening, a total of six families that reside beyond the proposed ERRC entrance were unable to leave their homes and exit the area for an extended length of time. ***Why has the County not allocated in their plans a secondary access route for residents to evacuate the area in case of emergency?***

We are informing the Township of Springwater and The County of Simcoe by way of this letter that they are on notice and will be fully responsible for their negligence should they proceed with plans to build the EERC in the Freele Tract.

Best Regards,
Cindy Mercer

Cc: errc@simcoe.ca

Cc: don.allen@springwater.ca

Cc: bill.french@springwater.ca

Thompson, Tiffany

From: ERRC
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 4:02 PM
To: The Mercers; Renee Chaperon; Daly, John
Cc: ERRC; French, Bill; Allen, Don
Subject: RE: Proposed ERRC - Secondary Emergency Access Route for residents

Thank you for submission. Your comments will be added to the public record/comments on this file.

Regards, Tiffany

Tiffany Thompson BES MCIP RPP
Planner III

County of Simcoe, Planning, Development and Tourism Department
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
Phone: 705-726-9300 Ext. 1185 Fax: 705-727-4276
Email: tiffany.thompson@simcoe.ca
www.simcoe.ca

From: The Mercers [mailto:mercercr@rogers.com]
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 3:00 PM
To: Renee Chaperon <renee.chaperon@springwater.ca>; Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>
Cc: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; French, Bill <bill.french@springwater.ca>; Allen, Don <don.allen@springwater.ca>
Subject: Proposed ERRC - Secondary Emergency Access Route for residents

I am submitting the attached letter for public record as part of the planning process for the proposed ERRC.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Thank you,

Cindy Mercer
1601 Rainbow Valley Road E.
Phelspton, On. L0L 2K0

Thompson, Tiffany

From: Mary Wagner <yramrengaw@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 2:55 PM
To: ERRC
Cc: David Donnelly; Cindy & Randy Mercer; Heather Rutherford
Subject: request for information

Hello

I respectfully request to know the provincial staff that have consulted and determined that the proposed ERRC on this site is exempt from the prohibition 4.2.3.1.

I have spoken with MOECC district staff today, April 19th and they do not presently have a record of this consultaion.

Regards
Mary Wagner

Excerpt from the Amended Planning Justification Report:

The EIS also indicates the study area can meet criteria for significant wildlife habitat due to the potential for area sensitive birds, bat colonies, amphibian breeding and species of conservation concern.

Therefore the application of section 4.2.3.1 which restricts development subject to certain specific exceptions must be considered. The provisions of sub-section c) indicates that an exception applies

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to; “activities that create or maintain infrastructure authorized under an environmental assessment process”. It has been determined in consultation with the provincial staff that the proposed facility is infrastructure authorized under an environmental assessment process. Therefore, the proposed ERRC is exempt from the prohibition provided by 4.2.3.1.

Thompson, Tiffany

From: Mary Wagner <yramrengaw@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 10:25 AM
To: Daly, John; ERRC; Renee Chaperon
Cc: French, Bill; Allen, Don; Cindy & Randy Mercer; Heather Rutherford
Subject: updated ERRC studies
Attachments: Letter to FSF PJR and EIS JL Apr 19 Final.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam

Please include this email with attachments to the public record.

FSF Inc. submit for the public record the attached letter from our Environmental planner. Ms. Lawrence has reviewed the updated Planning Justification Report and EIS from the county website.

We respectfully request a copy of the correspondence between the County of Simcoe and the Province of Ontario that provides the county with exemption from section 4.2.3 of the GP.

We respectively request clarification from the County of Simcoe as to how the Forest Management Plan will allow for clearcut of the "Significant Woodland" growth directly on the ERRC footprint thus making this a temporary impediment to the ERRC.

Thank you for your time and consideration to this request.

Mary Wagner



April 19, 2018

Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.
c/o Mrs. Mary Wagner
2928 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Phelpston, ON
L0L 2K0

Dear Mrs. Wagner:

**Re: County of Simcoe Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County and Local Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-Law Amendment
Files: SC-OPA-1602, OP-2016-005 and ZB-2016-021
2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Township of Springwater**

I have been retained by the Friends of Simcoe Forest Inc. to provide a land use planning opinion regarding planning applications that have been made by the County of Simcoe to site an Environmental Resource Recovery Centre in the Township of Springwater. The preferred site, as identified by the County of Simcoe, is located within the Freele Forest, a significant woodland.

As outlined in my letter of June 5, 2017, it is my opinion that there were planning errors made in the site selection process which has resulted in the identification of a preferred site that creates inherent conflicts with natural heritage planning policy at the Provincial, County and Local levels. With respect to documentation that has been submitted by the County in support of the current planning applications, neither the amended Planning Justification Report nor the amended Environmental Impact Study, have demonstrated conformity with the Provincial Policy Statement, County Official Plan, Springwater Official Plan or the Growth Plan.

In order to arrive at this conclusion, I have reviewed the following updated reports, prepared by the County of Simcoe, in support of the above noted applications:

- *Amended Planning Justification Report, Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Centre, Township of Springwater, County of Simcoe, Ontario*, prepared by GHD, dated revised February 2018;
- *Amended Scoped Environmental Impact Study, Proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Center, Springwater, Ontario, County of Simcoe*, prepared by GHD, dated February 1, 2018

In preparing my professional opinion on the proposal, in addition to the documents listed on page 2 of my June 5, 2017 letter, I have also referenced the following additional documents as part of this more current review:

- *Growth Plan 2017; and,*
- Growth Plan Natural Heritage System mapping, released by the Province February 9, 2018.

The amended ERRC documents were reviewed against comments that I provided in my June 5, 2017 letter. It is my understanding that this previous letter was shared with the County of Simcoe as part of their public consultation process.

I must reiterate at the outset, the site selection process remains part of the overall Official Plan Amendment (OPA) process and cannot be separated. The site selection process is essential background material and forms the basis for the preferred site that is being advanced in the OPA and Zoning By-Law Amendment (ZBLA) applications. The site selection process, although documented publicly, did not provide for any ability for the public to appeal the decision on the preferred site or the process whereby the preferred site was selected. It is only through this OPA and ZBLA process that the public have an opportunity to question and challenge the site selection process as well as the additional documents prepared in support of the OPA and ZBLA. If the site selection process had been undertaken as an Environmental Assessment, pursuant to the *Environmental Assessment Act*, the public would have had an opportunity to question and challenge the site selection decision-making framework through a formal appeal process, prior to the *Planning Act* applications for the site-specific ERRC. I continue to recommend that there are a number of flaws in the site screening process that continued to be carried through into subsequent stages of the site selection process that are not consistent with Provincial policy. This is even more important given that, according to Simcoe County, the Province has advised that the project is exempt from Growth Plan policy 4.2.3 which only permits infrastructure within the NHS if it has been approved through an environmental assessment (EA) process. Essentially, the Province appears to be accepting that the site selection process satisfies the rigorous requirements that would be expected of an EA process despite the fact that the site selection process had no formal appeal mechanism as would have been afforded the public through an EA. As such, I recommend that this letter be read in conjunction with my June 5, 2017 letter and that the Province be requested to advise how the site selection process met the EA process requirements.

Amended Planning Justification Report

The cover page notes that the study has been amended to address changes to policies contained within the Growth Plan, additional studies undertaken at the site and to address comments received from review agencies. Given the County's expressed interest in public consultation, I question why the cover page does not expressly note that the study was updated to also address comments received from the public. Unlike the amended EIS, the Planning Justification Report does not include a detailed comment/response matrix at the beginning of the document to identify specific comments received and how the report was amended to address those comments.

The updated report was issued prior to the Province releasing the final Natural Heritage System mapping for the Growth Plan. The report should be updated accordingly.

As outlined in my June 5, 2017 letter, my main concern relates to the fact that the Justification Report, as well as the Scoped EIS, erroneously interprets the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) requirements related to no negative impact. Specifically, the PPS first requires that a proponent

demonstrate that a development or site alteration will have no negative impact on the natural heritage features or functions of an area. Only once they have demonstrated that the actual proposed development will not have a negative impact, can they move on to the next step which is mitigation. Unfortunately, the Planning Justification report relies on the EIS conclusion which erroneously incorporates mitigation into the decision-making associated with no negative impact creating a very clear distinction by using the term 'no **net** negative impact'. The Planning Justification Report repeats this erroneous interpretation of the PPS requirements in several locations, including the following statement on page 13 (Section 4.5):

*With the inclusion of afforestation areas, along with other forms of mitigation, it is anticipated that there would **be no net negative impact** on the significant woodland and significant wildlife habitat characteristics. (emphasis added)*

There is no provision for a proponent to demonstrate 'no **net** negative impacts' within the PPS. Rather, a proponent must first demonstrate 'no negative impacts' and only then can they propose mitigation. To include mitigation in the consideration of no negative impact is contrary to the PPS.

The Planning Justification Report only mentions significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat and significant wetlands in their evaluation of Provincial, County and Local policy however, the significant habitat of endangered and threatened species has also been documented on the site and the Planning Justification Report should advise as to how the proposed development demonstrates no negative impact on these species or provide confirmation from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) that they have no concerns as it relates to the *Endangered Species Act*.

The Planning Justification Report, specifically as it relates to the impacts on natural heritage features and functions, has carried forward conclusions from the Amended Scoped EIS that, in my opinion, are not a correct interpretation of Provincial Policy and/or not a correct representation of the existing land use and management of the site. For example, in Section 4.5 of the Planning Justification Report, the following is stated:

From the site work and surveys undertaken for the EIS it was concluded that significant woodland was present in the study area. While the ERRC site did not exhibit uncommon woodland characteristics, the overall study area did contain significant woodland. The condition in part would be temporary with respect to the ERRC proposed location as this is comprised of a managed plantation.

There are a number of concerns with this statement. The concerning statement is first provided in *italics*, followed by my recommendation in normal font:

1. *EIS concludes that significant woodland was present in the study area.* The development envelope is within the study area and, therefore, is within significant woodland;
2. *EIS concludes that the ERRC site did not exhibit uncommon woodland characteristics.* The presence of uncommon woodland characteristics is one of only several characteristics that must be considered when determining the presence of significant woodland. Based on Item #1, GHD has concluded that the entire site, including the ERRC development footprint, is within a significant woodland. As such, the reference to no uncommon woodland characteristics is misleading and not necessary in this sentence.

3. *EIS concludes that the condition in part would be temporary with respect to the ERRC proposed location as it is comprised of a managed plantation. Although GHD does not define what they mean by 'the condition' I have assumed they mean that the significant woodland designation in the specific building envelope of the ERRC would be temporary because it is a managed forest. As noted in my previous letter, based on the County's documented approach to woodland management, the select removal/harvesting of trees in woodlands would not result in the area no longer being considered as significant woodland. The only way in which 'the condition' could be temporary would be if the County's woodland management strategy for the Freele Forest was that of clear cutting. As such, GHD's conclusion that a managed forest would result in the area not being considered significant woodland is not accurate.*

Section 3.1.1 (Site Description), 2nd paragraph, indicates that the proposed ERRC location was selected to address a number of considerations including avoidance of key natural heritage features such as wetlands. The subject property is now within the County's Greenlands designation and within the Growth Plan Natural Heritage System. Key natural heritage features in both plans include:

- Habitat of endangered species and threatened species;
- Fish habitat;
- Wetlands;
- Life science areas of natural and scientific interest;
- Significant valleylands;
- Significant woodlands;
- Significant wildlife habitat (including habitat of special concern species);
- Sand barrens, savannahs, tallgrass prairies and alvars.

It is unclear why the selection process only focused on avoiding one key natural heritage feature instead of all of them including significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat and habitat of endangered species and threatened species.

Section 4.5 (PPS 2.1 – Natural Heritage), 1st paragraph speaks to PPS policies related to significant woodlands and significant wildlife habitat but neglects to mention habitat of endangered and threatened species. How has this been addressed?

Section 4.7 (PPS 2.3 – Agriculture), page 15, last sentence, states the following:

Clearly, based on the foregoing there is an identified need for the proposed facility as established by the Waste Management Strategy.

In my opinion, GHD has misinterpreted the requirement to demonstrate need within this policy. Specifically, PPS Policy 2.3 requires that a proponent demonstrate that there is an identified need within the planning horizon for additional land to be designated to accommodate the proposed use. While the Waste Management Strategy may have demonstrated a need for the ERRC, the Strategy did not demonstrate a need for additional land to be designated for non-agricultural uses within an agricultural area.

Section 5.3 (Section 4 -Protecting What is Valuable), refers to the draft Growth Plan Natural Heritage System. Although the mapping in the study area has not changed, the report should be updated to recognize that this mapping is now final and that the Growth Plan NHS policies now apply.

The last sentence on page 18 correctly notes that Section 4.2.3.1 of the Growth Plan restricts development within the NHS but provides an exception to activities that create or maintain infrastructure authorized under an EA process. GHD then indicates that the provincial staff have confirmed that, even though the ERRC did not go through an EA process, that the proposed facility is infrastructure authorized under an environmental assessment process and that therefore, the ERRC is exempt from the prohibition in Policy 4.2.3.1. As part of the transparent public process, I recommend that FSF request a copy of the correspondence from the Province that provides this confirmation and request that the Province provide the rationale for such an exemption given that the ERRC site selection process clearly did not take place within an EA process under the *Environmental Assessment Act*. This is concerning given that the County has repeatedly stated that the site selection process did not require an Environmental Assessment and, as noted in my previous letter, there were a number of concerns with the site selection that have been raised by the public that have not been addressed by the County.

Section 6.1 (County of Simcoe Official Plan – Greenlands Section 3.8), page 21, the report reiterates that the EIS has concluded that the development will not result in a negative impact and states the following:

This is based on the proposed location of the ERRC, the plantation history of the Site, the actively managed nature of the Study Area and the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, which adequately avoid, compensate and replace natural features (i.e., vegetation / plantings) within the wider woodlot feature. The identified wetland and significant natural forest will be retained on the site.

Concerns related to the above statement include:

1. The proposed location of the ERRC is within a significant woodland, as documented by the EIS;
2. The plantation history of the site and the fact that it is managed using good forestry practices, does not remove the site from consideration as significant woodland, so these points are not relevant;
3. The statement is based on the notion that compensation and replacement of natural heritage features is contemplated by the PPS as part of the demonstration of no negative impact, which is not accurate;
4. Reference to replanting within the 'wider woodlot feature' is mentioned but there has been, to my knowledge, no study by the County to identify a publicly owned parcel that would be suitable to plant the necessary area to replicate the treed area lost through this proposal. Even if such an approach were supported by the PPS, which it is not, the proponent would need to demonstrate, through the EIS, that there is an appropriate location for the afforestation and the business plan would need to account for the cost of land acquisition, if necessary, planting and long-term maintenance;
5. Reference to 'significant natural forest' is not relevant. There is no such term in the PPS. The entire site has been deemed to be significant woodland, by the EIS.
6. This erroneous statement is repeated, in various forms, at least six times throughout the 38 page report.

Section 6.2 (County of Simcoe Official Plan – Resource Conservation Section 4.5), makes reference to a County policy that encourages the overall increase in the quantity of woodlands in the County. The previous EIS recommended a 2:1 replanting ratio which, if this was something that could be considered by the PPS, would represent an overall increase in the quantity of woodlands in the County over time. However, the Planning Justification Report is only recommending a 1:1 ratio whereas, the Amended EIS varies between recommending a 1:1 and a 2:1 replacement ratio. At a 1:1 replacement ratio, this would not be an increase in woodland quantity, as noted in County Policy 4.5, but rather a neutral area replacement. The County should be very clear on what planting ratio they are proposing. I question how the County will be required to implement this commitment? Would it be through a Holding zone, such that trees could not be removed until such time as the compensating area was planted?

Section 7 (Township of Springwater Official Plan), provides an overview of the Township's Official Plan policies. This section is concerning given that the County is aware that Springwater is updating their OP to be in-keeping with the PPS and County OP and that the current Springwater OP pre-dates the 2014 PPS, 2016 County OP and 2017 Growth Plan. Using out-dated designations and policies to justify the placement of the ERRC is concerning. At a minimum, if reference is to be made to Springwater OP policies, as pointed out in my previous letter, the author should acknowledge that, although the mapping does not identify the entire preferred site as Environmental Protection Category 2, based on the text description, it would qualify. For example, Category 2 lands are described in Policy 16.2.1.1(ii) as:

Lands delineated as Natural Heritage (Environmental Protection) - Category 2 Lands on Schedule 'B' include, but are not limited to, those environmentally significant lands and/or waters of ecological sensitivity, such as those areas containing the following natural features:

- Lands situated adjacent to provincially and locally significant wetlands and other Natural Heritage (Environmental Protection) - Category 1 Lands;
- **Unique and significant biologically sensitive wildlife habitat;**
- **Forests and Wood lots;**
- Natural connections through valley corridors or other linkages between core areas of the Natural Heritage System;
- Groundwater recharge and discharge, aquifer, and shoreline areas; and
- Natural Fish Habitat. (*emphasis added*)

In addition, it's possible that portions of the property could also be considered Category 1 lands which are described as follows in Policy 16.2.1.1(i):

Lands designated as Natural Heritage (Environmental Protection) Category 1 Lands on Schedule 'A' include environmentally significant lands and/or waters of inherent ecological sensitivity, such as those areas containing the following natural features (*emphasis added*):

- Internationally, **provincially, and locally significant wetlands** (Classes 1 - 7);
- Provincially significant Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (A.N.S.I.s) or other combinations of habitat or landform which could be essential for scientific research or conservation education;
- **Significant portions of the habitat of threatened and endangered species;**

- Significant natural watercourses and ravines.

Section 11 (Recommendations Arising out of Planning Rationale), notes that tree replacement/compensation is a key recommendation that should be addressed in the consideration of the approvals of the applications. As noted earlier, even if the PPS permitted such consideration, which it does not, the proponent would be required to demonstrate, through the site selection process and EIS, that they have found and evaluated a site to provide the required size and characteristics to permit the tree planting to take place. Without this information, the proponent has not demonstrated that they can undertake the work that they have indicated is critical to their recommendation for approval. In addition, the report has not provided a planning mechanism to ensure that the compensation plantings take place in advance of any tree removal on the subject property. Without such a requirement, what planning mechanism would be used to enforce the compensation planting?

Amended Scoped Environmental Impact Study

There is a comment/response table included at the beginning of this study but the table only includes those comments that were provided by public agencies and do not include comments provided by the public. In keeping with the County's stated commitment to transparency, this table should be updated to include all comments received and the study team's response. A similar table, with all comments received and responses, should be included in all of the amended documents.

The amended EIS confirms that the subject property meets the definition of Significant Woodlands, Significant Wildlife Habitat and contains habitat of endangered and threatened species.

Table 2.1 (Secondary Source Information Reviewed), continues to list '*Freele County Forest management documents*'. A request was made, in FSF's previous letter to the County, for a copy of these documents. To date, it is my understanding that these documents have not been provided to FSF. Given that GHD appears to be relying on these documents, specifically as it relates to the previous and future anticipated management approaches to the Freele County Forest, it is essential that these documents be made public. Section 2.1.2 further describes forest inventory and stand health evaluations that were provided to GHD by the County. A copy of these reports should also be made public. It is my understanding FSF has retained experts to peer review these documents.

Section 2.2.2 (Natural Heritage Features), paragraph 4, refers to the 2015 Township of Springwater Official Plan (OP). I would defer to Springwater Township staff however, it is my understanding that the 2015 OP is an office consolidation and that the OP was actually approved in 1998 which pre-dates the 2014 Provincial Policy Statement. It is somewhat misleading to refer to a 2015 OP which could be read to suggest that the environmental protection policies are consistent with current policy requirements.

Section 2.2.3.1 (FODM5: Dry-Fresh Sugar Maple Naturalized Deciduous Plantation), I question whether this section should reference FOD5-1 as there is no FODM5 on Figure 4.

Section 2.2.3.2 (Flora), the text notes one-hundred and ninety-nine species were recorded however, the number in brackets indicates 197. This should be corrected.

Section 2.2.6.1 (Amphibian Surveys), notes that at Station 5, gray tree frog was recorded outside of the 100m survey station area. The direction that they were detected should be indicated since, if it was to the north, south or west, the frogs could have still been on the subject property.

Section 2.2.6.2 (Breeding Bird Surveys), paragraph 2, notes that, '*at Station 5, ovenbird was the only area sensitive species present; this is likely due to where the station is situated at the edge of the forest, adjacent to the road and an agricultural field*'. I question whether this should be referring to Station 2 rather than Station 5 since Station 5 is in the interior of the site. This should be clarified.

Section 4.1 (Regulatory/Policy Framework - Township of Springwater), first paragraph, notes that Category 1 lands within the Springwater OP include PSWs, ANSIs, Species at Risk, and significant watercourses or ravines and that Category 2 lands include lands adjacent to Category 1 lands, unique and/or significant wildlife habitat, linkage features between core habitats, groundwater recharge areas and natural fish habitat. The second paragraph goes on to note that, since the Freele County Forest harbours several key components listed under Category 2, development within the forest must be subject to development requirements within the OP. This sentence should be revised to note that the Freele County Forest also includes several Category 1 components including assumed PSW and confirmed SAR.

Section 4.2 (Regulatory/Policy Framework – Simcoe County) provides a description of the OP designations but does not provide a planning analysis of the impacts of such policies. This should be updated.

Section 4.3 (Regulatory/Policy Framework – NVCA), final paragraph notes that the NVCA regulated areas are limited to the wetlands present in the northeast corner of the Study Area. Based on Figure 3 (Natural Heritage Features) there is an NVCA regulated wetland in the southeast corner as well. The text should be updated accordingly.

Section 4.4 (Species at Risk Legislation), 2nd paragraph includes the following sentence '*No ESA Threatened or Endangered species were directly observed within the Study Area during the course of this study, however, the acoustic surveys in 2017 identified use of this Study Area by SAR bat species.*' Given that acoustic observations are often the only way to identify specific bat species, it is misleading to suggest that no threatened or endangered species were directly observed. This sentence should be revised.

Section 4.5.1 (Significant Woodland), 3rd paragraph, notes the following:

Therefore by size of the contiguous woodland feature, the minimum ecological functions criteria for interior forest size of 20 ha or more where forest cover is 60 percent or greater is satisfied, and Significant Woodland is by definition present within the Study Area. While this may be the initial limit for consideration of interior forest habitat, this feature is temporary as the proposed ERRC footprint is part of a managed and actively harvested woodlot.

As noted above in the Planning Justification Report review, the study team continues to perpetuate a false statement whereby they are suggesting that sustainable harvesting, which is the County's documented approach to forest management, would somehow result in the loss of interior forest habitat. As noted in my previous letter, the only way that interior forest habitat could be lost would be if the County's approach to harvesting was clear-cutting. It is evident in the

County's material related to their County forests, that clear cutting is not a method that they utilize when undertaking forest management. As such, the statement is erroneous and must be removed otherwise, the study team is misleading the reader.

Section 4.5.2 (Significant Wildlife Habitat), when speaking to animal movement corridors, notes that, '*although wildlife likely move along the trail within the Study Area....*'. I assume that wildlife is likely using the entire property for movement, not just the man-made trail. The wording should be revised appropriately.

Section 4.5.3 (Places to Grow), notes that, under Section 4.2.3 of the Growth Plan, outside settlement areas, development and site alteration is not permitted in key natural heritage features that are part of the Natural Heritage System. The study team goes on to state that there are certain exceptions to this provision related to forest management, flood and erosion control, infrastructure authorized under an environmental assessment process, mineral aggregates and agriculture. The section concludes that, since the proposed ERRC is defined as infrastructure under the Growth Plan definitions, it is exempt from the provisions of Section 4.2.3. While waste management systems are considered infrastructure as per the Growth Plan's definition, the exemption in Section 4.2.3.1 is only applicable if the infrastructure has been authorized under an EA process. This is a concerning statement by the study team given that the ERRC did not proceed through an EA process and numerous concerns have been raised, by the public, with the site selection process that have never been addressed by the County. If the Province is suggesting that the County can utilize the exemption policy under Section 4.2.3 of the Growth Plan, the Province should be required to explain how they have granted such an exemption given the lack of an EA process and the lack of clear and transparent decision making that led to the preferred site selection.

Section 5.1 (Impact Assessment Process), as outlined in my previous letter, one of the most concerning aspects of the EIS is that the study team is suggesting that tree planting off-site (i.e., mitigation) should be used when determining whether there is a negative impact to the features and functions on the site. Negative impacts must first be assessed based on the proposed development/site alteration. If no negative impacts are demonstrated, only then can mitigation be proposed. Mitigation cannot be used to demonstrate no negative impacts.

Table 5.1 (Ecosystem Component Impact and Mitigation Summary), I recommend that the overall area of impact is likely greater than 5.5ha as it has not included the area of impact associated with the relocated OFSC trail. This should be included in the impact assessment and mitigation. This would also apply to Section 5.2.1.

Section 5.2.2 (Mitigation) notes that afforestation efforts that will increase the available contiguous woodland vegetation by a minimum of 5.5 ha should take place within 5 km of the Study Area however, no specific areas are identified that the County owns or has access to for such tree planting. If land needs to be purchased to facilitate the tree planting, that must be included in the overall cost-benefit assessment for the project and should have been considered in the overall site selection process (as it could impact the viability of the project if an appropriate site cannot be found). In Section 5.3.2, it is noted that a minimum of 5.5 ha should be forested however, the study team indicates that 11 ha would be preferable. Section 6 (Conclusions) states '*a commitment to afforestation at a 2:1 ratio (e.g. 11ha) to expand and/or enhance the contiguous woodland feature within the vicinity of the Study Area will, along with the detailed site design and operation considerations, serve to mitigate the loss*'. It is unclear what GHD's professional recommendation to the County is with respect to the area, 5.5 ha or 11 ha and it is equally unclear as to what the County is committing to. Again, the availability of an appropriate 11 ha patch of

land has not been demonstrated and should have been part of the overall site selection and assessment process. If this project had been undertaken as an EA, such identification would have been a requirement during the assessment of alternatives.

Figure 5 (Wildlife and Habitat Features), the emergency access road should be shown on this figure.

Conclusion

Based on my review of the Amended Planning Justification Report and Amended Environmental Impact Study there remain outstanding issues with the contents of these reports, as outlined above. As part of an open and transparent public process, the County should provide responses to all comments received, not just those received from public agencies. I recommend that FSF request a written response from the County to all comments that have been submitted to date. If this process had been undertaken as an Environmental Assessment, such documentation would have been a requirement. I further recommend that FSF continue to request the Freele County Forest management documentation that is referred to in the EIS given that the study team is relying on this information in its determination of harvesting practices and woodland significance.

It is my opinion that neither report has demonstrated conformity with the Provincial Policy Statement, County Official Plan, Springwater Official Plan or the Growth Plan. This is based on the following:

1. Both reports rely on correspondence that the County has reportedly received from the Province in which the Province advises that the ERRC is considered infrastructure that has been approved through an Environmental Assessment process and is therefore exempt from Growth Plan policy 4.2.3. This is extremely significant given that, if not for this exemption, the Growth Plan would not permit the ERRC on the subject property as it is outside of the Urban Area and within the Natural Heritage System. The site selection process was **not** completed as part of an Environmental Assessment and policy 4.2.3 does not provide for infrastructure to be approved through a process 'similar to an environmental assessment'. As such, I strongly recommend that FSF request a copy of the documentation from the Province that the County is referring to and further request that the Province document: (1) what ability they have to revise Growth Plan policy requirements that specifically requires an Environmental Assessment to obtain an exemption to a study that does not meet the standards of an Environmental Assessment; and, (2) to specify how the County's site selection process meets all of the requirements of an Environmental Assessment, including adequate and appropriate investigation into alternatives and preferred alternatives as well as an appropriate appeal process for the public specifically related to the site selection process. A copy of my June 5, 2017 letter should be provided to the Province which provides an outline of the concerns related to the site selection process. Until this documentation is provided, the proposed development appears to be contrary to Growth Plan policy 4.2.3;
2. Both reports rely on off-site compensation planting to demonstrate no negative impacts. Such an approach is not demonstrating '*no negative impacts*' but rather, is an attempt to demonstrate '*no net negative impacts*'. Such an approach is not supported by the Provincial Policy Statement. A proponent must first demonstrate that the proposed development and/or site alteration will not have a negative impact and, only once that is demonstrated, can the proponent recommend mitigation measures to ensure no negative impact takes place. Given that the proponent is relying on off-site compensation to offset the negative impact of the proposed development on the woodland, it is clear that the

development will result in a negative impact to the woodland which is not consistent with PPS policy 2.1.5;

3. Even if off-site compensation planting was consistent with Provincial policy, to address negative impacts of a development (which it is not), the County has not committed to a planting compensation ratio. The reports alternate between recommending a 1:1 ratio and a 2:1 ratio however, the County has not, to my knowledge, advised which planting ratio they are committed to achieving. In addition, the County has not identified a 5.5 ha – 11 ha vacant parcel of land, adjacent to a similar forested area as that which is being removed, within 5 km of the site (as recommended by the EIS), that is currently owned by the County and/or that the County has the ability to purchase. The County has also not included the cost of purchasing such a piece of land, reforesting 5.5 ha – 11 ha of that land and long-term maintenance costs into their business plan. Finally, the County has not committed to a specific planning mechanism that would ensure such compensation planting would take place prior to the removal of any trees on the subject property; and,
4. Both reports conclude that harvesting practices in the Freele County Forest results in the significant woodland designation being only a temporary condition. This is used to justify development within a significant woodland and to minimize the importance of the feature. Unless the County intended to clear-cut the Freele County Forest, a practice that is not supported by their own documented approaches to forest management, there would be no impact to the significance of the woodland as a result of sustainable harvesting. The reports should acknowledge that the woodland is significant with no qualifiers on this designation.

I trust the above is of assistance. Please let me know if you require anything further.

Yours truly,



Jennifer Lawrence, MCIP, RPP
President

Thompson, Tiffany

From: Jennifer Lawrence <jennifer@jlplanning.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 9:04 AM
To: ERRC
Subject: RE: ERRC Amended EIS

Hi Tiffany,
Thank you for the clarification.
Jennifer

From: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 5:18 PM
To: Jennifer Lawrence <jennifer@jlplanning.ca>
Subject: RE: ERRC Amended EIS

Hi Jennifer,

I checked with the consultant and the reason that the numbering starts at 31 is that this is where the EIS responses are as there is a larger master comment/response table. So there are no missing comment/responses related to the EIS.

Hope this helps.

Regards, Tiffany

Tiffany Thompson BES MCIP RPP
Planner III
County of Simcoe, Planning, Development and Tourism Department
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
Phone: 705-726-9300 Ext. 1185 Fax: 705-727-4276
Email: tiffany.thompson@simcoe.ca
www.simcoe.ca

From: Jennifer Lawrence [<mailto:jennifer@jlplanning.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 10:01 AM
To: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>
Subject: Re: ERRC Amended EIS

Thanks Tiffany.
Jennifer

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: ERRC
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 9:20 AM
To: Jennifer Lawrence; ERRC
Subject: RE: ERRC Amended EIS

Good Morning Jennifer,

I have forwarded your comment to the consultant to clarify and will provide a response shortly.

Regards, Tiffany

Tiffany Thompson BES MCIP RPP
Planner III
County of Simcoe, Planning, Development and Tourism Department
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
Phone: 705-726-9300 Ext. 1185 Fax: 705-727-4276
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From: Jennifer Lawrence [<mailto:jennifer@jlplanning.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2018 7:42 PM
To: ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>
Subject: ERRC Amended EIS

Good Evening,

I am currently reviewing the amended EIS and note that there is a comment/response matrix at the front of the document however, it appears to be missing pages as it starts at Comment 31. Could you please forward a copy of the entire comment/response matrix?

Thank you,

Jennifer

Jennifer Lawrence, MCIP, RPP
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Thompson, Tiffany

From: ERRC
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 10:51 AM
To: Mary Wagner; Daly, John; ERRC; Renee Chaperon
Cc: French, Bill; Allen, Don; Cindy & Randy Mercer; Heather Rutherford
Subject: RE: updated ERRC studies

Good Morning,

Thank you for circulating your comments including the attachment. These comments will be included in the public record for this file.

Regards, Tiffany

Tiffany Thompson BES MCIP RPP
Planner III
County of Simcoe, Planning, Development and Tourism Department
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-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Wagner [mailto:yramrengaw@icloud.com]
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 10:25 AM
To: Daly, John <John.Daly@simcoe.ca>; ERRC <ERRC@simcoe.ca>; Renee Chaperon <renee.chaperon@springwater.ca>
Cc: French, Bill <Bill.French@simcoe.ca>; Allen, Don <Don.Allen@simcoe.ca>; Cindy & Randy Mercer <mercercr@rogers.com>; Heather Rutherford <rutherford_heather@hotmail.com>
Subject: updated ERRC studies

Dear Sir/Madam

Please include this email with attachments to the public record.

FSF Inc. submit for the public record the attached letter from our Environmental planner. Ms. Lawrence has reviewed the updated Planning Justification Report and EIS from the county website.

We respectfully request a copy of the correspondence between the County of Simcoe and the Province of Ontario that provides the county with exemption from section 4.2.3 of the GP.

We respectively request clarification from the County of Simcoe as to how the Forest Management Plan will allow for clearcut of the "Significant Woodland" growth directly on the ERRC footprint thus making this a temporary impediment to the ERRC.

Thank you for your time and consideration to this request.

Mary Wagner

2928 Horseshoe Valley Road West
Phelpston, Ontario
L0L 2K0
May 3, 2018

Premier Kathleen Wynne
Constituency Office
795 Eglinton Avenue East, Unit 101
TORONTO, Ontario
M4G 4E4

Dear Premier Wynne:

At lunch yesterday, I observed a televised report indicating that you have committed to expanding the Greenbelt in Ontario, should your party be re-elected as the Government of Ontario in the upcoming elections. On behalf of future generations of Ontarions, I commend you for your initiative in this matter.

However, I suspect you may not be fully aware of the actions of your Party's candidate in the Simcoe North riding, i.e. G. Marshall.

Mr. Marshall (the present Warden of Simcoe County) is spearheading efforts to re-zone the 207-acre "Freele Forest" (deemed a "Significant Woodland" and "Significant Wildlife Habitat" based on the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Ecoregion 6E criteria) from agricultural zoning to industrial zoning, to facilitate construction of a so-called "Environmental Resource Recovery Center" (ERRC) serving Simcoe County. That significant forest is located on top of the "Oro Moraine" which is within the Province's own "Regional Natural Heritage System" mapping that will form the basis of planning under the Growth Plan (2017) which came into effect July 1/17, and under the Greenbelt Plan (2017).

The Growth Plan (2017) Policy 4.2.3.1 prohibits such a use. The Greenbelt Plan (2017) Policy 4.2.1.2(h) prohibits such a use. The Greenbelt Plan also includes the following restriction, which would apply to the proposed forest site as the ERRC is to include an organics composting facility:

- **prohibiting new waste disposal sites and organic soil conditioning sites in key natural heritage features, key hydrologic features, and their associated vegetation protection zones**

Other existing industrial sites are readily available, one within 2 km of the Freele Forest and within 200 metres of the junction of 2 major thoroughfares. Those sites may be closer to the end market for the sorted waste material, and less expensive to develop than the extensive costs related to construction of new roadways, acceleration lanes and deceleration lanes, hydro lines, etc., etc. which will be associated with development of the proposed forest site. Comparative financial projections have not been offered to the taxpayers/ratepayers. Rather, stand-alone projections have been prepared which do not clearly support the financial advantages of the proposed site. A petition opposing this type of facility within any of our forests was signed by 1,300 voters of Simcoe County, with no response from Mr. Marshall's office.

Nowhere else in North America has such a facility been placed in the middle of a forest, partially in recognition of the regular occurrence of spontaneous combustion fires in each and every one of the existing facilities (witness the 6 fires in 8 years up to Oct 27/16 at the Wasteco Plant in Hamilton, and the fire at a waterfront facility in Toronto last fall, just to mention a few). Do we really want to risk a "Fort McMurray" situation by placing such a facility in the middle of any of our forests?

It is also noteworthy that the County's environmental consultants had failed to disclose the existence in that forest of 4 "Special Concern and Rare Wildlife Species", until after a local citizen's group spent its own funds to have a separate survey completed by a competent field scientist. Now, the County's plans have been amended to attempt "mitigation" of the negative impact of daily delivering 210 truckloads of garbage (i.e. 420 round trips) to the center of that forest, scheduled for 13 hours per day, 6 days per week. This, despite the Province's very specific Natural Heritage Policy 4.2.3. which clearly states:

“New development or site alteration will demonstrate that: i. There are no negative impacts on key natural heritage features or key hydrologic features or their functions.....”.

In short, mitigation is not an option.

With all of the foregoing in mind, can you tell me, where do you stand in this matter? I would have thought that Mr. Marshall, as one of your candidates in the upcoming election, would be supportive of the Liberal Party’s implementation of the Greenbelt Plan (2017). Yet, his actions are diametrically opposite to those espoused by yourself.

Your early response would be most appreciated.

Yours truly,

R.W. Wagner (Mr)