



Thursday, March 23, 2006

Media Release

York Region surpasses conditions set by the Ministry on YDSS projects Annual Report provides comprehensive overview

NEWMARKET – The Regional Municipality of York continues to go above and beyond meeting the conditions placed on the York Durham Sewage System project by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE).

In October 2004, the MOE placed 44 conditions on the remaining YDSS projects, including a mandate to submit an annual report to the Ministry indicating the date that each condition was fulfilled and the results of the conditions having been fulfilled. To date, 33 of these conditions have been met, with the Region exceeding Ministry expectations on 10 conditions. The remaining conditions will be fulfilled as the projects progress.

The *YDSS Annual Report 2005: First Annual Report on Compliance with the Minister's Conditions* has been submitted to the MOE - a fulfilment of one of the MOE's 44 conditions.

“The YDSS Compliance Report is testament to the thoroughness of our project teams,” said York Regional Chair and CEO Bill Fisch. “We continue to demonstrate consistently that we not only meet the requirements, we exceed them. York Region is raising the environmental bar for infrastructure projects.”

The York Durham Sewage System is a complex network of pipes, pumping stations and treatment works that fully contain the sanitary wastes from our serviced communities. As the Region's communities grow, the continued protection of our environment depends upon the timely delivery of many of these projects. The *YDSS Annual Report 2005: First Annual Report on Compliance with the Minister's Conditions* documents the commitment of Regional Council to protect the interests of the public and the environment.

“This Compliance Report acts as an environmental and public consultation blueprint for the projects underway, as well as providing a draft plan for what will be forthcoming,” said Town of Markham Regional Councillor Bill O'Donnell, Chair of York Region's Transportation and Works Committee. “We will be issuing a compliance report to the MOE on an annual basis until all of the Minister's conditions have been satisfied.”

Copies of the Compliance Report are being sent to the Region's nine area municipalities, libraries, Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade. The report can also be viewed through the Region's Web site, a portal to a comprehensive source of related project information.

For more information on the YDSS or to view the Compliance Report online, please visit www.york.ca and follow the links on the main page titled, “York Durham Sewage System information.”

- 30 -

Media Contact: Patrick Casey, Director, Corporate Communications, York Region
Phone: (905) 830-4444, ext. 1235 or cell (905) 715-8211
Email: patrick.casey@york.ca