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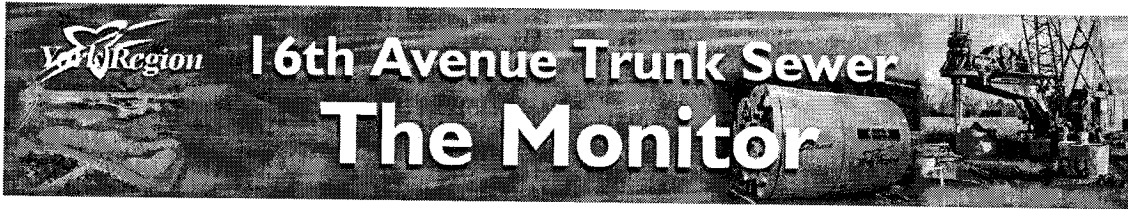


TABLE OF CONTENTS

New publication delivers compliance monitoring results to public.....
Page 1

Compliance Summary Results of July data show no adverse effects.....
Page 1

DATA RESULTS

Disposition of Pumped Water.....
Page

Flow.....
Page

Water Temperature.....
Page

Aquatic Habitat.....
Page

Wetlands and Woodlots.....
Page

Drawdown.....
Page

Particulate Matter.....
Page

Proactive/Reactive Well Mitigation.....
Page

Compliance with PTTW Conditions.....
Page

Beaver Creek.....
Page

Little Rouge River.....
Page

Exhibition Creek.....
Page

Robinson Creek.....
Page

Burdenet Creek.....
Page

Bruce Creek.....
Page

Berczy Creek.....
Page

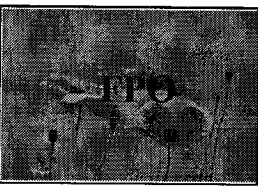
Rouge River.....
Page

Apple Creek.....
Page

Theory behind Environmental Management Plan
Page

Comments and Rebuttals
Page

Back to the Future
Page



New monthly publication will deliver results of Independent audit for 16th Avenue sewer data for compliance

Welcome to the new public information vehicle called "The Monitor". It is a monthly publication designed to provide information on the status of the 16th Avenue Sewer project and the impact this construction has had on the environment as it travels from Kennedy Rd. to Markham Rd. In the past, data that had been collected on a monthly basis by the project's environmental consultants, MacViro, were analyzed and verified by an independent auditor, Gartner Lee for quality assurance. Results of that analysis was then prepared in report form and shared with the Ministry of the Environment and the Regional Municipality of York on a monthly basis. In addition, all monthly reports, which average approximately 100 pages in length, are posted on the 16th Avenue website located at <http://16ave.net> for public viewing.

According to Niti Subramaniam, the Senior Project Manager for Transportation Works at York Region, the reports contain dozens charts and tables that are designed to illustrate the results of the data in a user-friendly graphical manner.

"The text and charts that are in these monthly reports accurately reflect the status of all the performance measures the Ministry of the Environment has asked us to monitor," Mr. Subramaniam said, "but we wanted to go one step further and put them into a document that could be easily read and understood by the public."

As a result, data collected by MacViro and audited and validated by Gartner Lee, will be communicated to the public through the pages of "The Monitor".

According to the independent facilitator for the project, Robb Ogilvie of Ogilvie, Ogilvie and Company, this new public communications vehicle is part of a transparent process that the public understands, appreciates and expects.

"The Monitor will communicate the results of the independent audit in a clear and concise manner that is easily understood by those affected by the construction," Mr. Ogilvie said. "It will not only provide charts and illustrations that give the reader a clear picture of the results, it will offer commentary on what these results mean to the ecosystem and illustrate trends using historical data."

Permit to Take Water

In order for the Regional Municipality of York to proceed with plans to bring services to those areas approved for growth, it was necessary for the area to undergo a Class Environmental Assessment. This work was carried out in XXXX and a Permit to Take Water was issued by the Ontario Ministry of Environment in October 2004.

A Permit to Take Water (PTTW) was necessary to provide the Region of York with the Ministry's environmental expectations as they pertained to water, aquifer habitat and human health. The Permit to Take Water clearly outlined how much water could be removed at one time and where that water would go. This process, called "dewatering" was necessary to ensure the safety of the workers during the construction process.

The PTTW also required the Region of York to maintain a continuous record of all water takings. This record is to include the dates and times of water takings, and the total measured amounts of water pumped per day for each day that water is taken. The monitoring was to be conducted at specified locations and as directed to include, but not be limited to monitoring of:

- a) stream baseflow
- b) stream temperature
- c) stream water quality
- d) fisheries
- e) benthos
- f) wetlands

The environmental monitoring firm of MacViro conduct the monitoring on behalf of York Region and their data is in turn, audited and validated by the independent auditing firm, Gartner Lee.

Now, with the introduction of the Monitor, Gartner Lee's results will be communicated to the public on a monthly basis.

The Minister's Letter —

Compliance Summary

Results of July monitoring data continues to show no adverse environmental effects

The results of an audit by Gartner Lee on the monitoring data conducted by MacViro on the dewatering activities of York Region associated with the 16th Avenue sewer construction, indicates that no adverse affects to the environment were evident during the month of July.

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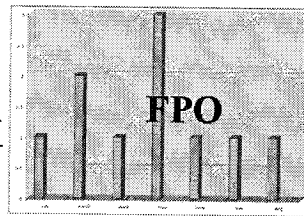
October 1, 2004

16th Avenue Trunk Sewer Phase 2

I have decided that an individual EA is not required for this project. In making a decision about this project, I want to ensure that the environment is protected and the environmental concerns which have been raised are addressed. I am therefore, by order pursuant to my authority under subsection 16(3) of the Environmental Assessment Act, imposing the following conditions in addition to those imposed upon the approval of the Class EA.

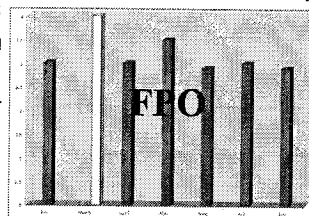
1. The Regional Municipality of York shall develop monitoring and mitigation measures for the dewatering activities associated with this proposed project, including measures that address potential impacts to well users and the natural environment.

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