

August 9, 2004

Reference No. T001374-23-748

Mr. Doug Pike
3855 Bethesda Side Rd.
Stouffville, Ontario
L4A 7X5

Dear Mr. Pike:

Re: Response to Call-In to the York Region Call Centre - 3855 Bethesda Side Road
16th Avenue Trunk Sewer Construction Activities
Stouffville, Ontario
File No. 748

York Region (Region) has asked us to respond to your concern about your water supply at 3855 Bethesda Side Rd., Stouffville, ON. Our company, Inspec-Sol/CRA was retained by the Region to provide an independent technical assessment of potential interference on local water wells from the 16th Avenue Trunk Sewer Construction Activities. The following letter has been prepared to report our findings to you, and to close this file with respect to our investigation.

Our findings indicate that the activities associated with the construction of 16th Avenue Trunk Sewer are not the cause of decreased water levels in your well and ponds. Our monitoring indicates that your well and ponds are located distant from the area of influence, and at a higher separate elevation. If you have other information that we could consider please contact the undersigned directly at the telephone number listed below or via the project call centre and we will take action. In the absence of new information, and if you disagree with the findings, York Region has a process in place for you to pursue this matter. The process for taking this step is also detailed below.

Our records indicate that an investigation of your well was completed on May 31, 2004, in response to your concern about the loss of artesian flow in your well and the increased algae in your ponds. A representative from Inspec-Sol/CRA contacted you, and a field technician completed an independent investigation of your wells. The following information was obtained, based on the investigation and inspection of your well:

- your well is a 6-inch drilled well completed to a depth of approximately 26.5 metres below the top of the casing (m BTOC);
- your well is equipped with a $\frac{3}{4}$ H.P. submersible pump and is used for domestic purposes;
- your well previously flowed under artesian conditions and supported ponds on your property;
- the water level measured in your well on May 31, 2004 was 1.58 m BTOC, i.e., no flowing artesian conditions existed;
- you indicated that there has been no loss of water or pressure from your well; and

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- you indicated that your well stopped flowing approximately one and a half years ago and that the ponds have a high algae content.

We have completed an investigation and assessment of two other artesian wells in your area, including 3985 and 3885 Bethesda Side Road. It was determined that they have also lost artesian flow within the past year and a half, and the water levels have dropped to approximately 1.5 m BTOC. However, where used for domestic purposes they continue to yield an adequate water supply with use of a submersible pump. In some instances, the loss of artesian flow has affected pond levels supported by the flowing wells; however other ponds in the area receiving surface water flow appear to be unaffected.

After review it was determined that your well, as well as that of your neighbours utilizes the shallow aquifer system, and that the nearest construction is taking place along 16th Avenue at a distance of approximately 10 kilometres from your well. The main pumping station (C8) is located along 16th Avenue near Highway 48, and the dewatering is taking place within a deep confined aquifer at a depth of approximately 30 metres. Monitoring of other shallow domestic wells between your residence and the construction activities indicates the influence on the shallow aquifer extends less than approximately 3 kilometres north of 16th Avenue. Based on our assessment, your well is outside the 16th Avenue trunk sewer construction area of influence on the shallow aquifer system, and the influence on your well is more likely due to local influences.

We note that the proper well construction for an artesian well should include an appropriate discharge control device installed on the well casing in such a manner that the flow can be stopped or regulated, and that there is no uncontrolled flow or leakage of water from the well (Ontario Regulation 128/03). The lack of controls can result in the depletion of an artesian aquifer.

Inspec-Sol/CRA has implemented a comprehensive groundwater monitoring program to proactively determine the extent and magnitude of any current and future dewatering effects on the shallow, and deeper aquifer systems. The monitoring is designed to provide sufficient time to assess and respond to any effects, should they occur in the future.

As noted above, York Region has a process in place to assist you if you disagree with these findings. If that is the case, you are welcome to discuss the matter with York Region's Complaint Review Committee. The Complaint Review Committee established by York Region to review decisions made by staff relating to well performance concerns in connection with the trunk sewer project. To indicate a desire to participate in the Complaint Review Committee process, please complete the attached forms contained in Attachment A and submit them to the Regional Clerks office. Also please call the call centre at 1-888-445-4418, and indicate your request to appear before the CRC.

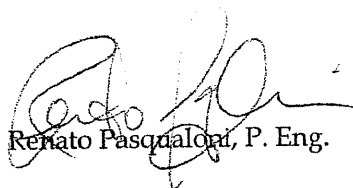
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Please feel free to contact the call centre at 1-888-445-4418, or the undersigned at Inspec-Sol/CRA at (905) 712-0510 if you have any questions.

Yours truly,
INSPEC-SOL / CONESTOGA-ROVERS & ASSOCIATES


Renato Pasqualoni, P. Eng.

Encl.

c.c. Nitti Subramaniam, York Region
A. Brown, Town of Markham