



**Highland Creek Treatment Plant
Neighbourhood Liaison Committee
(HCTP NLC)**

**Meeting # 24
Monday April 23, 2012**

**Highland Creek Treatment Plant Meeting Room
51 Beechgrove Drive
7:00 pm**

DRAFT SUMMARY NOTES

Attendees:

Frank Moir, Co-Chair	Lois Oliver
Gisselly Anania	David Oliver
Karen Buck	Victoria Per-Inge Schei
Gill Cockwell	Bruce Smith
Allen Elias	Betty Smith
Gillian Hall	Jim Wakefield
Wayne Hilborn	Desmond Vandenberg
Bess King	Jim Wakefield
Ed King	Ron Wootton
Barbara McElgunn	

City of Toronto

Frank Quarisa	Director, Wastewater Treatment
Martin Shigeishi	Acting Manager of Highland Creek Treatment Plant
Anthony Pigaidoulis	Engineer, Highland Creek Treatment Plant
Ying Zheng	EH&S Field Representative, Toronto Water
Nancy Martins	City of Toronto Public Consultation Unit

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Frank Moir called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All participants introduced themselves.

2. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND SUMMARY NOTES

- **Agenda**

Frank Moir reviewed the agenda.

Frank Quarisa commented that the second action item would be covered under item 3.

- **Summary Notes from November 7, 2011**

Barbara McElgunn noted that the third paragraph on page 5 should say 200 to 300 million not 2 to 3 million. **Frank Quarisa** replied that the number is 200 to 300 million, but that this is over many years.

Allen Elias confirmed that this amount was for odour control. **Frank Quarisa** explained the odour control project at Ashbridges Bay, much like the Highland Creek Treatment Plant, represents several smaller projects over time. He noted that Martin Shigeishi would speak about odour control with respect to this facility.

The group discussed some odours that had been experienced in the Woodbine and Queen area. **Frank Quarisa** confirmed that there have been more odour complaints at ABTP than usual, however, the cause of the increase is not known.

Wayne Hilborn asked about an item on page 7 where Karen Buck inquired about what was coming out of the stacks. He wanted more specifics on what emissions are coming out of the stack. **Frank Quarisa** replied that this is the subject of the testing that is done annually. It is a standing item, so they will have new updates today. **Frank Moir** added that the group got a breakdown a few meetings ago.

Frank Moir asked about the item on page 4 in the third last paragraph where it was indicated that they might get a copy of the drawing of the Highland Creek Treatment Plant that shows the odour reduction impacts. **Martin Shigeishi** confirmed that he would give an update under the plant updates and that they would show the drawings. **Frank Moir** confirmed that the Action Items would be covered in the updates and the summary notes were accepted.

3. 2012 BUDGET AND BIOSOLIDS UPDATE

Frank Quarisa distributed the consolidated version of the 2012 Toronto Water Capital Budget and with the HCTP line items extracted. A copy will be appended to the minutes.

The spreadsheet shows the committed budget for 2012 and planning numbers for 2013 – 2021. He noted that only the 2012 budget number is locked in, anything beyond that is subject to an annual approval and is for planning purposes. He went over the significant budget items, including the budget for individual projects.

Frank Quarisa then provided a project update on the Biosolids Master Plan (BMP) and the proposed truck loading and digester upgrades. CH2MHill will be working on a conceptual design report, which will determine the scope of work, what the projects will look like and how they will tie into the current facility. The conceptual design report is expected to be completed by September 2012 and will look at options with respect to the site location of the truck loading facility (i.e. whether to use the building, expand it, or build a standalone facility).

It will also include a capacity assessment of the existing digesters, waste gas burners and future requirements. They expect to be in good position to understand the scope of work and cost to feed into the 2013 budget. Final details will be confirmed when they receive the report in September.

With respect to the BMP, a final public meeting was held to present the new recommended alternative for the HCTP. A number of questions were asked at the public meeting as well as through emails and letters subsequent to the meeting. The questions have been consolidated and answers have been provided in a Q&A which is posted on the Biosolids Master Plan website (www.toronto.ca/biosolids_masterplan). A modification report on BMP should be ready in the summer or early fall.

The City has been in contact with Ministry of the Environment with respect to this plan, but have not yet received any significant feedback. The City plans to proceed with the modification report. **Barbara McElgunn** asked about whether the BMP modification report document would be posted for a 30-day public comment period. **Frank Quarisa** replied that the plan at this time is for the document to be posted for a period of time of at least 30 days before being closed.

Frank Moir expressed some concern and frustration with the process. He felt that Toronto Water had gone to the public with a recommendation, and then council reversed the decision. Toronto Water is now proceeding with allocating budget and doing studies on what council directed without completing the EA process. He felt that his questions had not been adequately addressed in the Q&A document.

Frank Quarisa replied that if any of the answers posted on the website are not clear then the NLC should let him know and Toronto Water will review the answers provided and attempt to provide better clarity. **Frank Quarisa** acknowledged that the recommendation in the BMP did not detail the full scope of work required for replacing the incinerator with new truck loading facilities and hopefully this can be dealt with through the modification report and the conceptual design assignment currently under way. Although the additional Highland Creek staff reports prepared in 2010 – 2011 provide some detail but the conceptual design will bring certainty to what the option involves.

Frank Quarisa noted that, as stated in the 2010-2011 Staff Reports, the City has a facility that requires an investment to be made over the next 8 – 10 years in order to keep it safely running within regulatory compliance. Council has given its direction on the debate over incineration versus off-site haulage.

Barbara McElgunn commented that the community is in a difficult position because the Ministry of the Environment has informed them that a Part II Order Request cannot be put forward until the final report has been submitted in September. Since work will be starting before the final report is completed, there won't be an opportunity for the community to have their say. **Frank Quarisa** explained that the conceptual design will feed into the final document. The conceptual design information is needed to better define what this option looks like. The BMP process does not lock in one option over another – this occurs at detailed design which would start at some point in the future.

Allan Elias wondered whether going to the U.S. for disposal would cost more. **Frank Quarisa** replied that the experience over the past number of years indicates that depending on the haulage distance, cross border trucking does not generally cost more than staying in Ontario but highlighted that more certainty in the numbers was needed.

Frank Moir reiterated that council should not be making decisions without a final Environmental Assessment. **Frank Quarisa** explained that in theory a truck loading facility is a Schedule "A" EA project (which is considered pre-approved). The BMP meets and exceeds the requirement for a Schedule "B" EA project. The issue that arises in this instance is the haulage through the community. If the Master Plan had been accepted by Council, no further Environmental Assessment work would be required as it would have met all the EA requirements for the original proposed works.

Frank Moir noted that the truck loading represents a major change in the operation of the plant; previously waste was dealt with on site.

Lois Oliver asked whether the estimate includes the cost of road repairs. **Frank Quarisa** replied that it did not, but that the staff report assessed viability and condition of roads for the proposed truck routes. Roads were generally good, though there were some areas that were substandard such as the last stretch of Beechgrove. The staff report noted that long term repair would be required but did not provide an estimate. **Lois Oliver** felt that Council should have all the facts before making a decision.

Barbara McElgunn asked whether operating costs over a ten or twenty year period would be included in the plant budget. **Frank Quarisa** replied that annual operating costs run in three year estimates. Once they finalize the conceptual design they will be in a better position to develop the corresponding operating costs for budget purposes.

Lois Oliver asked whether a dollar value has been given to the environmental costs of driving four trucks per day. **Frank Quarisa** noted that one of the reports to council provides information on greenhouse gases, but that there is no financial cost analysis associated with it. **Allen Elias** provided the details from the report. (Report available at <http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2011/pw/bgrd/backgroundfile-37357.pdf>)

Ron Wootton commented that at the time that council reviewed the two options the costs of trucking were fairly similar to the plant incinerator upgrades, but with the additional maintenance and environmental costs coming to light, he felt that information should go back to council before a final decision is made. **Frank Quarisa** explained that the conceptual design information will assess the truck loading option in greater detail.

Frank Moir commented that a local councillor indicated that they would have another review in June. **Frank Quarisa** explained that this may be referring to the Toronto Water staff report being produced for June which focuses on funding pressures for the plant.

Jim Wakefield requested a clarification on the number of trucks that would be required for the beneficial use option at the HCTP. **Frank Quarisa** confirmed that it is 4 – 6 trucks per day depending on whether it is a 5 day week or a 7 day week.

Karen Buck asked whether they are planning to increase the size of the plant as a result of development happening in Scarborough. **Frank Quarisa** replied that the plant is running 70 – 75% capacity and there has been no pressure to increase that capacity. No plant expansion projects are contemplated at this time.

Frank Moir asked when the NLC can expect to see BMP update report. **Frank Quarisa** said that they would try for end of June. However, this will depend on whether they get the cost and other information by the end of May that can then be incorporated into the numbers from the BMP.

Frank Moir asked for a review of the costs in the BMP. **Frank Quarisa** summarized the numbers for 2012 – 2014. He confirmed that the \$4 million in 2013 and \$6 million in 2014 were primarily for design purposes. He noted that they need to have this money in the budget to be able to tender a design contract. **Allen Elias** inquired whether these numbers reflect a 'spade in the ground'. **Frank Quarisa** confirmed that this is design money only and assumes that by the end of 2014 or 2015 they will likely be ready for construction.

4. PLANT UPDATES

- **Thickened Waste Activated Sludge Project**

Martin Shigeishi provided an update on the Thickened Waste Activated Sludge Project. They are demolishing the existing floatation area and building new thickening facilities, installing a new bridge crane, demolishing a stairwell, and installing new aluminum roofs. This project is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2013.

- **New Headworks and Odour Control Project**

Martin Shigeishi reported that the new headworks and odour control project is still in detail design, but is nearly 75% complete. They expect to tender for construction in the second quarter of next year. Martin showed two maps, the first showed the odour contours from 2009. He explained that it extends beyond the physical plant to the property line and that darker areas represent higher odour concentrations.

Ron Wootton noted that the odours appear to tail off to the west. **Martin Shigeishi** explained that the odours are not necessarily from this plant. **Frank Moir** commented that half the map appears to be missing. **Frank Quarisa** explained that the map is a graphical representation of an odour model and it shows theoretical odour intensity in a worst case scenario.

Martin Shigeishi pointed out that the green triangles on the map represent the closest receptors on Beechgrove. **Ron Wootton** noted that these properties are City owned and that there is no one living in them. **Jim Wakefield** asked if Martin could show a map with streets and houses on it. **Martin Shigeishi** agreed to review what else can be provided.

<p>Action Item 1: Martin Shigeishi will examine the feasibility of putting an overlay of an aerial photograph onto the map for the next meeting.</p>

Martin Shigeishi showed the second map. He explained that the previous slide was from 2009 and shows the odour controls that are currently in place. The second slide shows what is being planned as part of the new headworks as well as other improvements throughout the plant. These improvements are expected to result in major reductions in odours as can

be seen through the contours on this slide. Once the improvements are completed, they will do another study to see what was achieved.

- **Review Odour Complaints**

The group agreed that there had been a strong odour on the day of the meeting. **Desmond Vandenberg** commented that there have been a number of days where there was a strong odour but not of the same intensity as in the past. **Wayne Hilborn** agreed and noted that April had been a bad month and that he had noticed a strong smell on April 4, 14 and 21, and all had similar weather conditions to the day of the meeting.

Martin Shigeishi reported that there had not been any official odour complaints in 2011. **Frank Moir** noted that it is important to call in to register your complaint if you notice a smell as it is then recorded by the plant.

Martin Shigeishi noted that the majority of odour reductions will be because of the new headhouse, changes to the primary clarifiers and new biofilter. **Frank Quarisa** agreed that it is important to capture and record odour complaints by calling 311 so that the plant can assess the cause of the odour, and, where possible implement remedial measures. Ensuring the complaint is logged allows HCTP staff the opportunity to determine if there is an operational problem.

- **Incinerator Repair**

Martin Shigeishi reported that incinerator repair encompasses dewatering upgrades, electrical components and minor repairs on the second incinerator. Toronto Water plans to tender the project by the end of this year.

- **Stub Stack Repair**

Martin Shigeishi reported on the stub stack repair, which focuses primarily on capping stub stacks on each of the incinerators and demolition of existing breaching on the incinerator building. The construction cost is \$2.1 million and the contract will likely be awarded next week. The timeline to get first cap on is by end of October, the second should be completed by the end of February 2013.

- **Stack Emissions Testing**

Martin Shigeishi reported that the plant had testing done in the fall of last year. The main stack met Canada-wide standards tests for mercury, dioxins and furans. At that time the stub stack leakage was tested and the mercury concentration exceeded the standard. Once the cap is in place, this low level continuous leakage will no longer be an issue.

Barbara McElgunn stated that this was not during shut downs, but represents everyday leakage of mercury. **Frank Moir** asked for the numbers. **Martin Shigeishi** reported that the compliance concentration limit is 70 micrograms per cubic metre, on the stub stack it was 95. He noted that this is a calculated number based on emissions that they are measuring

and takes into account standard temperature and pressure and oxygen content. **Frank Moir** requested that the results be included with the minutes.

Action Item 2: Martin Shigeishi will include the stack emissions testing results with the minutes.

Karen Buck asked about compliance with the sewer-use bylaw for dentists and explained that this made a significant difference in the Ashbridges Bay sewer shed. **Frank Moir** asked if there is any way of measuring compliance. **Frank Quarisa** noted that the important thing to remember is that they met the standard on the main stack and the exceedance from the stub stack leakage will be resolved with the capping. HCTP is consistently trending low and well below the limits with respect to mercury from the main stack.

Frank Moir wondered if the test might have been an anomaly and thought that it might be worth looking into additional testing. **Frank Quarisa** explained that the testing is a significant cost. **Frank Moir** noted that it might be worth the investment for the comfort of local residents. **Martin Shigeishi** explained that these are annual tests and that this is the first time that mercury has exceeded the allowable amount. **Karen Buck** asked where the testing occurred. **Ying Zheng** confirmed that the testing is done in-stack.

Barbara McElgunn asked how high the number would need to be to demand a retest. **Frank Quarisa** responded that they may have considered a retest had the high value been from the main stack. Since the emission volume from the stub stack leakage is low and the fact that the capital works project is underway, it was not necessary to consider a retest. **Martin Shigeishi** added that the leakage rate of the stub stack was actually lower this year than it was last year. In addition, one of the stub stacks will be shut down for construction purposes later this year. The hope is that by the time the next annual test is completed the first stub stack will have its new cap.

- **Power Interruptions and Impact on Incineration**

Martin Shigeishi reported that there were 20 occurrences in 2011 that caused power interruptions and impacted incineration; either power failure, blip or voltage sag that impacted the fan. These interruptions are notified to the ministry. So far in 2012 there has only been 1 occurrence.

- **Bypass events reported to MOE**

Martin Shigeishi reported that there were no liquid bypass events in 2011 and 2012.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Frank Moir recalled that someone had requested a Terms of Reference for this meeting. He confirmed that he had a copy from 1997. **Nancy Martins** thought that there may have been a revision done in 2008 when Frank Moir came on board, but if this version cannot be located that it is a good time to do a refresher since the previous version contains references to Metro Toronto that are out of date.

Frank Quarisa asked Nancy and Frank to work together to revise the Terms of Reference rather than putting something out that was out of date. **Nancy Martins** agreed to revise the 1997 version of the Terms of Reference.

Action Item 3: Nancy Martins and Frank Moir to revise the Neighbourhood Liaison Committee Terms of Reference.

Frank Moir asked about the application of biosolids on agriculture land and land adjacent to agricultural land under the Nutrient Management Act. He wondered what the City does.

Frank Quarisa explained that the regulations haven't change and that the Nutrient Management Act is still the law in Ontario and that it is considered a gold standard among other jurisdictions. The City pays a third party engineering firm to do inspections and receives reports at the end of the year. If there is anything noted in year in terms of deficiencies, they are immediately dealt with and reported to the Ministry.

Frank Moir asked if the annual report is confidential. **Frank Quarisa** stated that since it identifies individual fields, it is not made public. He agreed to look at the executive summary to determine if it would be suitable for distribution. He also noted that there were no compliance issues noted over the last two years. **Frank Moir** replied that if there is an executive summary that could be shared that the group would be interested in seeing it.

Action Item 4: Frank Quarisa to look at executive summary in the reports and assess if it can be distributed. If not, consider if the information can be consolidated and summarized for distribution.

Frank Moir further noted that previously sludge wasn't a concern of the community because they knew it was being incinerated. Because this is an area that they haven't dealt with in the past, the group would like to have more information about where the sludge from the plant is going. **Frank Quarisa** explained that they don't track third party beneficial use of biosolids, in other forms. Toronto Water relies on the annual land application report that deals only with agricultural land application under the Nutrient Management Act. Also, the City produces an annual Biosolids Staff Report in February or March of each year that provides a high level summary of the ABTP biosolids program.

6. ADJOURN

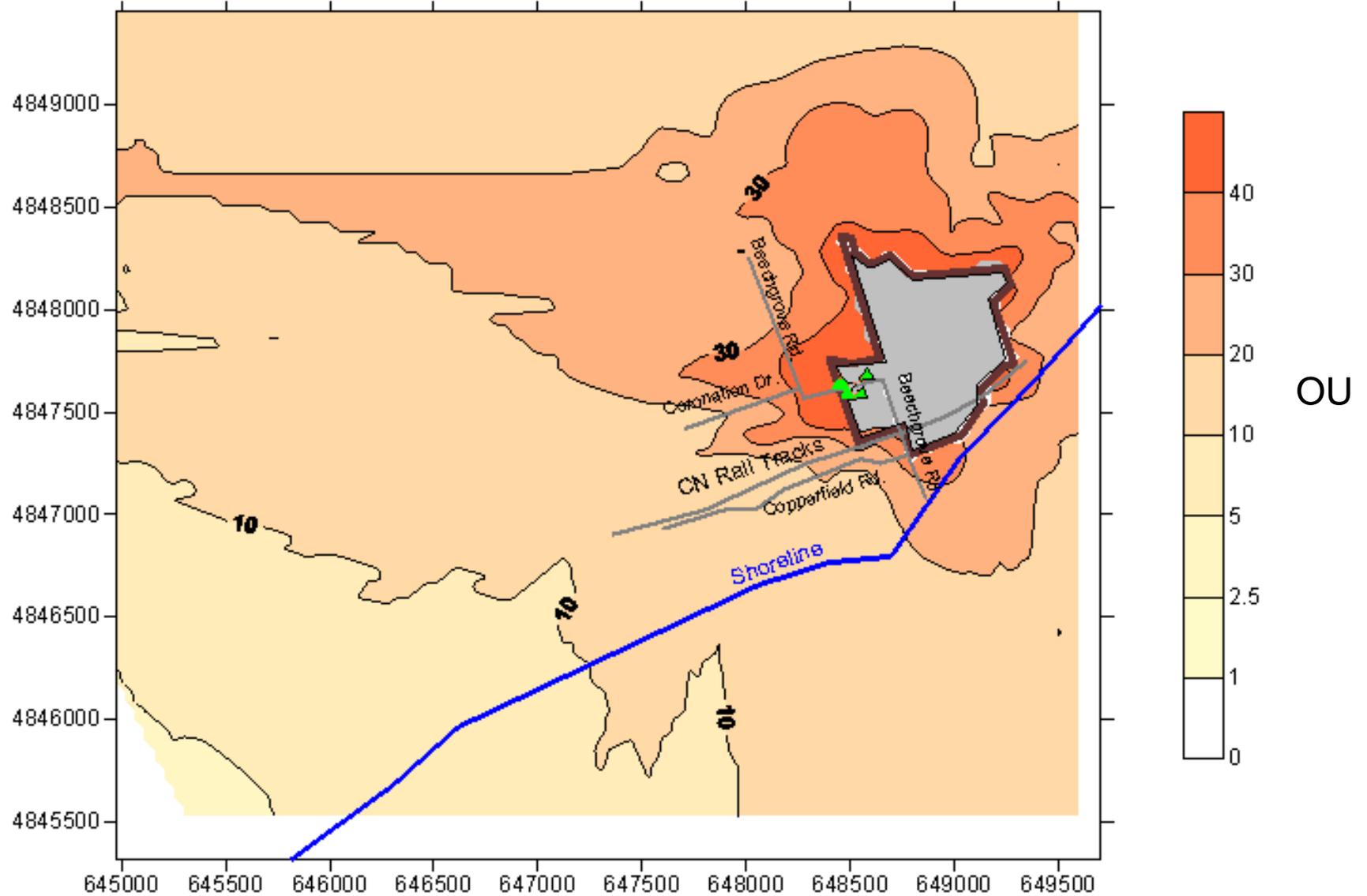
Next meeting to be scheduled for the fall.

Frank Moir adjourned the meeting at 9:20 pm.

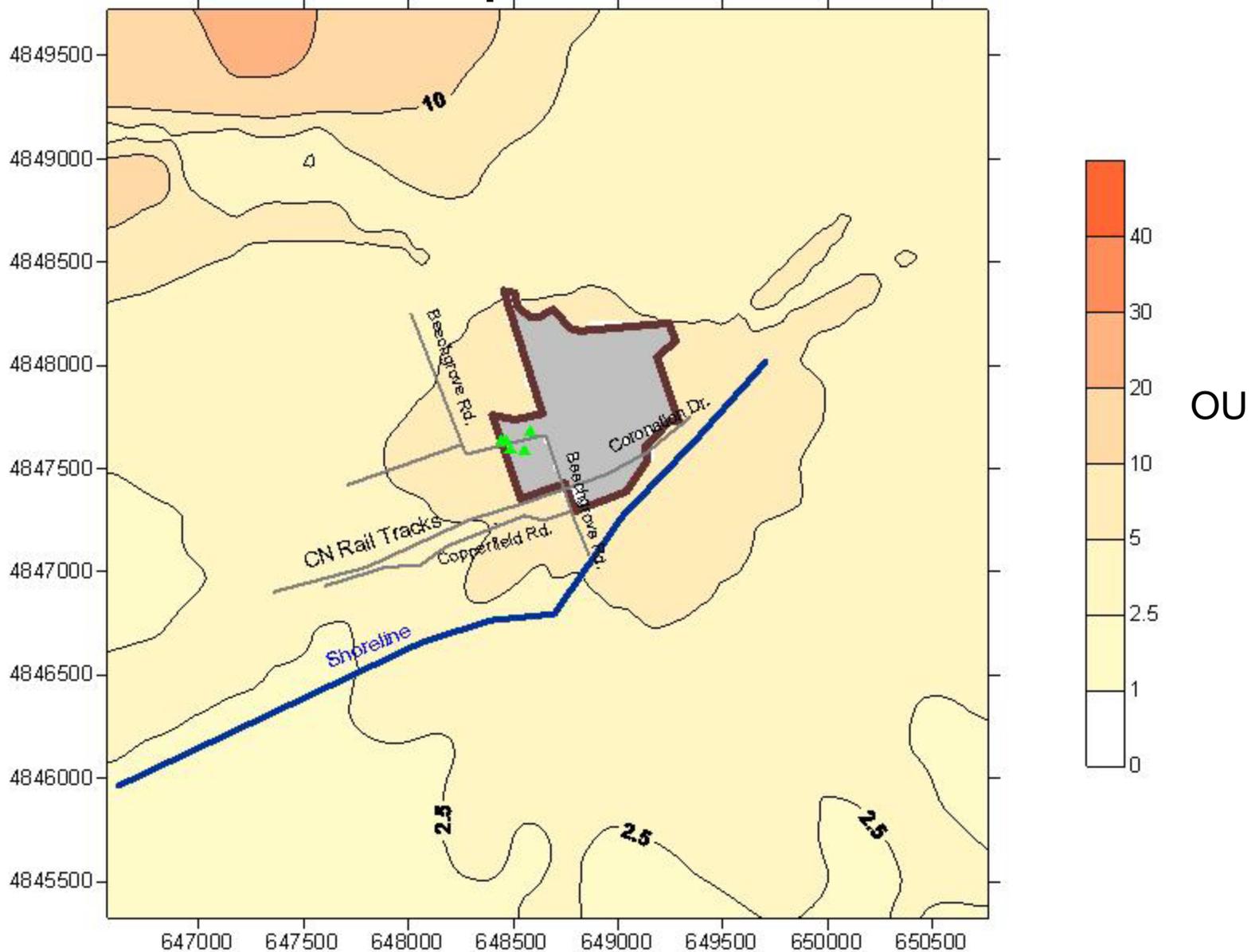
2012 HCTP Capital Budget and 2013-2021 Capital Plan

Project Name	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2012-2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2012-2021
PCS PLANT SERVICES	264	260	26	0	0	550	0	0	0	0	0	550
WAS THICKENING AND ASSOC. UPGRADES	18,072	17,000	6,550	184	33	41,839	10	4	0	0	0	41,853
PROCESS & FACILITY UPGRADES	2,785	1,550	2,600	4,100	2,060	13,095	10	0	0	0	0	13,105
BIOSOLIDS TREATMENT UPGRADES (dewatering & minor rep.)	2,815	12,358	17,408	20,608	8,400	61,589	2,121	30	0	0	0	63,740
TRANSFORMER AND SWITCHGEAR UPGRADES	0	0	1,000	1,250	1,690	3,940	1,200	0	0	0	0	5,140
MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL UPGRADES	8,812	11,519	10,057	357	0	30,745	0	0	0	0	0	30,745
CEPA COMPLIANCE FOR CHLORINE	42	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	0	42
DIGESTER GAS SYSTEM UPGRADES	318	1,670	4,950	4,680	50	11,668	0	0	0	0	0	11,668
BIOSOLIDS MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION	700	4,000	6,000	9,000	20,000	39,700	30,000	32,000	31,200	13,700	4,600	151,200
ELECTRICAL UPGRADES	1,572	1,572	4,858	4,858	4,858	17,718	782	782	782	782	782	21,628
ODOUR CONTROL UPGRADES	910	5,764	20,610	20,510	20,230	68,024	5,200	500	6,010	11,500	11,300	102,534
HORGAN SUPERNATANT LINE CONNECTION	0	0	250	250	0	500	0	0	0	0	0	500
BUILDING REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENTS	2,500	1,500	700	4,000	4,000	12,700	0	0	0	0	0	12,700
FACILITY FORECAST/STATE OF GOOD REPAIR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,000	16,000	21,000	39,000
PLANT FIRM CAPACITY UPGRADES - PHASE V	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,500	2,500
TOTAL-HIGHLAND CREEK TREATMENT PLANT	38,790	57,193	75,009	69,797	61,321	302,110	39,323	33,316	39,992	42,982	39,182	496,905

Current HCTP Facility



Post Implementation



Highland Creek Treatment Plant

Canada Wide Standards Source Testing Results

	LIMITS	2010		2011	
		Main Stack	Stub Stack 1	Main Stack	Stub Stack 1
Dioxins and Furans	100 (pg TEQ/Rm3)	5.97	2.43	10.3	6.62
Mercury	70 (ug/Rm3)	38.7	52.8	41.2	94.9