



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

Meeting # 27  
Monday, January 13, 2014

Brigadier Room, 43 Division Police Station  
4331 Lawrence Avenue East  
7:00 p.m.

### Attendees:

Frank Moir, NLC Chair  
Dave Barnett  
Elliotte Boyko (West Rouge Community Association)  
Karen Buck (ABTP NLC)  
Gill Cockwell  
Glenn Cockwell (Coronation Community Association)  
Allen Elias  
Nadia Heyd  
Paul Lewkowiz (Centennial Community & Recreation Association)  
Heather Marshall (Toronto Environmental Alliance)

Trish Matthews  
Barbara McElgunn  
David Oliver  
Lois Oliver  
Betty Smith  
Bruce Smith  
Desmond Vandenberg  
Jim Wakefield  
Ron Wootton (Coronation Community Association)  
Kyle Yin (Centennial Community & Recreation Association)

### Council:

Ron Moeser (Ward 44)

### Staff:

Frank Quarisa – Director, Wastewater Treatment  
Martin Shigeishi – Plant Manager, Highland Creek Treatment Plant  
Anthony Pigaidoulis – Senior Engineer, Highland Creek Treatment Plant  
Ying Zheng – EH&S Field Representative, Toronto Water  
Nancy Fleming – Senior Engineer, Wastewater Treatment  
Mike Logan – City of Toronto Public Consultation Unit  
Simon Wills - AECOM

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

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

## 2. Review of Agenda, Summary Notes, Action Items

### *Review Agenda*

- The agenda was approved.

### *November 12, 2012 Summary Notes*

**Frank Moir** asked if there was any update on the usage of biosolids. **Frank Quarisa** indicated that beneficial use of biosolids from the Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant is currently at around 94%.

**Frank Moir** said that the public health study did not seem to be available online.

**Frank Moir** asked for clarification of the public consultation plan for the biosolids Environmental Assessment (EA). Are there still four public meetings planned, including two NLC meetings? **Frank Quarisa** explained that details are not known because a consultant has not been hired yet, but we do expect two Public Information Centres. The NLC will likely also be updated twice.

**Councillor Moeser** asked that staff brief his office and Councillor Ainslie's office as soon as possible on the consultation plan for the EA. **Frank Quarisa** agreed and indicated that there will be extensive consultation, comparable to the original Biosolids Master Plan. **Paul Lewkowiz** suggested that the Centennial Community & Recreation Association would be happy to publicize the EA and its public meetings.

**Frank Moir** noted that Barb McElgunn was suggested as the NLC's representative on the health study. **Barb McElgunn** agreed.

**Frank Moir** asked for clarification of the area subject to the health study. **Frank Quarisa** said that the northerly haul route boundary of the study is the 401.

**Anthony Pigaidoulis** noted that "TEX/Rm3" should be changed to "TEQ/Rm3" in the first paragraph under item 4 of the minutes.

- Minutes were approved as amended

### 3. Update on Odour Control Project

**Martin Shigeishi** introduced consultant, **Simon Wills**, who provided an update on the odour control project.

For a copy of the presentation, please contact Mike Logan at [mlogan@toronto.ca](mailto:mlogan@toronto.ca) or 416-392-4360.

**Simon Wills** presented the update:

- The plant will be constructing a new headworks facility. This is one of the largest sources of odour at the plant. It has a dedicated bio filter to treat odours and a new 12-metre dispersion stack.
- The new headworks facility will be constructed just north of the old facility.
- Tenders will close on March 12, 2014 and the selected contractor will start to work on the new facility by the summer.
- It will take about three years to complete this project. Estimated completion is the fall of 2017.

#### **Questions & Answers**

**Councillor Moeser** asked whether the new facility will be compatible with old technologies. **Simon Wills** responded, yes.

**Jim Wakefield** pointed out that over the three year course of the project, there will likely be significant contractor traffic and asked how the plant plans to manage this traffic? **Simon Wills** responded that, as of yet, there is no traffic plan in place but will be determined after the contractor has been chosen.

**Jim Wakefield** asked how many truckloads of material the plant is anticipating. **Simon Wills** responded that the contractors will not be trucking a lot of material offsite. The traffic will be generated from bringing material on site. There is not an exact number at this time.

**Councillor Moeser** asked what the capital cost of the project is. **Simon Wills** responded that the estimated project cost is \$70 million.

**Ron Wootton** commented that there should be some consideration given to school traffic in the morning and in the afternoon. **Simon Wills** agreed.

**Simon Wills** mentioned that there is already an odour control plan with several controls in place and that the new project is designed to improve upon it. This should result in greater than 95% reduction of the current odour.

**Karen Buck** asked how the samples are collected that are sent off to the professional sniffing panel and in what frequency are these sent. What areas on

the site are these samples being collected? **Simon Wills** answered that the odour sample sources are located at various points on the site. The detailed contour maps are generated from the computerized odour model. If actual sampling was relied on for the detailed maps it would be very costly and it would be difficult to identify the exact sources of all of the odours sampled. That is, it could be coming from the plant or from other sources in the surrounding area.

**Allen Elias** mentioned that the plant has done a good job in mitigating odours. Odours are already significantly less than what they were in the past.

**Karen Buck** asked, with regard to the central treatment tanks, what was their ranking in terms of the odours that were measured and monitored in comparison with other areas? **Simon Wills** responded that these produced about 20% of the total odour and also mentioned that they are currently covered up. Simon Wills added that the tanks that are open will be partially covered on the areas that are most odourous.

**Karen Buck** asked what the comparison is between one to two odour units. **Simon Wills** answered that the scale of odour units is linear (not logarithmic) so three odour units is three times bigger than one odour unit. He also reminded everyone that the absolute value is subjective, even amongst professional odour samplers.

#### **4. HCTP Biosolids Environmental Assessment Update**

**Nancy Fleming** provided the HCTP Biosolids Environmental Assessment Update. She explained that the City has received three proposals in response to the City's Request for Proposal Call that are currently being reviewed. They will have the selected consultant on board by late February or early March 2014. The study will take approximately twelve months to complete.

Toronto Public Health is the co-project manager for this EA and will be overseeing the Health Impact Assessment. The Toronto Environment and Energy Office will be overseeing of the Cumulative Impact Assessment.

The City plans to hold two public consultation meetings during the process. The timing of these meetings will be determined once the consultant has been chosen and the public consultation plan for the EA has been prepared. **Frank Moir** asked when the public information sessions will be held. **Nancy Fleming** said that the dates for these will be set once the consultant has been hired and a final workplan is developed.

**Karen Buck** said that the public should know what the long list is and should be able to provide input on developing the short list. **Nancy Fleming** said that she does not yet know when the long list will be coming out, but there will be time for public consultation and comment during the process.

**Karen Buck** submitted two suggestions for technologies to be included on the

long list of options to Nancy Fleming.

**Allen Elias** mentioned that July and August are not good months to hold public meetings. **Nancy Fleming** agreed.

**Barbara McElgunn** mentioned that, with re: to the Cumulative Impact Assessment, the report has usually been restricted to air emissions. **Nancy Fleming** assures Barbara McElgunn that there will be a comprehensive environmental, health, social and financial analysis done as part of the study.

**Councillor Moeser** asked if the City is essentially now going back out to the community to start the EA process from scratch after all of the work that has been done and decisions made? **Nancy Fleming** responded, yes, but prior work will be considered in this study.

**Frank Quarisa** reiterated that indeed, the EA is starting from scratch and that this was noted in the previous meeting minutes and Staff Reports prepared for Council.

## **5. Plant Updates**

**Martin Shigeishi** provided the plant updates report.

### ***Thickened Waste Activated Sludge Project***

The construction for this project is nearing completion. They are anticipating the contract to be substantially complete by the spring of 2014.

### ***Stub Stack Repair Project***

This project deals with the leakage occurring in the stub stacks. Since the previous meeting that was held in May 2013, the contractor installed a cap on the first unit in June 2013 and it was successfully tested on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Since July 9<sup>th</sup> of 2013, there has not been any further leakage from the stub stacks.

In December 2013, the second stub stack was completed and was successfully tested on January 8<sup>th</sup>; the contractor will be doing minor work to complete the contract within the next month.

### ***Annual Ash Lagoon Cleaning***

The lagoon cleaning was completed in July 2013. There was approximately 2,100 tonnes of ash hauled off site. The lagoon cleaning this year will likely occur around July. **Martin Shigeishi** said that they made sure that all the trucks used to haul the ash were washed before they left the plant property.

**Heather Marshall** asked how many truckloads of ash were hauled away in total. **Martin Shigeishi** replied that there were sixty-four truckloads of ash in total.

### ***2013 Stack Emissions Testing Results***

**Anthony Pigaidoulis** reported that in early September of 2013, they conducted the testing of incinerator number two. They conducted compliance testing for mercury and dioxin and furans. The mercury limit is 70µg/Rm<sup>3</sup> and the current average test result is 36.8. The dioxins and furans limit is 100 pg TEQ/Rm<sup>3</sup> and the current average test result is 6.79. They also submitted samples and did voluntary comprehensive testing for which the results are not available.

### ***Solids Treatment Upgrades Project***

This project focuses on upgrades to the dewatering process and ancillary equipment, including conveyance systems and electrical switchgear. It will also make some modifications to one of the incinerators to match what was done to the other unit several years ago. Building repairs and selective demolition of some obsolete equipment are also included.

The project was tendered in late 2013 and was awarded to Bennett Mechanical. The project will commence in February 2014 and the total project duration is about 140 weeks.

### ***Review Odour Complaints***

There were only three odour complaints received in May, June and September of last year (2013).

### ***Power Interruptions and Impact on Incineration***

There were seven power interruptions that resulted in a spill.

**Ron Wootton** asked **Martin Shigeishi** to please explain how the backup generators work. **Martin Shigeishi** explained that these power interruptions were momentary, however the stub stack cap opens as soon as there is an impact on the incinerator induced draft fan, which must then be reported as a spill. The diesel generators are intended for longer duration power failures and would not have started for these brief outages. This sequence is consistent with the intended function of the stub stacks.

**Ron Wootton** asked if the stub stack caps are equipped with UPS. **Martin Shigeishi** said that these caps operate on a pneumatic system which has its own air storage tank and can open and close during power failures.

**Allen Elias** said that the power outage that happened in December 2013 was major and asked how the plant operated. **Martin Shigeishi** explained that both diesel generators were started, but the unit in the solids disposal building does not supply the ID fan and neither generator is designed to carry all of the loads for the process. The main power was out for twenty-two hours.

**Allen Elias** mentioned that in August of 2003, the power came back within twelve hours. The people who lived on the west side of beach grove experienced shorter power outages than on the east and this time it was the reverse; why is that? **Martin Shigeishi** speculated that it may be because of the way the trees fell, but cannot comment for sure.

**Councillor Moeser** asked if Martin Shigeishi is part of Toronto Hydro's review of the impacts of the December ice storm. **Martin Shigeishi** replied that he is not aware of this review and has not been asked. All the facilities have their own electrical assessment projects which are included in the capital plan.

**Heather Marshall** asked Martin Shigeishi to clarify between leaks versus spills. Were the stub stacks repaired to prevent future leaks? **Martin Shigeishi** replied that the stub stack caps were designed to be normally closed to eliminate the leakage that was occurring when the stub stacks were not in use. Spills occur when the cap opens due to power failure on the ID fan. This is the function of the stub stacks.

**Heather Marshall** asked what the options are for preventing power outages in the future. **Martin Shigeishi** replied that most of the outages last for a very short duration, and these events are reported back to Toronto Hydro for information about the cause. Toronto Hydro previously stated that they are continually performing their routine tree trimming and also that some of the projects in their capital program may improve the reliability.

#### ***Bypass events reported to MOE***

**Martin Shigeishi** reported that there were no sewage bypass events during 2013.

## 6. Other Business

### ***2014 HCTP Capital Budget and 2014-2023 Capital Plan***

The 2014-23 Capital Plan is provided in Appendix 1.

**Martin Shigeishi** distributed a copy of the capital plan and explained that the format is consistent with previous years.

**Councillor Moeser** asked whether the old head house is scheduled to be retrofitted. **Martin Shigeishi** responded, no, it will either be demolished or repurposed, possibly for storage. The new facility will be equipped to take the full capacity. Phase two of the odour project may cost another \$35 million that was not addressed by Simon Wills.

**Heather Marshall** asked whether there is an allocation for stub stack repair in this budget. **Martin Shigeishi** replied, no. This project was included as part of the 2013 budget.

**Karen Buck** asked what the annual cost is of the voluntary testing program. **Anthony Pigaidoulis** replied that the total emissions testing (mandatory and voluntary) costs approximately \$60,000.

**Heather Marshall** said that, re: the Biosolids Master Plan implementation, it appears that the larger numbers tend to be between 2018-2021. Is this because we are expecting the major construction expenses? **Martin Shigeishi** said yes, and that this budget item had already been costed out in detail.

### ***Other Questions***

**Councillor Moeser** asked that he and Councillor Ainslie be briefed about the consultation and communication plan for the Biosolids EA. **Frank Quarisa** agreed.

**Karen Buck** asked where they hauled the ash re: the lagoon cleaning. **Martin Shigeishi** replied that the ash went to Green Lane. **Karen Buck** also asked whether the lagoons are lined. **Martin Shigeishi** replied, yes.

**Frank Moir** said, with re: to the EA, what are the negative and positive impacts? Will the Health Impact Assessment be limited in scope, or will it provide an in depth scope? **Nancy Fleming** replied, yes, it is in depth in scope.



## **7. Next Meeting Agenda items, Adjourn**

**Frank Moir** adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.