



June 10, 2021

JOINT MUNICIPAL
COORDINATING COMMITTEE
FOR OXFORD PEER REVIEW TEAM

Walker Environmental Group Inc.
160 Carnegie Street
Ingersoll, ON
N5C 4A8

Attention: Darren Fry, A. Sc. T., Project Director, Southwestern Landfill EA

Dear Mr. Fry

RE: Completion of Southwest Landfill Environmental Assessment Peer Review

On behalf of the Joint Municipal Coordination Committee, I am writing to confirm the timeframe and process to bring the JMCC peer review process for the Southwestern Landfill (SWLF) Environmental Assessment (EA) to closure.

We are advised by the Peer Review Team (PRT) Manager, Mr. Haussmann, that he has apprised you of the JMCC's objective that the SWLF EA peer review process be concluded in an expeditious and productive manner. Based on this we understand that you have generally agreed to a process with strict time frames to complete this process by the end of August 2021.

The steps to conclude the peer review process that you have proposed, and we hereby accept, are as follows:

1. WEG-requested meetings with PRT to discuss outstanding technical issues would now proceed forthwith and be completed expeditiously. WEG will produce minutes of these meetings for PRT review as soon as possible after these meetings are complete;
2. PRT will provide feedback for revision and finalization of these minutes no later than mid-July 2021;
3. Following receipt of the minutes of these meetings, WEG will finalize and provide to the PRT on an expedited basis two lists of commitments:
 - a. WEG commitments to revisions it will incorporate in the final EA; and
 - b. WEG commitments to actions it will carry forward to the EPA level of approvals – these commitments to be incorporated into the final EA in some fashion, perhaps as a integral appendix.

4. The PRT will prepare its final peer review report on the assumption that your final EA Report will include all elements of the above-referenced commitments.

This process would allow the JMCC to release the final PRT report on the SWLF EA in the early fall of 2021. Achieving completion of the peer review process within this timeframe is critically important. The affected communities have been challenged by this process for over eight years and are anxious to bring this matter to a conclusion. The continuing long-term uncertainty with respect to process outcomes, in and of itself has community impacts and no doubt has taken a toll on residents of the JMCC's member municipalities.

Accordingly, I cannot stress enough the importance of WEG completing its tasks under items 1 and 3 of the agreed upon four-step process described above in a timely manner in order to ensure that the peer review process is concluded by the end of August, 2021.

Finally, as you are no doubt aware, an important change has now occurred with respect to the landfill environmental approval processes, which did not exist at the commencement of the JMCC peer review. Pursuant to section 6.0.1 of the recently amended *Environmental Assessment Act* ("Act"), proponents are now required to obtain municipal council support, through council resolution for the proposed landfill from the JMCC's member municipalities as a prerequisite for submission of the final EA to the Ministry of Environment for approval.

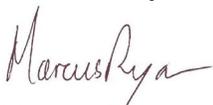
The Act does not specify a timeframe for when such municipal support should be sought or when a decision by Council with respect to such support should be made. It is therefore important to note that, while the JMCC is prepared to bring the peer review process to completion in accordance with the timeframes set out in this letter, WEG always has the option of directly seeking this support from JMCC municipalities before or after it expends additional resources on the peer review process.

I would also emphasize that the JMCC operates as an independent inter-municipal committee with the narrow mandate of overseeing an independent peer review process for the SWLF EA. Each of the JMCC's member municipal councils will independently decide when and how it will address its decision with respect to municipal support pursuant to section 6.0.1 of the Act.

Please confirm that you wish to proceed with the completion of the JMCC peer review process on the basis outlined in this letter.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours Truly,



Marcus Ryan
Chair, Joint Municipal Coordinating Committee
Mayor, Township of Zorra | Councillor, Oxford County

cc. All JMCC members
Dr. Joyce Lock, Medical Officer of Health, Southwestern Public Health