



## **BACKGROUND**

1. The Township of White River Waste Disposal Site operates under Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Certificate of Approval (C of A) Number A562201, dated March 17, 1981.
2. The current C of A authorizes a 0.8 hectare area for the disposal of solid, non-hazardous domestic, commercial and industrial waste within a total site area of 1.6 hectares.
3. The property is located on Crown land and is operated under a Land Use Permit from the Ministry of Natural Resources.
4. MOE inspection reports have identified the existence of waste deposited outside the approved fill area (*FBAL – Fill Beyond Allowable Limits*). The MOE requires that this be addressed and rectified by the Township.
5. Based on estimates previously developed, the volume of material in-place at the current site has exceeded the estimated licensed volume.
6. Considering the above, the Township has initiated the required process under the Province's Environmental Assessment (EA) Act to identify the best option to increase the Township's waste disposal site capacity and address the identified FBAL.





### **PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED UNDERTAKING**

- The purpose of the proposed undertaking is to address FBAL as well as inadequate capacity at the Township's municipal waste disposal site.

### **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED UNDERTAKING**

- The proposed undertaking is exempt from Schedule II of the EA Act (Individual Environmental Assessment); however, the Township must first complete the Environmental Screening Process as described under Ontario Regulation (O.Reg.) 101/07 (*Waste Management Projects*) prior to submitting an application for an amendment to the existing Certificate of Approval.
- The undertaking being considered is the increasing of waste disposal site capacity by 100,000 cubic meters to accommodate the identified FBAL and the Township's waste disposal requirements for the next 25 years.
- The undertaking will consider the solid, non-hazardous residential, commercial and industrial waste generated within the Township's service area.

### **SCREENING OF ALTERNATIVES**

- An initial screening was completed to determine whether or not the alternatives considered address the stated problem and are within the Township's ability to implement.
- The alternatives to address the FBAL as well as inadequate capacity at the Township's municipal waste disposal site include:
  - a) Do Nothing;
  - b) Expand Existing Waste Disposal Site; and,
  - c) Establish a New Waste Disposal Site at the Domtar Site
- As a result of this assessment, it was determined that Alternative 2 - Expansion of the Existing Waste Disposal Site was the preferred alternative to the undertaking.



## **SCREENING OF ALTERNATIVES**

**Table 1: Screening Assessment of Alternatives to the Undertaking**

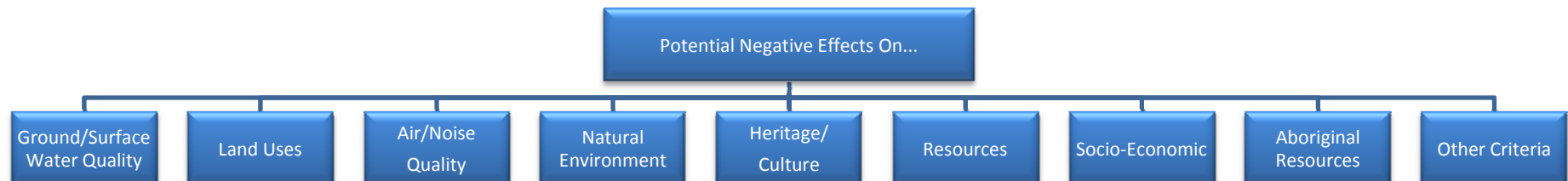
Screening Criteria	Alternative 1 Do Nothing	Alternative 2 Expand Existing Waste Disposal Site	Alternative 3 Establish Waste Disposal Site at Domtar Site
1. Does the alternative provide a viable solution to the need?	No. The Municipality would have no disposal capacity within its boundaries.	Yes.	Yes.
2. Does the alternative use proven technologies?	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
3. Is the alternative technically feasible?	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
4. Is the alternative consistent with the Official Plan?	Yes.	Yes.	No.
5. Is the alternative consistent with provincial government priority initiatives such as waste diversion, energy efficiencies, source water protection, and reduction of greenhouse gases?	Yes. To the extent feasible at a small site.	Yes. To the extent feasible at a small site.	Yes. To the extent feasible at a small site.
6. Will the alternative protect sensitive environmental features?	Yes. Mitigating techniques required.	Yes. Mitigating techniques required.	Yes. Mitigating techniques required.
7. Is the alternative practical, financially realistic and economically viable?	No. The export of wastes would increase cost to Municipal tax payers and other users.	Yes.	No. Approvals, establishment of a second monitoring well network, monitoring of two sites and operation of a new waste disposal would be costly to the Township.
8. Is the alternative within the ability of the proponent to implement?	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
9. Can the alternative be implemented within the defined study area?	Yes.	Yes. Site expansion may occur to the north, south-west and south-east of the existing site.	No. The site is not located within the defined Study Area.
10. Can the alternative be implemented within the Municipality's time frame needed for more disposal capacity?	Yes.	No. The site has already surpassed the estimated licensed volume.	Possibly
11. Is the alternative appropriate to the proponent doing the study?	No.	Yes.	Yes.
12. Is the alternative able to meet the purpose of the EAA?	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
13. Is the alternative compatible with the precautionary approach to decision making in the MOE's Statement of Environmental Values?	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
<b>NUMBER OF "NO'S"</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3.5</b>



## **ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING PROCESS**

- The Environmental Screening Process is a proponent driven self-assessment process for certain waste management projects.
- The Process is directed at small, rural waste disposal sites ( $\leq 100,000$  cubic meters) as these sites generally have minimal off-site impacts relating to leachate volumes and the types of contaminants generated.
- The Process assesses how the environment will be directly or indirectly affected by the project and what actions, if any, are required to prevent or mitigate these impacts.
- Reasonable and practical mitigation measures will be considered to avoid or reduce impacts from the project.

***The Environmental Screening Criteria checklist considers the following criteria:***







**POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

- Application of the Environmental Screening Criteria Checklist to the proposed expansion of the existing waste disposal site identified the following potential environmental impacts:

Surface/Groundwater Quality	Land	Air/Noise Quality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surface water quality may be affected as Two and a Half Creek is located to the west and White River is located to the south</li> <li>• Leachate may negatively affect groundwater quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed expansion area currently not approved for waste disposal</li> <li>• Proposed expansion may require changes to Township’s Official Plan/Zoning By-laws</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural biodegradation of organic material at waste disposal site may produce landfill gas</li> <li>• Emissions of dust due to unpaved access road</li> <li>• Possible negative noise effects due to landfilling operations</li> <li>• Light pollution from public vehicles as well as operation/maintenance vehicles</li> </ul>

Natural Environment	Heritage/Culture	Socio-Economic	Other Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expansion of site may potentially increase the number of birds, bears or other animals attracted to the site, potentially creating a hazard</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed expansion will require the clearing of undeveloped land, possibly affecting local landscapes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As there are two aerodromes located within 7 kilometers of the waste disposal site, a possible bird hazard relating to flight paths may exist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean wood waste requiring disposal will be produced during the clearing for the proposed expansion</li> </ul>



### **NEXT STEPS IN THE PROCESS**

1. The purpose of this Open House was to introduce the project and Environmental Screening Process to the residents of the Township of White River and provide the opportunity for early input into the process.
2. Considering feed-back from this Open House, Government Ministries and Aboriginal communities, an assessment of the potential environmental effects related to the project will be conducted and mitigation measures will be developed (if/as required).
3. A second Open House will be held to identify any issues or concerns relating to the assessment of anticipated environmental effects and to discuss recommended mitigation measures.
4. Comments will be incorporated into an Environmental Screening Report that will include the results of review and consultation activities as well as mitigation and impact management measures.
5. The Environmental Screening Report will be available for review and comment by interested Government Ministries, Aboriginal communities and members of the public for a period of 60 days prior to implementing the project.