

VIA EMAIL ONLY

March 20, 2024

Brett Pollock
Chief Building Official
Township of Ashfield-Colborne-
Wawanosh 82133 Council Line, R.R.5
Goderich, ON N7A 3Y2

Dear Sir

**RE: Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh – Municipal Class EA for
Expansion of Century Heights Drinking Water System**

Please be advised that the above-noted Environmental Assessment process has been completed in accordance with the procedural requirements established in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) following the environmental screening process for Schedule “B” projects. In this regard, the study; (1) reviewed background information and defined the problem, (2) defined a number of practical solutions, (3) evaluated each alternative to determine its feasibility and potential impact upon the natural, economic, social, cultural and technical environments, and (4) identified specific project recommendations. Input from the general public and various government agencies was also considered during the evaluation process.

Based on the results of the assessments undertaken above and a review of the technical components associated with the project, the Township indicated a preference for Alternative 2: Construction of a New Well. Specifically, to construct a new supply well at a new municipal well site located at 36604 Maitland Avenue.

There were a number of attributes, associated with this Alternative that justified its selection as the preferred option for addressing the identified need for additional water supply capacity for the Century Heights Water System:

- It addresses the identified problem statement;
- It can be constructed on Township owned land within economic distance of the existing facilities.
- It makes use of adjacent municipal infrastructure and connections to the existing system;
- It requires no significant modifications to the existing wells or distribution network;

- It allows for continued operation of the existing wells while the new well is constructed with minimal interruptions to supply.

A Notice of Completion, outlining the preferred solution, was circulated to interested parties and mailed to all property owners within the Century Heights Area (see attached). The Notice indicated that anyone objecting to the preferred alternative could, within 30 days of the issuance of the Notice, make a request to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study (i.e. requiring an individual/comprehensive EA approval) before being able to proceed, or that conditions be imposed (e.g. require further studies).

An Environmental Screening Report (ESR) was prepared to document the study process and to define the preferred alternative. During the 30-day review period, this report was available for public inspection online through the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh website [Century Heights Water System Class Environmental Assessment \(EA\) - Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh \(acwtownship.ca\)](http://Century Heights Water System Class Environmental Assessment (EA) - Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh (acwtownship.ca)).

Following issuance of the Notice of Completion comments were received from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism and one resident. The comments received and responses are summarized in Table 1. The review period concluded on March 6th, 2024, and we are not aware of any objections being filed with the Minister.

Comments	Comments	Response
Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism – February 23, 2024	Suggested additional text within the ESR to align with the current legislative framework for discoveries of archaeological resources human remains and cultural heritage landscapes	Thanked for comments.
Resident – February 16, 2024	Inquired who would be switched to the new well and if there would be any cost to the existing property owners.	Explained that some of the existing customers will be serviced by the new well and a number would remain on the existing well. Noted that the costs of the project will be recouped through development charges and existing property owners will not be charged.

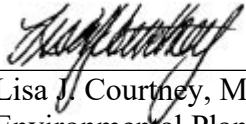
Section 6.0 of the ESR, entitled Identification of Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures, details key measures planned to mitigate potential impacts from the project (e.g. financial impacts, and disruption during construction). The identified mitigation measures will be

incorporated into the final design and construction phases of the project to ensure the work is carried out in an environmentally sound manner.

The MCEA component of this project is now considered to be complete.

Yours very truly

B. M. ROSS AND ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Per  _____
Lisa J. Courtney, MCIP, RPP
Environmental Planner

LJC:es