



MNRF WITHDRAWS OBJECTION TO PIT APPLICATION

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is satisfied with all the technical aspects of Capital Paving's application for an Aggregate Resources Act (ARA) licence to operate its proposed Shantz Station Pit.

The MNRF had originally objected to the application back in August 2019, indicating it had policy and technical issues – including the policy requirements under the Growth Plan, the potential impacts to natural heritage features and the lack of specificity on some site plan conditions.

Since that objection was filed, both the ministry and Capital's consultants held several discussions to resolve issues, resulting in revisions made to the original submission, including to the site plans.

In a letter sent to Capital in late January, a representative from the ministry noted, "Based on these recent submissions, all previous issues have now been addressed to MNRF's satisfaction. Based on the foregoing, MNRF staff withdraws its official 'objection' for the subject ARA application."

SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS ON PEER REVIEW OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT REPORT

Most concerns raised by the peer reviewer hired by Waterloo Region to examine Capital Paving's Natural Environment Report have now been addressed, according to a letter recently sent to the Region's principal planner.

Capital Paving's consultants conducted additional field work, provided further information and modified the site plans in response to the reviewer's initial comments in April, 2020.

The peer review included not only an examination of Capital's Natural Environment Report, but also the associated Access Road Management and Ecological Enhancement Compensation Plan.

The reviewer has three outstanding issues he has requested be addressed by Capital. These include recommendations for:

1. More tree planting to compensate for the trees to be removed for the construction of an access road onto the site from Shantz Station Road.
2. Design details of the access road.
3. Exploring and constructing ecopassages along the wetland section of the access road.

Capital and its consultants will be working with the peer reviewer and officials from Waterloo Region to discuss these comments, and the work that has been completed to address them.

The Natural Environment is the only peer review that remains outstanding for Capital's Shantz Station Pit application. Peer reviewers for Hydrogeology, Noise, Cultural Heritage, Visual, Air Quality and Agriculture are now satisfied with plans for the Shantz Station Pit.

* With the recent province-wide lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Capital will not be mailing out paper copies of this newsletter. However, paper copies of this and subsequent editions will be sent out in the future. In the meantime, the newsletters will be issued electronically to those people whose email addresses are on file, and also posted on the Shantz Station Pit website.

Members of the community who would like more information about the proposed Shantz Station Pit are invited to call or email project manager George Lourenco, whose contact information is listed below.