

Section I – Items for Board of Directors Action

TO: Chair and Members of the Executive Committee
Meeting #1/19, Friday, February 08, 2019

FROM: Carolyn Woodland, Senior Director, Planning and Development

RE: **VOLUNTARY PROJECT REVIEW**
Works Undertaken by Organizations Exempt from Ontario Regulation 166/06, As Amended

KEY ISSUE

Summary report on the Voluntary Project Review of works undertaken by organizations exempt from Ontario Regulation 166/06, as amended – Regulation of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses, through Voluntary Project Review letters issued during 2018.

RECOMMENDATION

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT the summary information in this report be received and that Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) staff be directed to continue to work with Crown corporations undertaking environmental assessments for infrastructure projects who are exempt from permits under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* to ensure that the five tests of Ontario Regulation 166/06, as amended, control of flooding, erosion, pollution, conservation of land and dynamic beaches, are addressed during the detailed design stage of these projects in 2018.

BACKGROUND

In 2014, the TRCA fee schedule provided an option for Crown corporations including provincial and federal agencies, railways, and radio communication and broadcasting antenna system providers to apply for Voluntary Project Review (VPR). These organizations are exempt from the *Conservation Authorities Act* Section 28 regulatory approval process and permits are not required. In the absence of the formal permitting process, TRCA has developed a process whereby the party may voluntarily request TRCA to review and comment on detailed design activities to confirm that TRCA policies and procedures are being addressed. Once TRCA concerns are satisfied, a Voluntary Project Review Letter is provided by TRCA staff at the design stage confirming TRCA objectives and requirements have been satisfied as set out in The Living City Policies and Ontario Regulation 166/06, as amended.

TRCA has worked with multiple user groups in the environmental assessment and detailed design review of various projects. To date, Metrolinx has made a commitment to ensure that TRCA review of project details at the Environmental Assessment, pre-design and VPR stages are completed in a streamlined and expeditious manner. TRCA has worked with Metrolinx in the review of multiple projects related to both Metrolinx GO and Lightrail Transit (LRT) projects and issued nine (9) VPR letters. In addition, TRCA also reviewed a project proposed by Ontario Power Generation Inc. (OPG) and issued one (1) VPR letter. In total, TRCA issued ten (10) VPR letters during 2018.

TRCA staff reviewed the projects listed below and ensured that mitigation measures included in the design and construction plans address policy and technical concerns related to flood and erosion controls, protection and restoration of natural heritage features, and erosion and

Item 8.6

sediment controls. The majority of projects reviewed were related to Metrolinx GO and Metrolinx Rapid Transit projects, as supported by service level agreements between TRCA and Metrolinx. Metrolinx has ensured that the public-private consortiums commissioned to undertake the detailed design of these projects are required to obtain the TRCA VPR letter prior to construction. As such, in 2018, TRCA will continue to review design details for Metrolinx's Lakeshore, Barrie and Stouffville GO track and station expansions, SmartTrack stations, as well as the Eglinton and Finch LRTs. Staff continues to advocate the VPR process to other Crown corporations, including both the Ministry of Transportation (and their public-private consortiums) and Parks Canada.

SUMMARY OF RECENT VOLUNTARY PROJECT REVIEW PROJECTS

1. CFN 58957 – Replacement of an Existing Manhole and Relocation of Three Hydro Poles on Eglinton Avenue East and Jonesville Crescent for Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (ECLRT) - issued on January 15, 2018

The purpose of the project was to undertake: i) the replacement of an existing manhole and construction of new duct bank on the north side of Eglinton Avenue East and just west of Wilson Brook, and, ii) relocation of three existing poles on the south side of Eglinton Avenue East and on Jonesville Crescent and just west of Jonesville Crescent, in the City of Toronto. The proposed project was to prepare the site in advance of the construction of the future Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (ECLRT) on Eglinton Avenue East.

The site is located on the property owned by the City of Toronto for the Eglinton Crosstown LRT and in the Don River Watershed.

Report prepared by: Shirin Varzgani, extension 5785

Emails: svarzgani@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

2. CFN 59319 – Construction of Permeable Reactive Barrier – Phase I – on the north side of Eglinton Avenue West, west of Black Creek Drive, for Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (ECLRT) – issued on March 8, 2018

The purpose was to undertake the construction of Permeable Reactive Barrier (PRB) – Phase I on the Eglinton Maintenance and Servicing Facility (EMSF) Site, just north of Eglinton Avenue West and west of Black Creek Drive, in the City of Toronto. The purpose of this project was to prepare the part of the site in advance of the construction of the guideway for the future Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (ECLRT) on Eglinton Avenue West.

The site is located on the property owned by the Metrolinx for the Eglinton Crosstown LRT and in the Humber River Watershed.

Report prepared by: Shirin Varzgani, extension 5785

Emails: svarzgani@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Item 8.6

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

3. CFN – 59453 – Minor Utility Relocation Works at the West Don River, between Leslie Street and IBM/Celestica Bridge for the Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (ECLRT) – issued on April 6, 2018

The purpose of the project was to undertake the relocation and construction of existing telecommunication infrastructure along Eglinton Avenue East at the West Don River, between Leslie Street and IBM/Celestica Bridge, in the City of Toronto. Proposed construction works involved: i) Area 1: Relocation and construction of new Bell ductbanks and one (1) manhole on the south side of Eglinton Avenue East. The relocation and construction of the ductbank continued across the road to the east side of Leslie Street, at the intersection of Leslie Street and Eglinton Avenue East; ii) Area 2: Relocation and construction of new Bell ductbanks and one (1) manhole on the south side of Eglinton Avenue East between the IBM/Celestica Access Road ramp; iii) Area 3: Relocation and construction of new Bell ductbanks on the south side of Eglinton Avenue East, just west of the railtrack/bridge and across Eglinton Avenue East tying into existing ducts on the north side of the roadway, and iv) Area 4: Relocation and construction of existing Telus ducts, on the north side of Eglinton Avenue East, east of rail tracks/bridge.

The site is located on the property owned by the City of Toronto for the Eglinton Crosstown LRT project and in the Don River Watershed.

Report prepared by: Shirin Varzgani, extension 5785

Emails: svarzgani@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

4. CFN 57580 – At-Grade Works on Eglinton Avenue East at the East Don River between the Don Valley Parkway (DVP) Interchange and Credit Union/Swift Drive Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (ECLRT) – issued on April 18, 2018

The purpose of this project was to undertake the construction works for At-Grade components along Eglinton Avenue East at the East Don River, between the Don Valley Parkway (DVP) Interchange and Credit Union/Swift Drive, in the City of Toronto. Proposed construction works involved: i) Installation of silt fences and other erosion control measures; ii) Wet and dry utility works; iii) Road widening; iv) Wynford bridge deck replacement; v) East Don River bridge deck replacement; vi.) Retaining walls and construction of Traction Power Sub Station (TPSS) #9, and vii) Construction of at-grade guideway and Wynford LRT stop platform.

The site is located on the property owned by the City of Toronto for the Eglinton Crosstown LRT project and in the Don River Watershed.

Report prepared by: Shirin Varzgani, extension 5785

Emails: svarzgani@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

Item 8.6

5. CFN 59526 – Bridge Rehabilitation and Widening Works on IBM/Celestica Bridge on Eglinton Avenue East, between Leslie Street and Don Mills Road for Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (ECLRT) – issued on May 16, 2018

The purpose of the project was to undertake the rehabilitation and widening of the IBM/Celestica Bridge on Eglinton Avenue East, between Leslie Street and Don Mills Road, in the City of Toronto. Proposed construction works involved: i) removal of medians; ii) replacement of sidewalks, curbs and parapet walls on both sides; iii) removal and replacement of top deck concrete; iv) localized concrete patch repair works on bridge abutments, piers, deck sides (fascias) and underside (soffit); removal and replacement of approach slabs, and v) minor widening of the bridge deck.

The site is located on the property owned by the City of Toronto for the Eglinton Crosstown LRT project and in the Don River Watershed.

Report prepared by: Shirin Varzgani, extension 5785

Emails: svarzgani@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

6. CFN 58629 – Construction of a Green Wall (RW-1171R) on the South Side of Eglinton Avenue East, east of the West Don River for Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (ECLRT) – issued on June 25, 2018

The purpose of the project was to undertake the construction of a Green Wall (RW-1171R) and replacement of an existing staircase on the south side of Eglinton Avenue East and east of the West Don River, in the City of Toronto. Construction of the proposed retaining wall was required to facilitate and enable the widening of Eglinton Avenue East in order to accommodate the Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (ECLRT).

The site is located on property owned by the City of Toronto for the Eglinton Crosstown LRT project and in the Don River Watershed. In addition, parts of property owned by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority under a management agreement with the City of Toronto Parks were also used to access the work area.

Report prepared by: Shirin Varzgani, extension 5785

Emails: svarzgani@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

7. CFN 59745 – East Portal Civil Works on Eglinton Avenue East and just west of the West Don River for Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (ECLRT) – issued August 1, 2018

The purpose of the project was to undertake the relocation and construction of the following: i) modifications to the Sediment Impoundment Area ii) wet utilities including the storm sewers, sanitary sewers and watermains, and iii) civil, roadway widening and realignment, guideway and retaining walls. The site is located west of the West Don River bridge structure to Brentcliffe Road, encompassing Eglinton Avenue East roadway, in the City of Toronto.

Item 8.6

The site is located on property owned by the City of Toronto for the Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit project and is located in the Don River watershed.

Report prepared by: Shirin Varzgani, extension 5785

Emails: svarzgani@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

8. CFN 59736 – Relocation and Replacement of Wilson Brook Culvert and other works on Eglinton Avenue East, between Bermondsey/Sloane Road and Jonesville Crescent for Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (ECLRT) – issued August 2, 2018

The purpose of the project was to undertake the relocation and construction of the following: i) dry utilities including Toronto Hydro Electric Supply Limited (THESL) underground feeder ductbank on the south side of Eglinton Avenue East for the future Traction Power Substation TPSS #10; ii) wet utilities including the storm sewers, sanitary sewers and watermains; iii) roadway pavements, sidewalks, curb and gutter, guiderails, street light poles and luminaires including underground cables, new retaining walls, Light Rail Transit (LRT) guideway including Greentrack and Direct Fixation track slab support system, communication signals and power concrete duct banks and Overhead Contact System (OCS), and iv) new Wilson Brook Creek Culvert and decommissioning of the existing culvert. These works are taking place on Eglinton Avenue East, between Bermondsey Road/Sloane Avenue and Jonesville Crescent, in the City of Toronto.

The site is located on property owned by the City of Toronto for the Eglinton Crosstown LRT project and in the Don River Watershed.

Report prepared by: Shirin Varzgani, extension 5785

Emails: svarzgani@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

9. CFN 59540 – Stouffville Stations Project – Unionville GO Station Parking Lot Expansion – Metrolinx GO Transit - issued on December 6, 2018

The purpose of the project was to undertake expansion and construction of parking facilities for Unionville GO Station, located at 155 YMCA Boulevard, in the City of Markham. The project involves the construction of an east parking lot and a south parking lot (269 and 31 parking spots each, respectively). The parking lots are required to facilitate the construction of the larger station upgrades planned at Unionville GO Station.

The site is located on the property owned by Metrolinx for the Stouffville Stations Project and in the Rouge River Watershed.

Report prepared by: Harsha Gammanpila, extension 5629

Emails: hgammanpila@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

Item 8.6

10. CFN 55931 – Pickering Waste Management – Enhanced Used Fuel Dry Storage Facility, Processing and Amenities Building and Upgraded Stormwater Management – issued on December 10, 2018

The purpose was to undertake the construction of a new Used Fuel Processing/Amenities building and Enhanced Used Fuel Storage building (Building No. 4), in the City of Pickering. Furthermore, work included modifications to the existing stormwater infrastructure to accommodate drainage of the new buildings, including upgrading an existing outfall and constructing a new culvert/outfall at the Lake Ontario shoreline.

The works will take place on the property owned by Ontario Power Generation Inc. (OPG) and along the Lake Ontario Waterfront.

Report prepared by: Sharon Lingertat, extension 5717

Emails: slingertat@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Fees are paid for the review of all VPR projects in accordance with either the current TRCA Administrative Fee Schedule for Environmental Assessment and Infrastructure Permitting Services or based on service level agreements with Metrolinx GO Transit and Metrolinx RT.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

1. Staff will continue to advocate the importance and benefits of receiving TRCA permits at the detailed design stage to other organizations exempt from the *Conservation Authorities Act* Section 28 regulatory approval process.
2. Staff will provide a summary report on issued VPR letters to the Executive Committee on an annual basis.

Report prepared by: Shirin Varzgani, extension 5785

Email: svarzgani@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Email: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

Date: January 10, 2019