



Appendix L

Rationale for Selection of the Short List of Water Reclamation Centre Sites

The following provides rationale for the selection of the short list of alternative Water Reclamation Centre Sites:

Site 24 (20704 2nd Concession, East Gwillimbury)

Site 24 has been carried forward for comparative evaluation because it has a greater number of “Yes” responses (advantages) compared with the other potential alternative Water Reclamation Centre Sites, as summarized below.

- The site satisfied five of the six screening criteria.
- The site has a relatively large suitable area (approximately 21.1 ha), a relatively low mean elevation (222 MASL), and requires a relatively shorter length of new conveyance infrastructure to/from the site (approximately 2.8 km) making it comparatively more suitable than the other sites for the construction and operation of the Water Reclamation Centre.
- The suitable area of the site has no locally significant and/or unevaluated wetlands and permanent waterbody features within 120 m of it.
- The site avoids displacing any existing agricultural operations/structures (i.e., capital investments such as structures and tile drainage).
- The site is located within a designated Future Urban/Agricultural (whitebelt) area that allows the Water Reclamation Centre to be compatible with future land uses.

Although Site 24 has a disadvantage of not having direct access to a Regional road, it is situated within close proximity of a designated Regional road. Queensville Sideroad (Regional Road 77) is located approximately 400 m south of Site 24 on 2nd Concession.

Site 30 (20913 Leslie Street, East Gwillimbury)

Site 30 has been carried forward for comparative evaluation because it has a greater number of “Yes” responses (advantages) compared with the other potential alternative Water Reclamation Centre Sites, as summarized below.

- The site satisfied all six screening criteria.
- The site has a relatively large suitable area (approximately 53 ha), an acceptable mean elevation (258 MASL), and requires a relatively shorter length of new conveyance infrastructure to/from the site (approximately 9.5 km), making it comparatively more suitable than the other sites for the construction and operation of the Water Reclamation Centre.
- The suitable area of the site has no locally significant and/or unevaluated wetlands within 120 m of it.
- The site avoids displacing existing agricultural operations/structures (i.e., capital investments such as structures and tile drainage).
- The site has direct access to a Regional road (Leslie Street).
- The site is compatible with future land uses and is located within a designated Future Urban/Agricultural (whitebelt) area that allows the Water Reclamation Centre to be compatible with future land uses. Although a portion of the site includes the designation “Natural Heritage System – Core Area”, which includes an intermittent watercourse, the

suitable area of the site is large enough to ensure appropriate setback distances are accommodated.

Site WH1 (20908/20854 Leslie Street, East Gwillimbury)

Site WH1 has been carried forward for comparative evaluation because it has a greater number of “Yes” responses (advantages) compared with the other potential alternative Water Reclamation Centre Sites, as summarized below.

- The site satisfied five of the six screening criteria.
- The site has a relatively large suitable area (approximately 74 ha consisting of two separate parcels), a relatively low mean elevation (245 MASL), and requires a relatively shorter length of new conveyance infrastructure to/from the site (approximately 5 km), making it comparatively more suitable than the other sites for the construction and operation of the Water Reclamation Centre.
- The suitable area of the site has no significant and/or unevaluated wetlands within 120 m of it.
- The site avoids displacing existing agricultural operations/structures (i.e., capital investments such as structures and tile drainage).
- The site has direct access to a Regional road (Leslie Street).
- The site is compatible with future land uses and is located within a designated Future Urban/Agricultural (whitebelt) area that allows the Water Reclamation Centre to be compatible with future land uses. Although a portion of the site includes the designation “Natural Heritage System – Core Area”, the suitable area of the site is large enough to ensure that required setback distances are accommodated.

Although Site WH1 has a disadvantage that there is a permanent waterbody feature within 120 m from suitable area of the site (within approximately 53 m), the suitable area of site is large enough (74.3 ha) to ensure appropriate setback distances are accommodated.

Site WH2 (1004 Queensville Sideroad / 20709-20733 2nd Concession, East Gwillimbury)

Site WH2 has been carried forward for comparative evaluation because it has a greater number of “Yes” responses (advantages) compared with the other potential alternative Water Reclamation Centre Sites, as summarized below.

- The site satisfied four of the six screening criteria.
- The site has a relatively large suitable area (approximately 55 ha consisting of three separate parcels), a relatively low mean elevation (239 MASL), and requires a relatively shorter length of new conveyance infrastructure to/from the site (approximately 3.6 km), making it comparatively more suitable than the other sites for the construction and operation of the Water Reclamation Centre.
- The site avoids displacing existing agricultural operations/structures (i.e., capital investments such as structures and tile drainage).
- The site has direct access to a Regional road (Queensville Sideroad).
- The site is compatible with future land uses and is located within a designated Future Urban/Agricultural (whitebelt) area that allows the Water Reclamation Centre to be

compatible with future land uses. Although a portion of the site includes the designation “Natural Heritage System – Core Area”, the suitable area of the site is large enough to ensure that appropriate setback distances are accommodated.

Although Site WH2 has a disadvantage that there is a locally significant and/or unevaluated wetland and a waterbody feature located on the suitable area of the site, the suitable area of site is large enough (55 ha) to ensure appropriate setback distances are accommodated.

Alternative Water Reclamation Centre Sites Not Carried Forward for Comparative Evaluation

Unlike Water Reclamation Centre Sites 24, 30, WH1, and WH2, which were identified as the short list, sites north of Holborn Road (2, 8, 21, 40, 41, 46, 47, 51, 53, 58, 46, 64, and 85) and sites south of Queensville Sideroad (9, 23, 31, 50, and 55) were not carried forward for comparative evaluation.

The sites north of Holborn Road were not carried forward for comparative evaluation because they all had a comparatively greater number of disadvantages, as summarized below.

- All of these sites require a relatively longer length of conveyance infrastructure to/from the Water Reclamation Centre (i.e., ranging from approximately 11 km to 17 km). This would result in an increase in the total amount of capital, operating and maintenance costs, as well as potential adverse environmental effects such as an increased susceptibility for odour and corrosion.
- The majority of these sites have an agricultural operation and/or structures (i.e., capital investments such as structures and tile drainage) on site that would be displaced.
- The majority of these sites are designated Prime Agricultural Area in accordance with the Town of East Gwillimbury Consolidated Official Plan (2010). Since the purpose of the designation “Prime Agricultural Area” is to protect against the loss and fragmentation of the agricultural land base, the Water Reclamation Centre would not be a compatible land use with this designation.

Sites south of Queensville Sideroad including Sites 9, 23, 31, 50, and 55 were also not carried forward for comparative evaluation because they had a comparatively greater number of disadvantages, as summarized below.

- The majority of the sites are close to natural environment features including locally significant wetlands and/or unevaluated wetlands and/or a permanent waterbody feature.
- The majority of these sites have relatively higher elevations (ranging from 246 MASL to 296 MASL).
- The Water Reclamation Centre is not compatible with future land uses because the area south of Queensville Sideroad is subject to the Sharon and Queensville Land Use Plans (part of the Town of East Gwillimbury Consolidated Official Plan (2010)) which sets out the intended land uses for these areas (i.e., roads, secondary schools, etc.).