

Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting

From: Magda Badura, CAO/Treasurer

Date: 2023-03-23

Subject: Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approval

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer re: Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approval (CLI-ECA), and That West Elgin Council approve Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) proposal to undertake the completion of Municipal Sewage Collection System (CLI-ECA) application for the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) in the amount not the exceed \$7,100.00 exclusive of HST.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek council's approval for the preparation and submission of application to the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks based on the attached proposal from Ontario Clean Water Agency.

Background:

Over a year ago, the province decided to adopt a Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Permissions Approach (CLI) for low-risk projects related to sewage collection and stormwater management, with a goal of getting important, low-risk public infrastructure projects built sooner by reducing the time it takes between when needs are identified and when citizens can benefit.

Under the new consolidated process, a municipality would no longer need to submit individual "pipe by pipe" applications for future alterations provided they are built in accordance with new design criteria and all other ministry approved conditions. These pre-authorizations will allow municipalities to proceed without first having to obtain an individual ministry permission. In certain circumstances, and with municipal approval, developers who are constructing infrastructure on behalf of municipalities can receive pre-authorization if work is being carried out in accordance with the requirements of the municipality's consolidated linear infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA), including meeting ministry design standards.

Consolidated Linear Infrastructure will:

- create an efficient process for low-risk projects,
- provide clear, transparent, and consistent requirements,
- improve environmental protection through updated and consolidated terms and conditions,
- establish a more comprehensive picture of sewage works across the province,
- The CLI Permissions Approach will replace the current approach for lower risk, routine sewage works and has been modelled after the current framework for municipal drinking water systems.

All existing and future approvals will be incorporated into two consolidated Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECAs):

- one for municipal sanitary collection systems
- one for stormwater management works
- Consultations and next steps

The first step in the transition is to apply for a CLI-ECA. This is a phase in approach based on a schedule, starting with municipalities with Transfer of Review agreements, then municipalities with combined sewer overflows, and finally based on population starting from larger to smaller.

Financial Implications:

2023 Budget deliberations – cost of application submission was not included.

Policies/Legislation:

Respectfully submitted by,

Magda Badura, CAO/Treasurer

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approval (CLI-ECA).docx
Attachments:	- Consolidated Linear Infrastructure_ECA.pdf - West Elgin ECA Proposal Letter - v2.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Mar 20, 2023

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Jana Nethercott