

Ministry of the Environment  
and Climate Change  
West Central Region

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Ministère de l'Environnement  
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Direction régionale du Centre-Quest

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July 17, 2014

JUL 21 2014

His Worship Mayor R. Bratina  
City of Hamilton  
71 Main Street West, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Bratina:

Thank you for your letter dated April 28, 2014, to the Honourable Jim Bradley, the then, Minister of the Environment regarding the city's proposal for East Hamilton air monitoring stations. I am pleased to respond on behalf of the ministry.

The City of Hamilton has one of the most extensive networks of ambient air monitors in Ontario, possibly Canada. There are currently three Air Quality Index Stations located across the city. These stations are operated cooperatively by Environment Canada's National Air Pollution Survey, the ministry's Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Branch (EMRB) and Operations Division. There are also thirteen air monitoring stations operated by the Hamilton Air Monitoring Network (HAMN), a consortium of eighteen local industries, and two additional air monitoring locations are run by industry independent of HAMN. There are also thirteen air monitors operated by the ministry's West Central Region, Operations Division across the city assessing air quality. The stations cover a range of sixteen parameters including SO<sub>2</sub>, CO, NO<sub>x</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, Total Reduced Sulphurs, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH's) including Benzo(a)pyrene, Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including benzene, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, TSP, metals in TSP, dustfall, wind speed/wind direction, temperature, precipitation, and relative humidity.

In addition to these fixed air monitoring locations spread across the city from Flamborough through the industrial waterfront, and onto Hamilton Mountain and Stoney Creek, the ministry also works cooperatively with Clean Air Hamilton and Green Ventures by providing staff time and access to the ministry's mobile air monitoring vehicle, in support of community monitoring and outreach programs to local schools.

The ministry will continue to support the city's air monitoring efforts through the provision of data analysis as we do each year through the Clean Air Hamilton Report. Further, the local ministry Technical Support Section will provide in kind support to the city through the provision of expertise in the selection of appropriate locations for the installation of air monitoring equipment to ensure conformance with the ministry's Operations Manual for Air Quality Monitoring in Ontario. In addition, the ministry will include the city's Air Pointers in our routine audit program to ensure that data collected as part of the city's program meets the stringent accuracy requirements set out in the Operations Manual.

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Mayor Bratina

Thank you for your continued support and work in improving the air quality in Hamilton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mili New".

Mili New  
Director  
West Central Region