



CITY OF HAMILTON
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
Healthy Environments Division

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| TO: | Mayor and Members Public Health Committee |
| COMMITTEE DATE: | December 4, 2023 |
| SUBJECT/REPORT NO: | Third-Party Air Monitoring re: Green For Life Landfill Stoney Creek (BOH23042) (Wards 5 and 9) |
| WARD(S) AFFECTED: | Wards 5 and 9 |
| PREPARED BY: | Matthew Lawson (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5823 Manal Chaudhry (905) 546-2424 Ext. 7134 |
| SUBMITTED BY: | Kevin McDonald Director, Healthy Environments Division Public Health Services |
| SIGNATURE: | |

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That Public Health Services Staff be directed to work with AtkinsRéalis to develop a feasibility study with options to perform air monitoring for a minimum seven-day period at the Green For Life Environmental Inc. Landfill, Stoney Creek, not to exceed \$10,000, to be funded by the Stoney Creek Compensation Royalties (Green For Life Landfill) Reserve 117036, and report back to the Public Health Committee in Q1, 2024; and,
- (b) That the matter respecting Item 2023-I, independent third-party air monitoring at the Green For Life Stoney Creek Landfill, be identified as complete and removed from the Public Health Committee Outstanding Business List.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its meeting on September 27, 2023 Council approved the following motion:

“That staff be directed to explore the ways and means to provide independent third party air monitoring for a minimum seven day period at GFL Stoney Creek Landfill to be funded by the Stoney Creek Compensation Royalties (GFL Landfill) Reserve 117036 and report back to the Public Health Committee”.

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Public Health Services staff have identified the vendor AtkinsRéalis (formerly SNC-Lavalin) through the City's Roster Program for "Solid Waste Management" as a company that can support the development of a feasibility study with options for air monitoring related to the Green For Life Stoney Creek landfill. The feasibility study will include the estimated budget and completion time for each option presented.

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 3

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: Costs associated with the development of a feasibility study for consideration would be funded from the Stoney Creek Compensation Royalties (Green For Life Stoney Creek Landfill) Reserve 117036. The development of a feasibility study for Council's consideration would likely result in a cost between \$5,000 to \$10,000.

The reserve balance has adequate funding to cover these costs.

Staffing: Not Applicable.

Legal: Public Health Services staff have consulted with Legal Services staff as to any conflicts of interest from rostered vendors and advised that AtkinsRéalis have confirmed that they have not completed any work for Green For Life on the site but have clients who may have sent waste to the Green For Life Stoney Creek landfill. This was not determined to be a conflict of interest.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In response to residents' odour complaints and concerns regarding potential contaminants and impacts from odour, the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks (the Ministry) conducted two air monitoring assessments in August and September 2023.

The Ministry assessments included monitoring of the following compounds: benzene, trichloroethylene, toluene, tetrachloroethylene, chlorobenzene, ethylbenzene, styrene, 1,2,4 trimethylbenzene, naphthalene, nitrogen oxides (NO_x), including nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), total reduced sulfur compounds (TRS) and sulfur dioxide (SO₂), as well as odour measurements through a nasal ranger. The Ministry assessments found several instances of elevated odours, and twenty-nine (29) 10-minute total reduced sulfur compounds O. Reg. 419/05 Standard exceedances at various locations around the Green For Life Stoney Creek landfill. The Ministry has identified the Green For Life Stoney Creek landfill and leachate pond as the most likely source of odour and recorded total reduced sulfur compounds exceedances.

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Public Health Services has completed a comprehensive review of the findings from the Ministry air monitoring assessment reports and determined that there is no imminent public health hazard. As a part of the City's efforts to address public concerns regarding air quality and odours, Hamilton City Council directed Public Health Services to explore options to provide independent third-party air monitoring around the Green For Life Stoney Creek landfill for a minimum of seven days. The purpose of independent third-party monitoring will be to verify the findings from the Ministry air monitoring assessments conducted in August and September 2023.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

Not Applicable.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Public Health Services staff have consulted with the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, City of Hamilton Legal Services, Public Health Services' Environmental Health Consultant, Public Works – Waste Management, and the Procurement Roster Program about the ability of a third-party vendor to complete the project, as directed by Council.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Public Health Services does not have the technical capacity to develop specifications that are comparable and equivalent to the monitoring methodology performed by the Ministry. In addition, due to the unique nature of the Ministry's air monitoring capacity, there are no firms on the City's Procurement Roster Program that can replicate the air monitoring assessment without significant time and cost. Therefore, it is recommended that a feasibility study of available options for the third-party assessment be developed by an engineering firm with proven experience in providing air monitoring services. This will ensure that the monitoring plan selected for the independent third-party air monitoring will be technically sound and viable.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

The following two options are alternatives for consideration:

1. That Public Health Services issue a public tender for completion of the independent seven-day air monitoring at the Green For Life Stoney Creek landfill. As noted above, Public Health Services does not have the technical capacity to issue a complete public tender. As such, additional technical support from the City's Roster Program would be required to detail the monitoring parameters and specifications in the Public Tender.

2. That Public Health Services engage AtkinsRéalis to assess the feasibility of performing air monitoring for only sulphur-related compounds (i.e., Hydrogen Sulphide, Total Reduced Sulfur). Public Health Services staff have discussed this option with AtkinsRéalis who was not able to provide complete information about anticipated timelines and estimated costs at the time of submitting this report to the City Clerk. That said, Public Health Services staff anticipate having additional information available at the December 4, 2023 Public Health Committee meeting for discussion and consideration of Committee members.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Not Applicable.