

<b>TO:</b>	<b>CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON MARCH 8, 2016</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>JAY STANFORD, M.A., M.P.A. DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT, FLEET &amp; SOLID WASTE</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>W12A LANDFILL COMPLETION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING PROCESS</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

That, on the recommendation of the Director of Environment, Fleet and Solid Waste, this update on the approvals required to expand the service area of the W12A Landfill to include waste from three facilities outside of London **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER**

Relevant reports that can be found at [www.london.ca](http://www.london.ca) include:

- W12A Landfill – Proposal and Process to Accept Waste from Three Facilities Outside of London (April 20, 2015 meeting of Civic Works Committee (CWC), Item #8)
- Household Special Waste Program Update (May 27, 2013 meeting of CWC, Item #4)
- Municipality of Thames Centre Partnership Opportunities in Waste Management (November 29, 2011 meeting of Community and Neighbourhoods Committee, Item #3)

**BACKGROUND**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Committee and Council with an update on the progress with respect to the approvals required to expand the service area of the W12A Landfill to include:

- Regional Water Board’s Elgin and Grand Bend water treatment plants (water intake screened process residuals)
- TRY Recycling’s Clarke Road Facility (recycling process residuals and residential garbage from the City’s EnviroDepot)
- Elgin County - (Municipal Hazardous and Special Waste (MHSW))
- Thames Centre – (curbside collected municipal waste generated in the winter months)

**CONTEXT**

**2015-2019 - Strategic Plan for the City of London**

Municipal Council has recognized the importance of solid waste management in its 2015-2019 - Strategic Plan for the City of London ([2015 – 2019 Strategic Plan](#)). With respect to this CWC Report, 3 of the 4 Areas of Focus address the expansion of the W12A Landfill’s service area:

Building a Sustainable City

- Strong and healthy environment

Leading in Public Service

- Collaborative, engaged leadership
- Excellent service delivery

Growing our Economy

- Local, regional, and global innovation
- Strategic, collaborative partnerships

## W12A Landfill

Currently the W12A landfill is approved by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) to accept solid non-hazardous waste generated within the boundaries of the City of London for disposal and MHSW generated from London and Middlesex County at the Household Special Waste Depot (HSW Depot) located at the W12A landfill for transfer to appropriate recycling/disposal sites. The W12A Landfill can also accept municipally collected waste from Thames Centre in the winter months to W12A for disposal subject to the City taking a corresponding amount of garbage to the Thames Centre landfill in the summer months.

Historically, the average annual amount of waste received for disposal at W12A over the last 10 years has been approximately 240,000 tonnes. The largest annual amount of waste received at W12A for disposal occurred in 1987 and was approximately 310,000 tonnes. Going forward, and as a result of changing waste flows as discussed below, staff expects the annual amount of waste received for disposal to average approximately 200,000 tonnes per year (without service area expansion).

Recently, two large commercial waste management customers have discontinued using W12A to dispose of waste from their London based customers, in favour of disposing of that waste at their own landfills. In total the loss of these two customers represents approximately 50,000 tonnes that will no longer be disposed of at W12A on an annual basis, and a corresponding loss of annual tipping fee revenue. Expanding the service area to allow for disposal of waste from the above noted sources will restore some of the revenue from the loss of the commercial customer tonnes.

## Previous Council Direction

In April 2015, Council directed staff to expand the service area of the W12A Landfill to accept solid non-hazardous waste from the Regional Water Boards two water treatment plants and TRY Recycling's recycling facility in Middlesex Centre and take all the administrative acts that are necessary in connection. Estimated quantities are noted below.

<b>Source</b>	<b>Estimated Quantity (tonnes/yr)</b>	<b>Waste Generating Activity</b>	<b>Character</b>
Regional Water Boards	15,000 to 20,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Filtering water that is drawn into the water plants from Lake Huron and Lake Erie</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Filtered sand/sediment</li> </ul>
TRY Recycling	10,000 to 20,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Processing construction and demolition material (C&amp;D materials) of which between 80% and 90% is generated by materials from within London's borders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process residuals from recycling of C&amp;D Materials</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bagged household garbage delivered by Londoners to the City EnviroDepot (estimated at 2% to 5% of estimated total)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bagged/residential</li> </ul>

In June 2013, Council directed staff to expand the service area of the W12A Landfill to accept MHSW from Elgin County and take all the administrative acts that are necessary in connection with this matter.

In December 2011, Council approve entering into an agreement between the City and the Municipality of Thames Centre which includes Thames City bringing recyclables to the City's Material Recovery Facility and curbside collected municipal waste generated within Thames Centre in the winter months to W12A for disposal. The City can take a corresponding amount of garbage to the Thames Centre landfill in the summer months. This arrangement has previously been acknowledged by the local MOECC office prior to the City entering into the agreement with Thames Centre.

## Reasons for Expanding Service Area

The reasons for expanding the service area of the landfill are:

- **Lowers cost** – Cost for London to operate the landfill is lowered due to “economies of scale”. Tipping fees for the municipalities and organizations using the W12A Landfill may be lower than alternative disposal locations.
- **London waste** – Over 80% of the waste from the new areas is generated as a result of organizations providing services to residents of London (e.g., providing safe drinking water, construction and demolition waste recycling).
- **Regional coordination** – London and several nearby municipalities already work together on recycling and MHSW programs. Accepting MHSW from Elgin County and municipally collected garbage from Thames Centre is a continuation of the regional approach to finding solutions for managing waste. For example, accepting MHSW from Elgin County will provide a convenient location for its residents to take their MHSW which will reduce the amount of material ending up in the garbage.

## Approval Process

Expanding the service of a landfill requires approval under the *Environmental Assessment Act* and the *Environmental Protection Act*. Approval under the *Environmental Assessment Act* requires completion of an Environmental Screening. Approval under the *Environmental Protection Act* requires amending the landfill’s Environmental Compliance Approval.

Provincial legislation allows for waste management projects/undertakings that meet specified criteria to be assessed via a scaled down version of the normal Environmental Assessment process, called an Environmental Screening Process (ESP). Changing the service area for the W12A landfill falls within the specified criteria to proceed through an ESP.

This report deals with the ESP required to get approval under the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

## DISCUSSION

### Environmental Screening Process

The ESP is a self-assessment process that has the following general steps:

- Publication of notice of commencement of the Environmental Screening project/undertaking, including a description of the project;
- Application of specified criteria to identify potential environmental effects of the project/undertaking, which will include a summary of any identified environmental effects;
- Consultation with interested persons, Aboriginal peoples and government agencies;
- Development of impact management measures should they be required as a result of environmental effect assessment and public consultation;
- Further consultation with interested groups; and,
- Preparation and publication of an Environmental Screening Report summarizing the results of the project review, consultation, mitigation and impact management measures.

A consultation process was undertaken that at each step of this process met or exceeded the mandatory consultation events required in the ESP. The consultation process included:

- Notices placed in *The Londoner*, on the City website and mailed to government agencies, aboriginal communities and property owners within 1.5 kilometres of the landfill
- Presentations to the Agricultural Advisory Committee (September 16, 2015), Advisory Committee on the Environment (October 7, 2015) and W12A Landfill Public Liaison Committee (October 15, 2015);
- Verbal communication to Orgaworld Organics Processing Facility London Public Liaison Committee (August, 2015);

- Public meeting on October 15, 2015; and,
- Project website page on City website.

Five written comments and several verbal comments were received from the general public and other stakeholders. Comments and questions received during the consultation process mailing were generally related to traffic and potential lifespan changes. Comments were also received from the MOECC asking for additional information primarily related to the landfill’s mitigative measures for dust, litter and odours.

Comments and questions coming from the consultation process were addressed as part of the screening process by providing additional information. There were no elevation requests to ‘bump up’ this project to a full individual EA.

On February 18, 2016 MOECC staff indicated that all their questions and comments have been addressed. The environmental screening report has been completed in accordance with the Province of Ontario’s Environmental Screening Process for Waste Management Projects, as per *O. Reg. 101/07* and the Notice of Completion has been filed with the MOECC.

**Next Steps**

The next step in expanding the service area of the landfill is to amend the landfill’s Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA). The application to amend the landfill’s ECA has been submitted to the MOECC and approval is expected in 6 to 12 months.

It should be noted that Municipal Council remains in full control on where materials can come from provided that the areas are listed in the ECA and the materials are permitted under the ECA. An expanded service area does not commit Council to accepting material from these areas.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This report was prepared with assistance from Mike Losee, Manager – Solid Waste Engineering and Planning.

<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	
<b>WESLEY ABBOTT, P. ENG. DIVISION MANAGER, SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT</b>	
<b>PREPARED AND RECOMMENDED BY:</b>	<b>REVIEWED &amp; CONCURRED BY:</b>
<b>JAY STANFORD, M.A., M.P.A. DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT, FLEET &amp; SOLID WASTE</b>	<b>JOHN BRAAM, P.ENG. MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL &amp; ENGINEERING SERVICES &amp; CITY ENGINEER</b>