

Biologic Wonderland Road Environmental Impact Study
Prepared for Southside Group by BioLogic, February 18, 2016
EEPAC May 2016

Deficiencies

- 1) Scoping document not attached to EIS, would help to define the site and requirements of the EIS.
- 2) Section 4.1.4 – Indicates that the development of the subject lands (east) will be located on a site with a “highly vulnerable aquifer” that is located as shallow as 3.96m below the surface. The EIS claims that the development will not pose a risk to the aquifer. However, the EIS fails to provide evidence to support their claim that the development will not breach or contaminate the aquifer. The risk of damaging the aquifer should also consider the number of residents that may use the aquifer as a source of drinking water because it is these residents that would be adversely affected if the aquifer is contaminated. The EIS does not provide any information regarding how the aquifer is used by local residents.
- 3) Section 4.2.1 – Using outdated resources – Criteria Schedules (MNRF, 2012). The current Criteria Schedule for EcoRegion 7E (2015) should have been used as they have been available since mid-2015.
- 4) Section 4.2.5 – Fauna study. Only went out twice to count birds, both in June 2015. As well, frogs (Spring Peepers) identified in summer 2015, should have also visited field in spring to listen for wood frogs. Perhaps this was defined in the Scoping Document, but without this in the EIS, we can only point out that a three season inventory was not done

Recommendations

- 1) Include scoping document in EIS.
- 2) The EIS should provide evidence to support the assertion that the development will not damage the highly vulnerable aquifer. In addition, the EIS should include information regarding the number of residents using the aquifer as a source of drinking water.
- 3) Use current Ministry documents to define significant wildlife habitat
- 4) Were previous fauna studies performed
- 5) Figure 8: Development Proposal – parking lots adjacent to maintained hydro corridor – provide a 5m vegetated buffer between parking spaces and hydro corridor to be planted with native, non-invasive species to provide pollinator habitat.
- 6) Section 8 – Prior to and after construction, equipment should be cleaned to minimize probability of spreading invasive species (ie. Phragmites)