

NATURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT



NATURAL RESOURCE SOLUTIONS INC.

Aquatic, Terrestrial and Wetland Biologists

April Nix
Planning Intern
Ministry of Natural Resources, Guelph District
1 Stone Road West
Guelph ON, N1G 4Y2

**Re: Woolwich Bio-EN Facility
Updated Natural Heritage Assessment- In Support of Renewable Energy
Approval - FIT-F0MH1Z7**

Dear Ms. Nix,

On behalf of Natural Resource Solutions Inc. (NRSI) I am please to submit the following updated Natural Heritage Assessment for the proposed Woolwich Bio-EN Facility in Elmira, Ontario. This Natural Heritage Assessment has been updated in accordance with comments provided by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, dated February 3, 2010.

NRSI was retained by Conestoga-Rovers & Associates to complete a Natural Heritage Assessment for the proposed Woolwich Bio-En facility in Elmira, Ontario. The proposed facility is a Class 3 Anaerobic Digestion Facility which will encompass approximately 1.8ha of land. The subject property is bound to the north, east and south by active agricultural lands and to the west by existing industrial development (Figure 1). According to the Township of Woolwich Official Plan (2007), the lands are currently designated as 'Industrial Land Use Area.' The subject property is within privately owned lands and does not fall within or near any designated natural areas including Provincial Parks, Conservation Areas, the Greenbelt, the Oak Ridge's Moraine, or the Niagara Escarpment Planning Area.

This Natural Heritage Assessment was prepared in accordance with the Ontario Environmental Protection Act (Reg. 359/09) and the *Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Approval and Permitting Requirements Document for Renewable Energy Projects* (OMNR 2009).

Records Review

Background information on the subject property and surrounding area (up to 1km) were collected and reviewed from the following sources:

- Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC 2008);
- OMNR Guelph District Office (A. Nix pers. comm. 2009);
- Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) (A. Herreman pers. comm. 2009);
- GRCA mapping (GRCA 2010);
- The Region of Waterloo (D. Murray pers. comm. 2010); and
- The Township of Woolwich (J. Vink pers. comm. 2010).

A list of all references and persons contacted for information is provided in Appendix I.

Based on information collected during the records review and review of aerial photography it was confirmed that the subject property does not fall within or near (up to a distance of 120m) of any of the following:

- Life Science or Earth Science Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) (NHIC 2008; A. Herreman pers. comm. 2009);
- Provincially Significant Wetlands (GRCA 2010; A. Herreman pers. comm. 2009);
- Unevaluated wetlands (GRCA 2010; A. Herreman pers. comm. 2009);
- Valleylands (GRCA 2010; A. Herreman pers. comm. 2009);
- Significant Wildlife Habitat (OMNR 2000); or
- Woodlands (GRCA 2010; A. Herreman pers. comm. 2009).

The closest natural feature to the subject lands is a cold water stream and small wetland area located approximately 240m northeast of the site (GRCA 2010; A. Herreman pers. comm. 2009).

Information on Species at Risk known to occur within the vicinity (up to 10km) of the subject property was collected and reviewed from the following sources:

- NHIC database (NHIC 2008);
- GRCA (GRCA 2010; A. Herreman pers. comm. 2009);
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Guelph District Office (A. Nix pers. comm. 2009);
- Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas summary square 17NJ32 (Cadmen et al. 2007);
- Ontario Mammal Atlas (Dobbyn 1994); and
- Ontario Herpetofaunal Summary Atlas (Oldham & Weller 2000).

According to the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (OBBA) one bird Species at Risk, the chimney swift (*Chaetura pelagica*), is known from the 10x10km data square that overlaps with the Town of Elmira. The chimney swift is considered nationally and provincially Threatened due to habitat loss and the decline of their primary food source-flying insects. They are found in urban settlements where they nest and roost in chimneys and hunt near water where flying insects congregate (OMNR 2000). Habitat for this species does not exist within the subject property.

According to the Ontario Herpetofaunal Summary Atlas, several species of amphibian and reptile are known from the Town of Elmira. No habitat suitable for amphibian breeding, foraging, or overwintering was observed within the subject property (OMNR 2000). The agricultural fields that characterize the subject property may provide foraging habitat for snake species, however there is no complimentary habitats for snakes to bask, rest, or overwinter nearby.

According to the NHIC database which records rare species locations by 1x1km squares, there are no significant species records within 1km of the subject property (NHIC 2008). The GRCA and OMNR were also contacted for existing information and indicated that no locally or provincially significant species or wildlife habitat are known from the vicinity of the subject property (A. Herreman pers. comm. 2009; A. Nix pers. comm. 2009).

The OMNR indicated that should there be any need to clear vegetation or hedgerows for the construction of the facility or any related infrastructure, a tree survey for butternut (*Juglans cinerea*) be conducted.

Site Investigation

Methods

On December 21, 2009, Jessica Grealey, a Terrestrial and Wetland Biologist from NRSI, visited the subject property to characterize the site and confirm the findings of the records review. Jessica arrived at the site at 1300hrs and spent approximately 1 hour at the site, leaving at 1350hrs. Weather conditions recorded at the beginning of the site investigation are summarized in Table 1. During this site investigation the entire perimeter of the property was walked and photos of the site were taken. Additional lands up to 120m were also investigated to confirm the findings of the records review. A copy of the original field notes, mapping and photos take is provided in Appendix II.

Table 1. Weather Conditions During Site Investigation

Temperature	2°C
Visibility	>5km
Cloud Cover	Clear (0%)
Wind Speed (Beaufort Wind Scale)	0-1
Precipitation	None

Findings

The entire subject area was observed to be characterized by agricultural lands planted with corn during the 2009 growing season. The only vegetation consists of a hedgerow of scot's pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) which extends along the western boundary of the subject lands (Figure 1). This hedgerow was searched for the presence of Species at Risk. The lands within 120m of the subject property were characterized by agricultural fields, existing industrial development, and a hedgerow comprised of scot's pine and white pine (*Pinus strobus*) extending west from the northwest corner of the subject property. Overall, the site investigation determined that:

- The findings of the records review were correct- that no significant natural features exist within or near (up to 120m) the subject property;
- No butternut trees (or other Specie at Risk) were present anywhere on the subject lands, including the hedgerow along the western boundary of the property;
- No significant wildlife habitat (OMNR 2000) was observed;
- Besides the hedgerow comprised entirely of scot's pine, no natural heritage features are present within the subject lands.

Evaluation of Significance

According to the records review no significant natural areas or rare species are known to occur within 1km of the subject property. The site investigation confirmed that there are no wetlands, woodlands, valleylands, ANSI's, or significant wildlife habitat on or within 120m of the subject property.

Habitat for significant wildlife species known from the Town of Elmira does not occur within the subject property. The entire site is characterized by agricultural fields and no naturalized vegetation occurs on the property outside the hedgerow that borders its western edge.

Given that the project will not be located within or adjacent to a nature feature as per Sec 38 of the REA regulation, and that no MNR permits or approvals are required, a more detailed Environmental Impact Study is not required for the proposed undertaking (A. Nix pers. comm. 2010).

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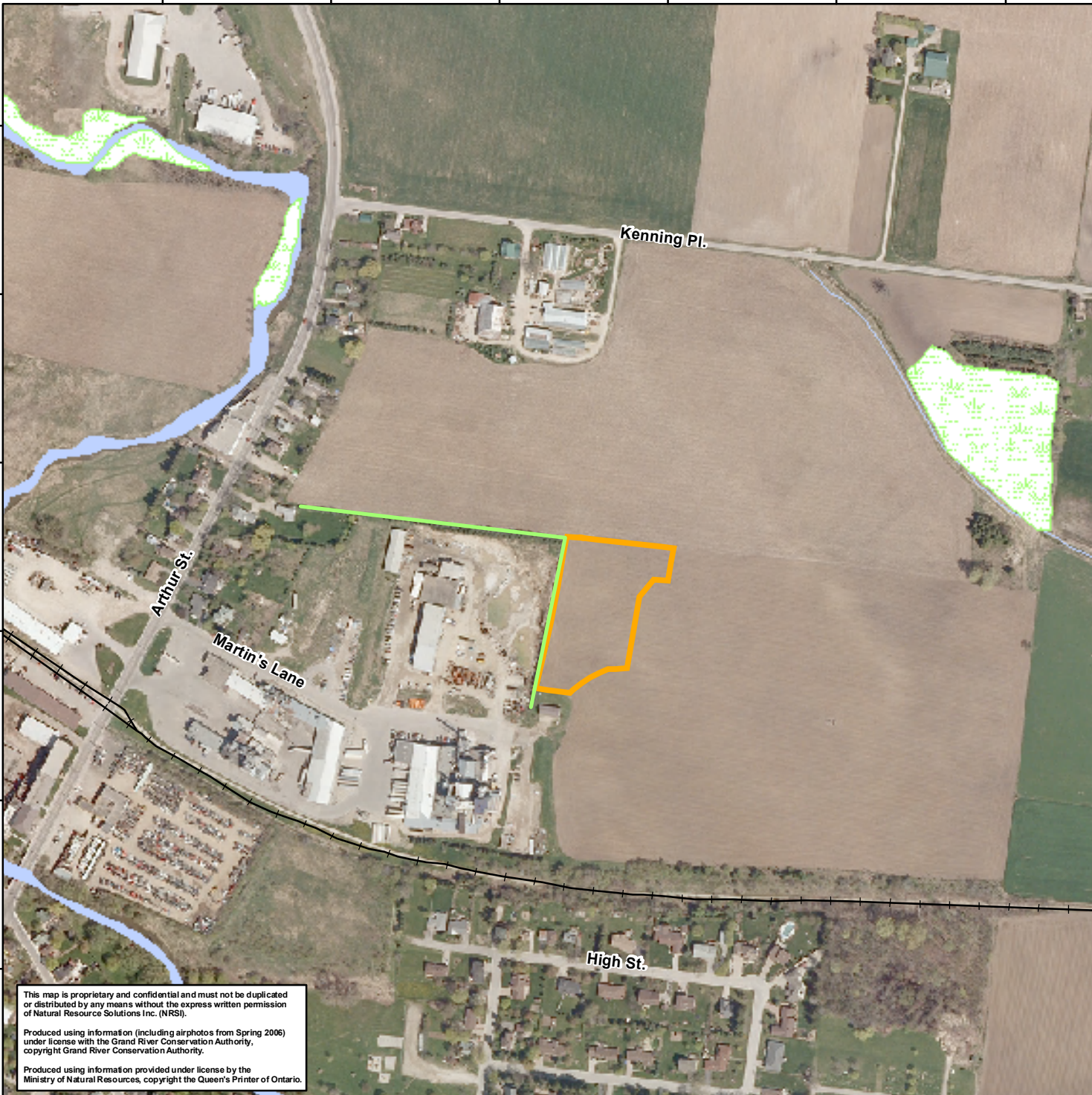
4827700

Figure 1

Woolwich Bio-En Existing Conditions

Legend

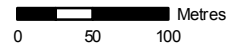
-  Subject Property
-  Hedgerow
-  Railway
-  Watercourse
-  Waterbody
-  Wetland (GRCA)



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NAD83 - UTM Zone 17
Scale: 1:5,000 (8.5x11")
Airphoto: Spring 2006

Project: NRSI-1007
Date: February 4, 2010

Appendix I
Records Review: References and Authorities Consulted

References

- Cadman, M.D., D.A. Sutherland, G.G. Beck, D. Lepage and A.R. Couturier. 2007. Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Ontario – Square 17NJ32. Accessed online on December 15, 2009. <http://www.birdsontario.org/atlas/index.jsp?lang=en>
- Dobbyn, J.S. 1994. Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario. Federation of Ontario Naturalists.
- Government of Ontario. 2009. Ontario Regulation 359/09 made under the Environmental Protection Act. September 8, 2009.
- GRCA (Grand River Conservation Authority). 2010. Grand River Information Network: Mapping. Accessed December 8, 2009. <http://www.grandriver.ca/index/document.cfm?Sec=63&Sub1=0&sub2=0>
- Natural Heritage Information Centre. 2008. Geographic Query. Ministry of Natural Resources. Accessed December 15, 2009. <http://nhic.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/nhic/queries/geographic.cfm>
- Oldham, M.J. and W.F. Weller. 2000. Ontario Herpetofaunal Atlas. Natural Heritage Information Centre, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. Accessed December 15, 2009. <http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/nhic/herps/ohs.html>
- OMNR. 2000. Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide. Appendix G. Accessed online on December 16, 2009. http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR_E001287.pdf
- OMNR. 2009. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Approval and Permitting Requirements Document for Renewable Energy Projects. September 24, 2009.
- Township of Woolwich. 2007. Official Plan. Accessed online on December 15, 2009. http://www.woolwich.ca/en/townshipservices/planning_official.asp

Authorities Consulted¹

- Herreman, Andrew. 2009. Planning Technician, Grand River Conservation Authority. Phone correspondence occurred December 18, 2009.
- Dan, Murray. 2010. Environmental Planner, Region of Waterloo. Email Correspondence dated February 8, 2010.
- Nix, April. 2010. Planning Intern, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. Letter dated February 3, 2010.
- Nix, April. 2009. Planning Intern, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. Email Correspondence dated December 29, 2009.
- Vink, Jeremy. 2010. Senior Planner, Township of Woolwich. Phone correspondence occurred February 4, 2010.

¹ All correspondence occurred between the authority noted and Jessica Grealey, Terrestrial and Wetland Biologist, Natural Resource Solutions Inc.

Appendix II
Site Investigation Field Notes and Site Photos

1300 hrs

Woolwich 810-EN

Project # 1007

Site WVEST16A716N

Dec. 21, 2009

Weather: 2°C, wind=0,

0.85: JEG.

full visibility, clouds = 0%

FIELD MAP - ATTACHED.

- Subject lands comprised completely of agricultural fields (photos 1:2)
 ↳ Corn evident.
- no natural features present within 7120m → creek about 240m NW of SW hedgerow of Scots pine along western property boundary after which the elevation drops by ~5m to existing industrial development (photo 3)
- access road will be an extension of Martin's Lane by existing storage shed (Photo 4)
- site viewed including lands up to 120m - continued no natural features.
- den tracks observed in field
- eel-track haul observed
- flying overhead.



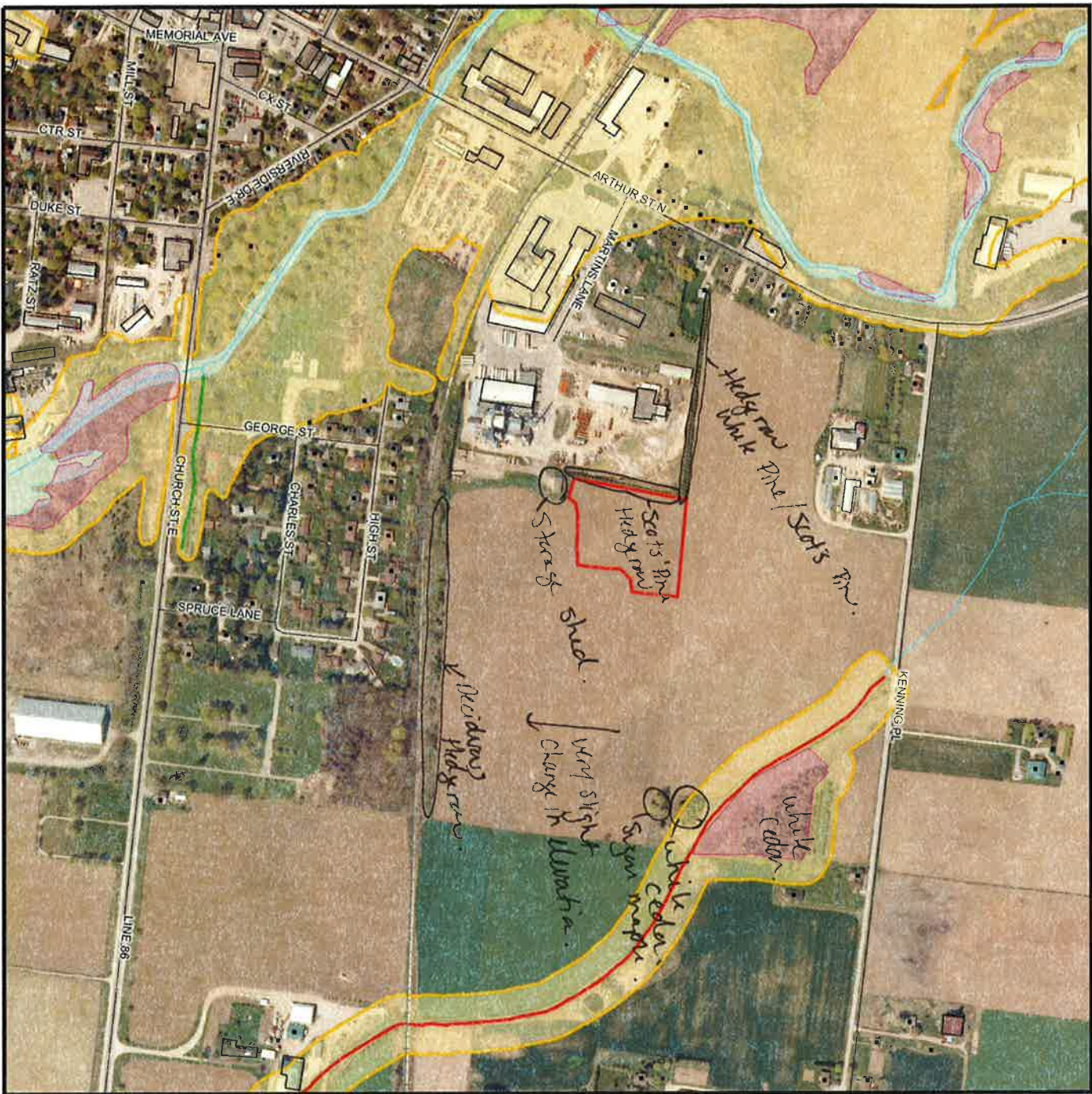
Grand River Conservation Authority
Map created: December 17, 2009

Woolwich Bio En

LEGEND

- WATERSHED MASK
- BUILDING - SYMBOLIZED (NRVIS)
- BUILDING - TO SCALE (NRVIS)
- WATERSHED BOUNDARY (GRCA)
- UTILITY LINE (NRVIS)
- ROADS-ADDRESSED (MNR)
- RAILWAY (NRVIS)
- CLASSIFIED STREAMS (NRVIS)
- COLD WATER
- COOL WATER
- UNKNOWN
- WARM WATER
- Other
- DRAINAGE-NETWORK (GRCA)
- WETLAND (GRCA)
- ANSI (NRVIS)
- WETLAND (NRVIS)
- PROVINCIALY SIGNIFICANT OTHER
- PARKS (GRCA)
- REGULATION LIMIT (GRCA)
- DRAINAGE-POLY (NRVIS)
- WOODED AREA (MNR)
- HERBENOV
- PLANTATION
- TREED

Subject Property



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THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

GRCA Disclaimer

This map is for illustrative purposes only. Information contained hereon is not a substitute for professional review or a site survey and is subject to change without notice. The Grand River Conservation Authority takes no responsibility for, nor guarantees, the accuracy of the information contained on this map. Any interpretations or conclusions drawn from this map are the sole responsibility of the user.

The source for each data layer is shown in parentheses in the map legend. For a complete listing of sources and citations go to:

<http://sims.grandriver.ca/files/Sources%20data.htm>





Photo 1: Subject Property (taken from northwest corner facing east)



Photo 2: Subject Property (taken from northwest corner facing south-south east)



Photo 3: Hedgerow along western subject property boundary (existing industrial development seen in background)



Photo 4: Storage shed and existing industrial development at southern tip of subject property (taken from northern boundary of subject property).

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES CLEARANCE LETTER

March 5, 2010

Chuck Martin
Woolwich Bio-en Inc
4 Arthur St. N.
Elmira On. N3B-3A2

Dear Mr. Martin,

**Re: Woolwich Bio-en Inc. FIT – F0MH1Z7
Natural Heritage Assessment – In Support of Renewable Energy Approval**

In accordance with S. 28 (1) and (2) and S. 38 (2) of the Ministry of the Environment's Renewable Energy Approval Regulation (O.Reg.359/09), the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has reviewed the natural heritage assessment for Woolwich Bio-EN Facility in the Town of Elmira, Township of Woolwich, Region of Waterloo, submitted by Jessica Grealey of Natural Resource Solutions on February 8, 2010.

It is understood that the proposed facility is a Class 3 Anaerobic Digestion Facility which will encompass approximately 1.8ha of privately owned land. The subject property is bound to the north, east and south by active agricultural lands and to the west by existing industrial development.

After reviewing the natural heritage assessment, the MNR provides the following confirmations:

1. The MNR confirms that the determination of the existence of natural features and the boundaries of natural features was made using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established and/or accepted by MNR.
2. The MNR confirms that the site investigation as per S. 26 and records review as per S. 25 of O. Reg 359/09 were conducted using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established and/or accepted by MNR.
3. The MNR confirms that the evaluation of the significance or provincial significance of the natural features as per S. 27 of O. Reg 359/09 was conducted using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR.
4. The MNR confirms that the project location is not in a provincial park or conservation reserve.
5. The MNR also confirms that with respect to S. 38 (1) the proposed facility is not proposed in or with the setbacks to any of the specified features and thus is not required to prepare an environmental impact study report as per the requirements of S. 38 (2).

As described in S. 12 (1) of the Renewable Energy Approval Regulation, you must include this letter as part of your application to the Ministry of the Environment for a renewable energy approval.

If you wish to discuss any part of this confirmation or additional comments provided, please contact April Nix, Planning Intern with Guelph District at (519) 578-1993 or april.nix@ontario.ca

Sincerely,



Ian Hagman
District Manager
Guelph District

cc. Erin Cotnam, Renewable Energy Provincial Field Program Coordinator Renewable Energy,
Regional Operations Division, MNR
Sandra Guido, Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch, MOE

CORRESPONDENCE WITH MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES CONCERNING REPORT

From: Woodruff, Stacey
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2010 4:33 PM
To: 'Nix, April (MNR)'
Cc: Earl Brubacher; Filing
Subject: 46254- Contact information as requested

Hi April,

The MNR letter should be addressed to:

Chuck Martin
Woolwich Bio-en Inc
4 Arthur St. N.
Elmira On. N3B-3A2

My contact is Earl Brubacher, the Operations Manager, his contact information is provided below:

Phone 519-669-5171 Ext. 240
Fax 519-669-5982
Mobile 519-465-7341
email earlb@marbro.com

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

Stacey Woodruff

Stacey Woodruff B.A.Sc.
Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (CRA)
651 Colby Drive
Waterloo, ON N2V 1C2

Phone: 519.884.0510 ext 2237
Fax: 519.884.0525
Email: swoodruff@CRAworld.com
www.CRAworld.com

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Perform every task the safe way, the right way, every time!

From: Woodruff, Stacey
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2010 2:30 PM
To: 'Nix, April (MNR)'
Cc: Filing; Earl Brubacher; 'Fisher, Petra (MEI)'
Subject: 46254- RE: Woolwich Bio-Inc REA Application

Hi April,

I would be happy to answer your questions.

1. A FiT Contract has not been issued yet, the OPA is projecting that the first large FiT contracts will be offered in March 2010. An application for FiT has been submitted, the Application number **FIT-F0MH1Z7** was included in the subject line of the assessment.

2. A project draft project description report has been developed and is attached for your reference.


3. In order to complete the Application for Renewable Energy Approval (REA), the proponent will require a letter from the MNR stating that there are no issues. It was not our intention to submit the report itself in support of the REA, however it is unclear what the MOE requirements will be since there is no technical guidance available.

4. Please give me a call to discuss this item, as I am wondering if you are looking for insight into the entire process, or the process with respect to the MNR.

Thanks!
Stacey

Stacey Woodruff B.A.Sc.
Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (CRA)
651 Colby Drive
Waterloo, ON N2V 1C2

Phone: 519.884.0510 ext 2237
Fax: 519.884.0525
Email: swoodruff@CRAworld.com
www.CRAworld.com

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CONESTOGA-ROVERS
& ASSOCIATES

651 Colby Drive, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2V 1C2
Telephone: 519-884-0510 Facsimile: 519-884-0525
www.CRAworld.com

November 30, 2009

Reference No. 046254

Director
Ontario Ministry of the Environment
Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch
2 St. Clair Avenue West
Floor 12A
Toronto, ON M4V 1L5

Dear Sir or Madam:

Re: Draft Project Description Report
Woolwich Bio-En Inc., Elmira, Ontario

Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (CRA) provides this letter, on behalf of Woolwich Bio-En Inc. (Bio-En), to meet the requirements of the Project Description Report as outlined in the Ontario Ministry of the Environment's (MOE's) Ontario Renewable Energy Approval Regulation (O.Reg. 359/09) in Table 1. A Site Location Map showing the project location and the land within 300 metres (m) is attached as Figure 1. A Site Location Plan showing the project on a larger scale is attached as Figure 1a.

Bio-En plans to develop and operate a biogas co-generation facility at 40 Martin's Lane (Plan 58R-14363, Lot 18, Part 9) in Elmira, Ontario (Facility). The property at 40 Martin's Lane will be leased from Marbro Capital Limited. The proposed Facility will be classified as a Class 3 Anaerobic Digestion Facility as defined in Section 3 of O.Reg. 359/09. The proposed Facility will generate 2.85 MW of electricity and 3.36 MW of heat from the biogas produced from a variety of organic materials that may include, but are not limited to:

- Organics from food processing facilities, grocery stores, food distribution companies, and milling facilities
- Livestock manure
- Glycerol
- Kitchen waste
- Fats, oil, and grease (FOG)
- Renewable energy crops (i.e., corn silage)
- Organic solids skimmed from dissolved air flotation (DAF) tanks

The proposed Facility will include two buildings, operations and processing. The operations building may receive organic materials, may provide storage for the organics and will house the reciprocating engines. The process building may receive organic materials and will contain



equipment to prepare and blend the organic material prior to being fed into the anaerobic digestion equipment.

In addition, the Facility will utilize three pre-treatment tanks and two digester tanks to generate biogas. The biogas will be combusted in reciprocating engines to produce renewable heat and power. The Facility will be equipped with a back-up flare to process biogas when required (engine maintenance).

This Facility has been designed to mitigate and minimize potential impacts to the environment. The following measures have been included in the design of the Facility:

- During the construction of this Facility, fencing will be placed around the construction site as there may be a potential for siltation or erosion of the site.
- In the event of engine malfunction or maintenance, or if excess biogas is produced, the Facility will be equipped with a back-up flare capable of combusting 100 percent of the biogas generated.
- There is the potential for emissions of combustion products to the environment from the cogeneration units and the back-up flare. These sources of air emissions have been designed to promote dispersion. The Facility will comply with applicable with MOE Point of Impingement criteria under O. Reg. 419.
- Potential emissions of odour generated from the incoming waste or from the operations of the digestion equipment will also be mitigated. The Facility will install a membrane over the digesters with a permeation of less than 200 cm³/m²/day/bar which exceeds the permeation limit of 500 cm³/m²/day/bar recommended in O. Reg. 359/09. In addition, all waste will be unloaded indoors and the air from the buildings will be treated with a biofilter that will reduce potential odour impacts. The Facility is designed to meet the MOE's Guideline of less than 1 odour unit (OU) at a sensitive receptor.
- The Facility will have potential emissions of noise to the environment. The main sources of noise will be the cogeneration units and the truck traffic. The cogeneration units will be equipped with silencers to mitigate the emissions of noise. The Facility has been designed to mitigate potential impacts resulting from noise emissions and will comply applicable with MOE noise criteria in Section 9 of the Environmental Protection Act.
- The tanks at the Facility are being designed to 150 percent of the required design criteria in order minimize the risk of leaks, spills, and contamination to the ground water and soil.
- The Facility is located on a parcel of land that is currently zoned for industrial land use, therefore, it is not expected that there will be impacts to any environmentally or culturally sensitive areas.



**CONESTOGA-ROVERS
& ASSOCIATES**

November 30, 2009

3

Reference No. 046254

- The Facility will be equipped with a control system including alarms and pressure relief valves to ensure the safe operation of the Facility and to minimize the risk of process disruption.
- The Facility will be fenced and locked to ensure that trespassers do not enter the site and tamper with equipment.
- The Facility will be unloading incoming organic material indoors to minimize the generation of litter at the Facility. In order to further reduce potential litter, all hauling trucks will remain tarped until the material is unloaded inside the building.

The Facility has been designed to mitigate potential environmental impacts and will comply applicable with MOE criteria.

Should you have any questions on the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours truly,

CONESTOGA-ROVERS & ASSOCIATES

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'John Ferguson', is written over a horizontal line.

John Ferguson, P. Eng.

SW/ca/4
Encl.



figure 1

SITE LOCATION MAP
PROJECT DESCRIPTION REPORT
WOOLWICH BIO-EN FACILITY
Elmira, Ontario





SOURCE: RAND MCNALLY ROAD ATLAS

figure 1A

SITE LOCATION PLAN
PROJECT DESCRIPTION REPORT
WOOLWICH BIO-EN FACILITY
Elmira, Ontario



February 3, 2010

Jessica Grealey
Natural Resource Solutions
225 Labrador Dr.
Waterloo On
N2k 4M8

Dear Ms. Grealey,

**Re: Woolwich Bio-En Facility
Natural Heritage Assessment – In Support of Renewable Energy Approval**

Thank you for your recent circulation of the above-noted proposed Natural Heritage Assessment in support of a Renewable Energy Approval application, subject to the requirements of the *Renewable Energy Approvals Regulation 359/09* (REA) under the *Environmental Protection Act*. Staff have reviewed the submitted assessment by applying MNR's *Approval and Permitting Requirements Document for Renewable Energy Projects*, and offer the following comments for your consideration.

It is understood that the above noted study is in support of a proposed Class 3 Anaerobic Digestion Facility, located within the Village of Elmira, Township of Woolwich within the Region of Waterloo. The project will encompass roughly 1.8 ha of land and is surrounded by agricultural lands and existing industrial development.

Overall the Ministry is in agreement with the Natural Heritage Assessment findings and conclusions. However a number of clarifications are required in order to ensure that the report has addressed the requirements of the REA regulation.

Project Summary

The general project summary provided at the beginning of the report also needs to identify that the project is on privately owned lands and is not on or in a provincial park or conservation reserve. It should also be indicated whether or not the subject lands fall within the Greenbelt, Oak Ridges Moraine or Niagara Escarpment Planning Areas.

Records Review

In the submitted records review, it is noted that background information was provided by MNR and the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA). However, no mention of any information or contact with the local and upper tier municipalities is noted. The Table under Section 25(3) of the regulation requires that both the local and upper tier municipalities need to be included within the records review process. In addition a list of all persons contacted for information must also be included as part of the records review.

Further, the records review should explicitly indicate any information identified, whether or not the project location falls within or adjacent for each of the following features, along with what information was used to make this determination: an Area of Natural Scientific and Interest (ANSI) - earth science, or within 50m; an ANSI -life science or within 120m; a wetland or within 120m; a valleyland or within 120m; wildlife habitat or within 120m; a woodland or within 120m.

The records review report should also identify the comment provided by MNR suggesting that a tree survey be conducted for Butternut (Endangered) for the hedgerow on the subject lands should there be any need to clear vegetation or hedgerows for the construction of the facility.

Site Investigation

The overall intent of the Site Investigation Report is to determine if the natural heritage records review was correct, or if any corrections / additions were required. If corrections were made, these need to be identified. If no corrections were required this should also be clearly stated.

When conducting the site investigation this should include not only the subject lands, but the adjacent lands within 120m of the site. This inclusion of adjacent lands within the investigation should also be noted within the report.

The report should identify any additional natural heritage features that were found on site; where no additional features were found this should be stated. Further, a statement should also be included identifying that the hedgerow on site was searched for species-at-risk and that none were present. The hedgerow should also be identified on the map.

Additional information regarding the site investigation methodology is also required, more specifically: the date and times for the beginning and end of the site investigation; the duration of investigation; the weather conditions; summary of investigation methods; the name(s) of qualified people conducting the investigation, and any field notes should be included as per Section 26(3) of the REA regulation.

Evaluation of Significance

The evaluation of significance report should clearly state that based on the records review and site investigation that there are no natural heritage features on site to be evaluated for significance as there are no wetlands, woodlands, valleylands, ANSIs or wildlife habitat on or within 120m of the site.

In addition it should be understood that as part of the REA process the requirement for a detailed Environmental Impact Study is determined by the Ministry, and not Conservation Authorities (CAs). The requirements of CAs may apply to renewable energy projects subject to the regulations and policies of the CA, outside of the REA process. As such it should be noted within the report that “given that the project will not be located within or adjacent to a nature feature as per Sec 38 of the REA regulation, and that no MNR permits or approvals are required a more detailed Environmental Impact Study is not required for the proposed undertaking”.

Once these changes have been completed, Ministry staff would be in a position to produce the required letter(s) to support a complete application as per Section 28 of the REA regulation, for the proposed energy application to the Ministry of Environment. If there are any questions or concerns regarding these comments, please contact me at (519) 826-4939 or by email at: april.nix@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

April Nix

Planning Intern
Ministry of Natural Resources, Guelph District
1 Stone Road West
Guelph, ON, N1G 4Y2
(519) 826-4939

From: Woodruff, Stacey
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2010 4:33 PM
To: 'Nix, April (MNR)'
Cc: Earl Brubacher; Filing
Subject: 46254- Contact information as requested

Hi April,

The MNR letter should be addressed to:

Chuck Martin
Woolwich Bio-en Inc
4 Arthur St. N.
Elmira On. N3B-3A2

My contact is Earl Brubacher, the Operations Manager, his contact information is provided below:

Phone 519-669-5171 Ext. 240
Fax 519-669-5982
Mobile 519-465-7341
email earlb@marbro.com

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

Stacey Woodruff

Stacey Woodruff B.A.Sc.
Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (CRA)
651 Colby Drive
Waterloo, ON N2V 1C2

Phone: 519.884.0510 ext 2237
Fax: 519.884.0525
Email: swoodruff@CRAworld.com
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