

June 26, 2015

Dear Sir/Madam:

RE: Agricultural Operations Survey – Stage 2 of the GTA West Transportation Corridor Planning and Environmental Assessment Study

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is undertaking Stage 2 of the Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the GTA West Transportation Corridor. Building on the recommendations from Stage 1, the EA Study will identify the route, determine interchange locations and complete the preliminary design for a new transportation corridor within the Route Planning Study Area. The new transportation corridor will include: a 400-series highway, transitway and potential goods movement priority features.

Public and stakeholder consultation continues to be a key study component of the study – with diverse and multiple opportunities to be involved in meaningful and substantive ways. Discussions with the public and other stakeholders are focusing on data collection; the generation of alternatives; the assessment, evaluation, and selection of the preferred alternative; and the development of mitigation measures to reduce or avoid potential environmental impacts.

With this in mind, and based on comments received from the agricultural community, the project team is undertaking additional consultation with agricultural land owners and agricultural land users. In an effort to determine the extent of the diverse agricultural land uses, farming practices, and linkages to other properties, an Agricultural Operations Survey has been created.

We invite all agricultural land owners and agricultural land users to review the enclosed Agricultural Operations Survey, provide a response to the specific questions, and return the Agricultural Operations Survey to the project team as indicated on the survey.

The Agricultural Operations Survey will also be located online at the following link:

<http://www.gta-west.com/consultation-interactive.html>

Information provided will be strictly used for this study and will not be shared. Personal information will not be disclosed. Survey data will be aggregated such that individuals or other entities cannot reasonably be identified by it.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,



Natalie Rouskov, P. Eng.
Project Manager

cc. Sarah Merriam, MTO
Chris Barber, MTO
Neil Ahmed, MMM Group
Sandy Nairn, MMM Group
Patrick Puccini, AECOM

AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS SURVEY, JUNE 2015

(please print)

This survey is being carried out as part of the GTA West Transportation Corridor Planning and Environmental Assessment Study to help inform the project team of the agricultural operations in the study area. Your detailed input will assist the project team in understanding the current use of your lands and connection with other properties. Information provided will be strictly used for this study and will not be shared. Personal information will not be disclosed. Survey data will be aggregated such that individuals or other entities cannot reasonably be identified by it.

Name:

Mailing Address:

City/Town:

Postal Code:

Lot/Concession:

Fire Code (911) #:

Phone #:

Email:

Property and Operation Specific Questions

1. What is the primary use and size of the property (type of agricultural operation: cash crop; livestock; etc)?

If livestock, please indicate the type of, numbers of, and cycle (if applicable).

If livestock, please indicate manure storage system (solid, liquid, indoor, outdoor, covered, uncover, etc) and when/how manure is applied.

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2. Are there additional lands used in this agricultural operation? Y or N

If so, where are the additional lands located, and how many ac/ha? (lot, concession)

What is the use of these additional lands? (crop for livestock, manure, cash crop, etc)

3. Are any of the lands tile drained? Y or N

If so, please indicate which lands (lot, concession) and type of system (systematic or random).

4. Which roads are used to access any additional lands? (machinery movement)

How frequently do you use these roads? (i.e. daily, seasonal, etc)

5. What buildings are associated with your operation? (please identify type, size, age)

6. Are there additional structures associated with this operation? (silo, grain bins, dryers, etc)

If so, please indicate the structure type.

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7. What crops are grown and what is the normal crop rotation?

8. Do you plan to increase, decrease or maintain the current size of your operation?

9. Is this farm certified for organic production (crops or livestock)? Y or N

10. Is this property used for commercial business operation that involves direct contact with the public/consumers? Y or N

11. If so, what type of business is conducted?

Please return your completed Agricultural Operations Survey by [July 31, 2015]:

Mr. Dave Hodgson
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