



Hauled Sewage Policy and Program Review

**Ontario Association of Sewage Industry Services
Annual Conference**

October 21, 2016

Purpose

- To provide information on the Ministry's ongoing hauled sewage policy and program review

Policy and Program Review - Overview

- MOECC committed to undertake a review of the hauled sewage program starting in 2016
- 3 key elements – occurring in parallel:
 1. Policy review
 2. Standards Review (i.e., consideration of land application rules and guidance for treatment)
 3. Modernization of approval process

1. Policy Review

- MOECC is committed to making informed, evidence based decisions:
 - Examining best available science and considering how other jurisdictions deal with hauled sewage
 - Engaging all key sectors and interests – recognizing it is a complex issue with a number of different perspectives
 - Undertaking informal series of multi-stakeholder engagement sessions throughout Ontario – initial discussions with key stakeholder organizations included:
 - OASIS
 - Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association
 - Rural Ontario Municipal Association
 - Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations
 - Considering establishment of a hauled sewage policy and program review stakeholder working group, which would provide advice throughout the review

Industry Input Needed

- We need a better understanding of how hauled sewage is managed across Ontario – consultant is being hired to conduct outreach with industry on behalf of MOECC.
They will be:
 - Contacting hauled sewage operators to ask about communities they serve, the type of hauled sewage and disposal options, etc.
- We encourage you to participate in this data gathering work to help ensure we have a clear picture of current “on the ground” activities

Policy Approaches – Under Consideration

- MOECC is considering a range of approaches, including:
 - province-wide approach to dealing with the land application of *untreated* hauled sewage
 - geographically based restrictions on *untreated* hauled sewage land application where there is demonstrated local capacity to treat hauled sewage (e.g., at local STPs or other facilities)

2. Standards Review

- Internal and external data gathering (best available science, monitoring data and jurisdictional practices)
- Development and consultation on rules related to land application and treatment

3. Program Modernization

- MOECC is committed to ensuring that hauled sewage site Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECAs) are issued in an open and transparent manner
- Planning to provide opportunity for Ontario residents to participate in environmental decisions by posting Director's approval proposals and final approval decisions on the Environmental Registry and improve overall transparency of the hauled sewage program
 - EBR Registry is a web site that contains public notices and provides information about environmental proposals and decisions
- Modernizing the program for approval of hauled sewage disposal sites (e.g., issuing site approvals through a new online system)

Next Steps

- Plan to make information available on hauled sewage sites that have already been approved
 - Beginning in late 2016, MOECC will post a list of District approved hauled sewage sites. In the meantime, existing ECAs are available upon request through local District offices
 - At a later date, all District approved hauled sewage site ECA applications (including renewals) will be made available on line
- Beginning in early 2017, MOECC will post proposal and decision notices for hauled sewage site ECA applications under review
 - Strongly recommend applications be submitted to District office at least 3 months before approval required
 - Letter to be sent to haulers who have District approved sites in late 2016 alerting them to this program change