



**Public Utilities Commission  
for the Municipality of Chatham-Kent**

**Class Environmental Assessment for the  
Proposed Installation of Sanitary Sewers and  
Wastewater Treatment for the Community of Bothwell**

**NOTICE OF PROJECT INITIATION**

**The Process**

Carrying forward with the Chatham-Kent Water and Wastewater Master Plan recommendations, the Chatham-Kent Public Utilities Commission (PUC), through their consultants, Earth Tech Canada Inc., has initiated a Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for the proposed installation of sanitary sewers and provision of wastewater treatment to serve the Community of Bothwell.

**Background**

The existing Community of Bothwell does not have communal sewerage works (collection and treatment). Sewage disposal continues to be provided by individual on-site septic systems.

Over the past few decades, problems with aging and failing septic systems have been identified throughout the community of Bothwell. Previously completed studies had concluded that Bothwell residents utilizing raw groundwater resources (private wells) may be at risk due to high nitrates and possible contamination from water-borne bacteria if frequent testing and/or proper utilization of water treatment devices were not employed. In addition, samples taken from catchbasins and ditches indicated the presence of sewage in storm drains. In response to this, in 1995, a municipal water supply system was extended to the Community of Bothwell with the intent that wastewater collection and treatment would be implemented in the future.

While safe drinking water is now provided, recent studies have concluded that many Bothwell septic systems continue to adversely affect groundwater supplies and have detrimental effects on the water environment, including the Thames River. The need to correct this problem is further strengthened by the recent Chatham-Kent Official Plan that places importance on the protection and enhancement of groundwater resources.

The objective of this project is to implement a sanitary sewage collection system with associated sanitary sewage flows being directed to a wastewater treatment facility that will best address the needs and protection of the community of Bothwell and the environment.

**The Process**

The Class EA Study is being conducted in accordance with the approved requirements of a Schedule "C" project as defined in the Municipal Engineers Association Class EA document as amended in 2000. The Class EA process includes public and review agency consultation, an evaluation of alternatives, an assessment of the impacts of the proposed improvements, and identification of measures to mitigate any adverse impacts.

Public consultation is a key component of the Class EA Study. Opportunities for public input will be provided throughout the Study and will include public information centres (PICs), meetings, newsletters and direct mailing to review agencies, affected landowners and members of the public indicating interest. Comments received through the course of the Study will be considered in identifying the recommended wastewater servicing strategy. The first PIC is scheduled for later this spring and will present background information on the study, an evaluation of alternative solutions and the next steps in the study to the public for their review



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and comment. Notification of the PIC will occur at the appropriate time via a similar newspaper advertisement.

Upon completion, an Environmental Study Report (ESR) will be prepared to document the planning process followed, including conclusions and recommendations, in addition to how public input was received and considered. The report will be available at various locations for public review and comment.

**Comments**

We are interested in hearing any comments or concerns that you may have about this study. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

Please contact either of the following if you wish to be added to the mailing list, have any questions/comments or wish to obtain more information on the project:

Mr. Rob Bernardi, P.Eng.  
Facilities and Systems Manager  
Chatham-Kent Public Utilities Commission  
Water & Wastewater Services  
320 Queen Street, P.O. Box 70  
Chatham, Ontario  
N7M 5K2  
Phone: (519) 352-6300 ext. 310  
Fax: (519) 352-3432  
Email: [robbe@ckpuc.on.ca](mailto:robbe@ckpuc.on.ca)

Mr. Michael Mastronardi, P.Eng.  
Senior Project Manager  
Earth Tech Canada Inc.  
4510 Rhodes Drive, Suite 520  
Windsor, Ontario  
N8W 5W5

Phone: (519) 944-0766  
Fax: (519) 944-0268  
Email: [mike.mastronardi@earthtech.ca](mailto:mike.mastronardi@earthtech.ca)

website: [www.chatham-kent.ca](http://www.chatham-kent.ca)