



REPORT

**Environmental Compliance Approval Amendment Application
for the Ridge Landfill Expansion - Waste**

*Waste Connections of Canada
Ridge Landfill
ECA No. A021601*

Submitted to:

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks

Client Services and Permissions Branch
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Attention: Director

Submitted by:

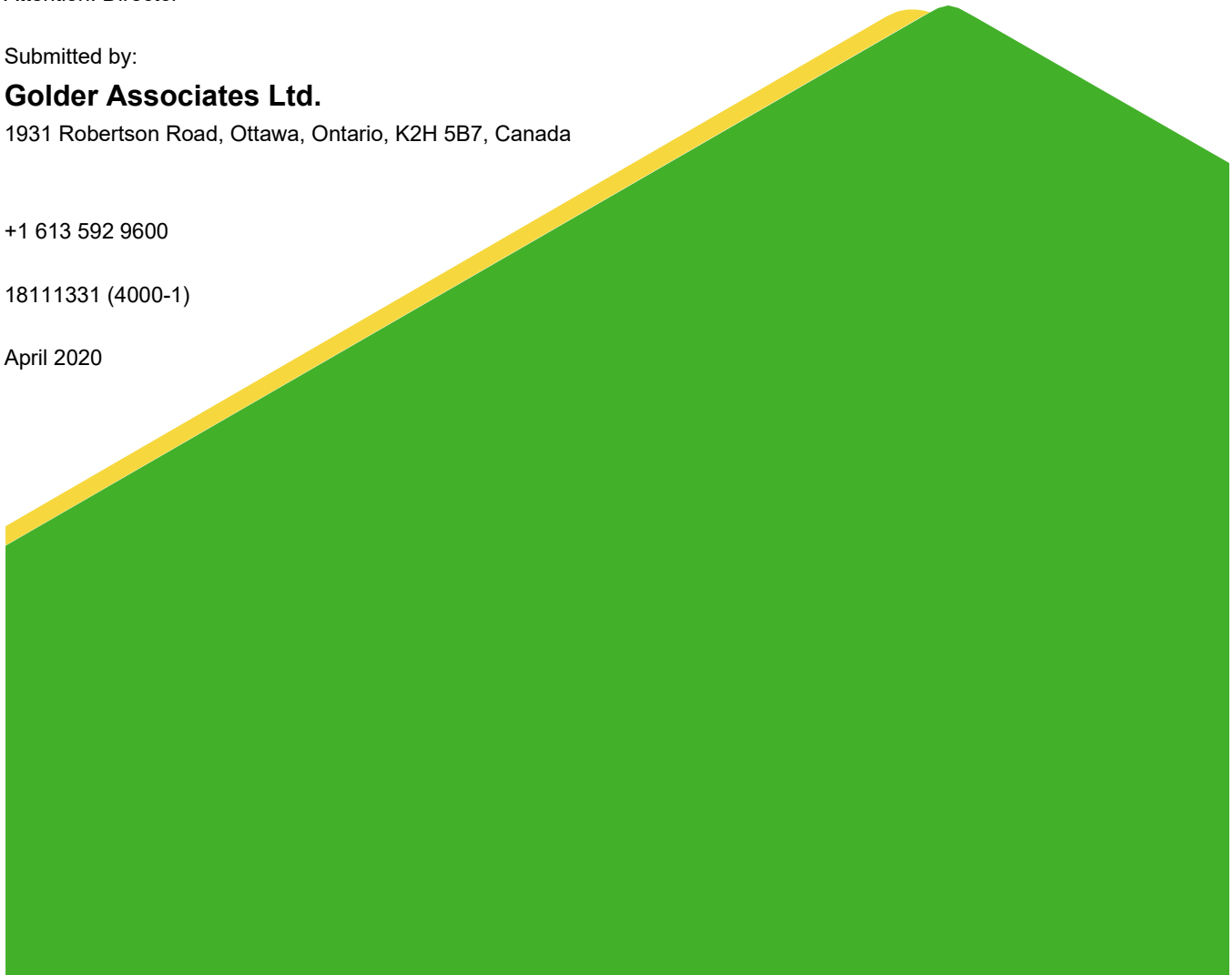
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18111331 (4000-1)

April 2020



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Table of Contents

1.0 INTRODUCTION 1

2.0 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION..... 2

3.0 ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INFORMATION 2

 3.1 EA Notice of Approval 2

 3.2 Zoning 3

4.0 CLOSURE 3

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

EPA s. 27 Environmental Compliance Approval Application Form

APPENDIX B

Proof of Legal Name

APPENDIX C

Site Plan

APPENDIX D

Financial Assurance Evaluation

APPENDIX E

Supporting EA Documentation

APPENDIX F

Design and Operations Report

APPENDIX G

Current Zoning Map

APPENDIX H

Consultation Record

APPENDIX I

Cell 01 Detailed Design

APPENDIX J

Legal Survey

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Golder Associates Ltd. (Golder), on behalf of Waste Connections of Canada (the proponent; operating proponent of Ridge (Chatham) Holdings) is providing the following amendment application and supporting documentation under Section 27 of the *Environmental Protection Act* (EPA) for the proposed Ridge Landfill Expansion.

The Ridge Landfill is an existing waste management facility located at 20262 Erieau Road near Blenheim, Ontario in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. Ridge Landfill is currently approved under Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) No. A021601 to receive IC&I waste and residential waste from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent and the surrounding counties of Essex, Lambton, Middlesex, and Elgin. The existing Ridge Landfill is projected to reach capacity by March 2021. With the proposed expansion of the landfill, Waste Connections of Canada (Waste Connections) is seeking to continue serving the IC&I sectors in southern and central Ontario and the residential waste needs of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

An Individual Environmental Assessment (EA) is being reviewed by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for approval under the *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA) concurrently with the submission of this Environmental Compliance Application (ECA). Waste Connections is requesting priority review of the ECA application as the Ridge Landfill is projected to reach the approved capacity in 2021 and there is limited time available for the prescribed sequence of approvals and events (EA approval; ECA amendment application preparation, submission, MECP review and ECA issuance; detailed design for MECP review and approval; and construction of works associated with the initial phase of the expanded landfill). Issuance of the ECA approval is anticipated for mid-September 2020.

A Pre-Application Meeting for the submission of the ECA amendment application was held between representatives of MECP, Waste Connections, and Golder on February 24, 2020. A summary of this meeting is provided in Appendix H. In discussions with the MECP, it was agreed that three separate applications would be submitted for the three MECP approvals described below, rather than submitting a multi-media application. The three MECP ECA amendments being sought for the Ridge Landfill Expansion are:

- 1) *Environmental Protection Act, Section 27 (EPA, s.27)*: Application for an amendment to ECA No. A021601 for the design and operation of the proposed Ridge Landfill Expansion.
- 2) *Ontario Water Resources Act, Section 53 (OWRA, s.53)*: Application for an amendment to ECA No. 3082-96EQPA for the stormwater management improvements for the proposed expansion of the landfill.
- 3) *Environmental Protection Act, Section 9 (EPA s.9)*: Application for an amendment to ECA No. 7958-7BMQGT for air (stationary) and noise related to the proposed Ridge Landfill Expansion.

This ECA application is for activities at the Ridge Landfill that require approval under EPA s.27. The ECA application form is provided in Appendix A. Supporting documentation for the ECA application is provided in the appendices to this document, as described below.

As discussed during the Pre-Application Meeting, a copy of the EA Appendix D7, Hydrogeological Impact Assessment contains all information required related to the Hydrogeological Assessment and proof of concurrence from the Ministry's Regional technical support section. This document has not been included with this application.

It was discussed during the Pre-Application Meeting on February 24, 2020 that Waste Connections would provide a Notification Letter to neighbouring property owners, First Nation communities, the Liaison and Trust Committee, the municipality and other interested stakeholders to advise of the current review process and that an ECA

application will be submitted in advance of EA approval. A letter was prepared and will be sent to 14 municipal staff at the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, 20 elected officials, the 8 members of the Ridge Landfill Liaison Committee, the 5 members of the Ridge Landfill Community Trust, 19 immediate neighbours, 33 property owners within the 1-kilometre study area, 46 property owners located along the designated haul route and 36 others that attended any of the (5) Open Houses that were held during the course of completing the Terms of Reference (ToR) and the Environmental Expansion. A separate letter was sent on behalf of Waste Connections to 15 individuals in First Nations Communities and/or Organizations. A copy of the two generic letters are provided in Appendix H.

2.0 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

The following documentation is provided in support of the ECA amendment application under EPA Section 27. The ECA Application Form is provided in Appendix A to this report.

- **Proof of Legal Name:** proof of the legal name of the proponent, Ridge (Chatham) Holdings, is provided in Appendix B.
- **Site Plan:** a plan showing the proposed Site is provided in Appendix C. The Site Plan includes the proposed layout of the landfill, stormwater management system and related site buildings and features.
- **Financial Assurance Evaluation:** a financial assurance evaluation was prepared for the Ridge Landfill Expansion based on the guidelines for determining financial assurance described in the MECP document titled Landfill Standards, A Guideline on the Regulatory and Approval Requirements for New or Expanding Landfill Sites (revised January 2012) as well as MECP Guideline F-15, titled Financial Assurance Guideline F-15 (revised June 2011 and addendum issued March 2017). The financial assurance assessment is provided in Appendix D.
- **Supporting EA Documentation:** the Notice of Submission of the Environmental Assessment is provided in Appendix E.
- **Design and Operations Report:** an updated design and operations report has been provided in Appendix F.
- **Current Zoning Map:** a figure showing the current zoning for the landfill and area is provided in Appendix G.
- **Consultation Record:** a summary of the Pre-Application Meeting with the MECP on February 24, 2020 is provided in Appendix H as well as the generic Notification Letters to stakeholders.
- **Cell 01 Detailed Design:** detailed design drawings, technical specifications, and construction quality assurance plan for the first cell of the landfill expansion are provided in Appendix I.
- **Legal Survey:** a legal survey for the Site and an accompanying certification letter from an Ontario Land Surveyor (OLS) are provided in Appendix J.

3.0 ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

3.1 EA Notice of Approval

As discussed during the Pre-Application Meeting held on February 24, 2020, the EA for the project has been submitted but not yet approved. Due to the currently anticipated timing of the Ridge Landfill reaching capacity in early 2021, the EA and EPA submissions require review concurrently such that landfilling services can be continued without disruption.

3.2 Zoning

Zoning for the existing Ridge Landfill is currently in place; a Zoning By-law Amendment (ZBA) application to the Municipality is being sought to amend the Comprehensive Zoning By-law to recognize the landfill expansion areas and to update the current uses on the property. It is anticipated that the zoning will be in place for the entire lands prior to ECA approval. The existing zoning by-law document requires amendments similar to the Official Plan in that many land parcels with differing designations have been added over the years. The revision requires the refinement of the current ranges of general and specific permitted land uses that apply to the multiple land parcels, and rezones the consolidated parcel into the designated "Landfill" (LF) zone with three (3) site specific sub-areas:

- main area that is currently and proposed to be landfill areas
- ancillary area to the north that will continue to support landfilling activities
- ancillary area to the southeast that will continue to support landfilling activities

Section 4.3 of the ECA application form asks if the current zoning permits the proposed activity. A yes or no answer is required, and comments cannot be submitted. The Zoning By-law Amendment application is currently under review and it is anticipated that a recommendation will be presented to municipal council in Spring 2020. As it is anticipated that zoning will be in place prior to ECA approval the "yes" box was checked off.

It was discussed during the Pre-Application Meeting on February 24, 2020 (summary provided in Appendix H) that the applications for ECA approval could be submitted without final zoning in place, noting that the zoning will be required to be in place prior to issuing the ECA.

4.0 CLOSURE

We trust this submission meets your current requirements. Please contact the undersigned with any questions, or if any additional information is needed.

Your truly,

Golder Associates Ltd.



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ETB/PLE/sg

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