

Acronyms, Abbreviations, and Definitions

Act (the), refers to the Environmental Assessment Act. Also known as EAA, or the EA Act.

Alternatives to, The Environmental Assessment Act (the “Act”) requires that Undertakings being reviewed within the framework of the Act consider “alternatives to” the Undertaking, or functionally different ways of addressing the problem statement (in this case, managing waste). This is also known as an “Alternative to the Undertaking”.

Alternative Daily Cover, cover material other than earthen material placed on the surface of the active face of a landfill at the end of each operating day to control odours, blowing litter, scavenging, etc. (California Department of Resources, 2016)

Alternative Methods, various ways of carrying out the preferred Undertaking that are technically feasible and economically viable.ⁱ

ANSI, Area of Natural and Scientific Interest.

Baseline, term refers to environment conditions that exist before the proposed Undertaking begins, against which subsequent changes can be referenced or measured i.e., landfilling is actively occurring at the site.

Baseline Studies, refers to “a range of pre-EA studies carried out to:

- Identify environmental features that may influence alternative selection, site layout, etc.
- Identify areas or receptors that may require mitigation or compensation
- Provide data to enable prediction models if required
- Provide a baseline from which the results of future monitoring programs can be compared.ⁱⁱ

Berm, refers to an elevated earthen ridge in a landfill site, typically used for screening or blocking views of the site or noise originating at the site.

Buffer Area, refers to the areas of a landfill site that are not used for landfilling of waste.

BWTL, Blenheim Wastewater Treatment Lagoons. The connection to the BWTL is via forcemain / sanitary sewer (both terms used interchangeably).

Consultation, two-way communication with persons interested in the Ridge landfill and the EA.

COTTFN, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation.

Commitment, represents a course of action agreed to by Waste Connections to be implemented.

ⁱ Ministry of the Environment, January 2014b, Section 4.2.2

ⁱⁱ Based on definition from United Nations University GTP

Cumulative Effects, is the concentration of a contaminant in air which results from the discharges from multiple emitters in a given geographic or local area. It applies to emitters of contaminants governed by section 9 of the Environmental Protection Act.ⁱⁱⁱ

Designated Haul Route, refers to Communication Road, Drury Line, and Erieau Road which are identified and used as the designated route for trucks entering and exiting the Ridge landfill from Highway 401.

Do–Nothing, an alternative that is typically included in the evaluation of alternative method that identifies the implications of doing nothing to address the problem or opportunity.

EA, Environmental Assessment, means an environmental assessment process described in Part II of the EAA and/or report submitted pursuant to subsection 5(1) of the EAA.^{iv}

ECA, Environmental Compliance Approval is a license or permit issued by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for the operation of a waste management facility or site.

ECCC, Environment and Climate Change Canada.

Effluent, refers to a liquid waste discharged from the site to the forcemain for treatment at the Blenheim Wastewater Treatment Lagoons.

ELC, Ecological Land Classification.

Environment, defined in the EA Act includes: natural environment (air, land, water, plant and animal life including humans), built environment (building, structure, machine), social, economic, cultural conditions and the interrelationships between them.

ESA, Provincial – Endangered Species Act.

Evaluation, refers to the determination of the value, nature, character, or quality of something.^v

Flaring, refers to the high temperature destruction (burning) of landfill gas generated by waste in the landfill and collected through a network of wells and pipes.

Fugitive Landfill Gas Emissions, refers to landfill gas that is not collected as part of an engineered landfill gas collection system that enters the atmosphere.

GHG, refers to greenhouse gas.

Haul Route, this area refers to the right-of-way of the designated truck haul route to the landfill. Traffic to the landfill travel from Highway 401 via interchange 90, heading southeast along Communication Road (County Road 11), to Drury Line then along Erieau Road to the main site entrance of the landfill at 20262 Erieau Road.

IC&I, Industrial, Commercial and Institutional.

ⁱⁱⁱ MECP, Environmental Protection Act, Section 9, 1990

^{iv} MECP, Environmental Assessment Act, 1990

^v Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Impact Management Measures, measures which can lessen potential negative environmental effects, or enhance positive effects including mitigation, compensation or community enhancement.

Indigenous Communities and Organizations, The First Nations and Métis communities identified by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks that have potential to be interested in, or impacted by the Undertaking. These groups include the Caldwell First Nation, WIFN, Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation, Chiefs of Ontario, COTTFN, Moravian of the Thames First Nation, Munsee-Delaware Nation, Oneida of the Thames First Nation, Métis Nation of Ontario and the Aamjiwnaang First Nation.

Infill Area, refers to the approved waste cell located in the southwest corner of the Old Landfill. The Infill Area has not been developed yet.

Landfill, refers to an approved, engineered site used for the long-term disposal of waste.

Landfill Mining, refers to the process of excavating previously landfilled waste to recover valuable recyclable materials and/or space. This is a complicated process and its economic feasibility is based on the expected content of the landfill. It creates a high risk of contaminants escaping to the environment.

Landfill Site Area, this term encompasses the 262 ha area identified by the MECP which includes the fill areas and associated environmental works, and facilities required for the ancillary waste management activities.

Leachate, refers to the liquid produced when water contacts the waste material.

Leachate Collection System (LCS), refers to the on-site system of pipes and drainage aggregate beneath or around a landfill mound that is designed to capture and move leachate to the forcemain and ultimately to the Blenheim Wastewater Treatment Lagoons.

LFG, Landfill Gas.

LTVCA, Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority.

MECP, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; formerly Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), Ministry of the Environment (MOE), and Ministry of the Environment and Energy (MOEE).

Mitigation, measures applied which can lessen potential negative environmental effects.

MRF, Materials Recovery Facility.

MNRF, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

MTO, Ministry of Transportation of Ontario.

Net Effects, environmental effects, positive or negative, that will remain after mitigation and impact management measures have been applied.

O.Reg., refers to a provincial Ontario Regulation.

Off-site Study Area, this generally refers to the area outside of the Ridge Landfill site boundary (also referred to as “off-site”).

On-site Study Area, this refers to the Study Area within the Ridge Landfill site boundary (also referred to as “on-site”).

Organics, refers to the biodegradable component of waste received at a landfill. Also referred to as green bin waste, originating from plants and animals, it includes: food, garden, yard, animal and plant based materials.

Old Landfill, this refers to the three (3) waste cells located at the northeast corner of the Landfill Site, adjacent to the entrance driveway. The Old Landfill was closed in 1999.

OMMAH, Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

OP, Official Plan.

PCP, Pollution Control Plant.

PM₁₀, refers to airborne particulate matter that is 10 micrograms per cubic metre or less in diameter.

Potable water, also referred to as drinking water.

PPS, Provincial Policy Statement.

PUC, Public Utilities Commission.

PWQO, Provincial Water Quality Objectives.

Recovered Resources, this refers to recyclable materials that can be re-used.

Renewable Natural Gas, or RNG, is a low-carbon fuel that does not add new carbon to the atmosphere. It is a conventional natural gas replacement. Methane that is released from landfill waste can be recovered, cleaned and directly substituted for conventional natural gas.^{vi}

RNG, Renewable Natural Gas.

Resource Recovery, refers to materials or energy that can be taken from waste and used.

Ridge Landfill, property that encompasses existing Landfill Site Area and proposed expansion. The site is owned by Ridge Limited Partnership. Ridge (Chatham) Holdings L.P., is the general partner and Waste Connections of Canada Ltd. is the limited partner.

SAR, Species at Risk; SARA refers to the federal Species at Risk Act; SARO refers to Species at Risk Ontario.

SCC, Species of Conservation Concern.

SWH, Significant Wildlife Habitat.

Receptors, refers to hospitals, schools, daycare facilities, elderly housing and convalescent facilities. These are areas where the occupants are more susceptible to the adverse environmental effects.

^{vi} Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, May 2016

South Landfill, refers to the waste cells located south of the Old Landfill. Development of the South Landfill began in August 2016.

Stakeholders, refers to ‘interested persons’ as defined in the “Code of Practice: Preparing and Reviewing Terms of Reference for Environmental Assessments in Ontario” (Ministry of the Environment, 2014b) (January 2014).

Standard Cubic Feet per Minute (scfm), refers to the molar flow rate of a gas corrected to "standardized" conditions of temperature and pressure thus representing a fixed number of moles of gas regardless of composition and actual flow conditions.

ToR, Ridge Landfill Expansion Environmental Assessment Approved Amended Terms of Reference (May 2018).

Transfer Station (TS), refers to a facility where garbage (waste) is transferred from garbage collection trucks and consolidated into larger waste hauling trucks for transportation to waste processing, diversion, or disposal site.

TSP, Total Suspended Particulates refers to all airborne particulate matter of various sized particulates such as PM10 and PM2.5 (PM = particulate matter, measured in micrograms per cubic metre or less in diameter).

Undertaking, the proposed expansion of the Ridge Landfill (also described herein as the “Project”).

Waste Connections of Canada Inc., or “Waste Connections”, is the proponent for this Undertaking. Waste Connections was formerly Progressive Waste Solutions Canada Inc. Progressive Waste Solutions and Waste Connections merged in an all-stock transaction as of June 1, 2016.

Waste Fill Area, this term encompasses the 131 ha area that is presently approved for the disposal of waste. The Waste Fill Area includes the Old Landfill, South Landfill, West Landfill and Infill Area.

Wastewater, refers to water containing dissolved or suspended solids, discharged from various land uses such as commercial, agricultural, industrial, and residential establishments.

West Landfill, refers to the waste cells located west of the Old Landfill.

WIFN, Walpole Island First Nation.

WPCP, Water Pollution Control Plant.

Units	
ha	hectare
km	kilometre
L	litre
m	metre
m ³	cubic metres
masl	metres above sea level