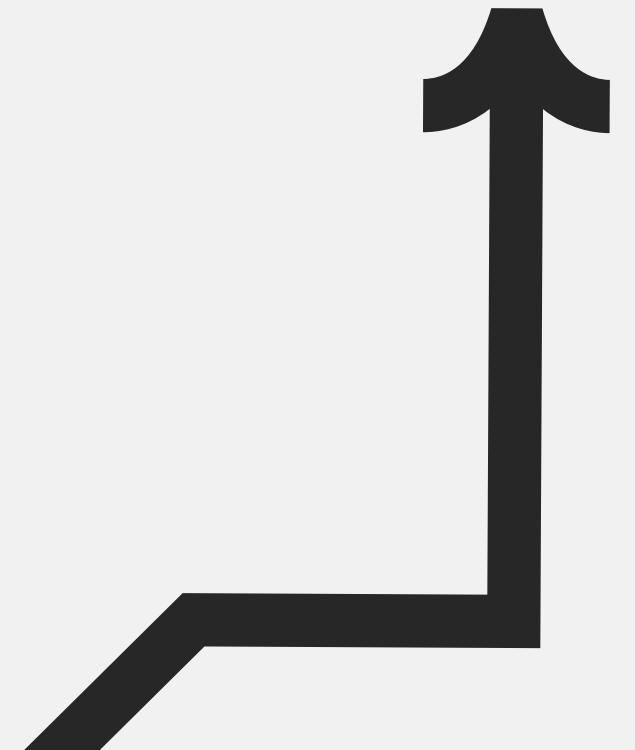


Community Information Session

PRESENTED BY

Dresden Together



Disclaimer

Purpose of this Presentation:

- To inform the community, provide clarity about the ongoing updates and assist the community with our next step.

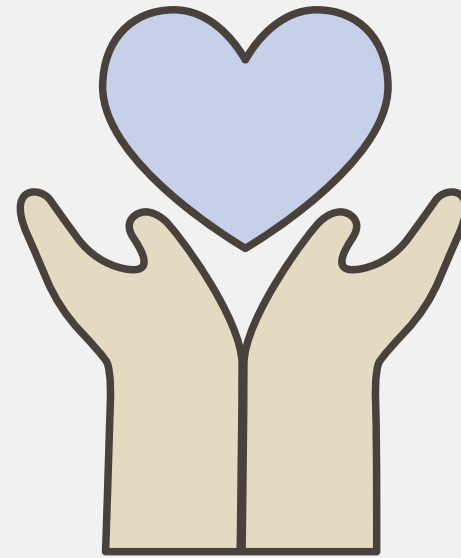
What This Presentation Is Not:

- It is not a platform for spreading misinformation, promoting hate speech, or encouraging distrust within our community or toward any individual or organization.

Intro to Dresden Together



Community Watchdog



Official Non Profit



Factual Source of Information

**York1's new ERO,
their second crack at the bat**

Explaining the New ERO

- Posted by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation & Parks
- Posted April 17, 2025
- Comment Period Closes May 17, 2025
- Purpose of Proposal:
 - To remove the requirement for the environmental assessment for the YORK1 site project through the proposed Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act 2025

Removing Environmental Assessment Requirements for the York1 Waste Disposal Site Project

ERO number	025-0389
Notice type	Act
Act	Environmental Assessment Act, R.S.O. 1990
Posted by	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Notice stage	Proposal
Proposal posted	April 17, 2025
Comment period	April 17, 2025 - May 17, 2025 (30 days) Open
Last updated	April 17, 2025

This consultation closes at
11:59 p.m. on:

May 17, 2025

[Submit a comment](#)

 [Follow this notice](#)

Proposal summary

We are proposing to remove environmental assessment requirements for the York1 waste disposal site project through the proposed *Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025*.

Summary of ERO 025-0389

If Passed:

- Environmental Assessment Requirements would no longer be required
- Revoke Ontario Regulation 284/24

Proposed Legislation

To help provide additional waste capacity in Ontario due to the threat of US tariffs impacting Ontario's waste sector, the province is proposing to remove environmental assessment (EA) requirements for the York1 waste project through the proposed *Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025*.

This would include revoking Ontario Regulation 284/24 designating Chatham-Kent Waste Disposal Site and removing environmental assessment (EA) requirements for York1 Environmental Waste Solutions Ltd.'s proposal to resume landfill operations and expand waste handling, processing, and transfer operations at the former Dresden Tile Yard, in Chatham-Kent (the Project).

The proposed legislation, if passed, would:

- Revoke Ontario Regulation 284/24: Designation - Chatham-Kent Waste Disposal Site, which designates the Project as a Part II.3 project requiring a comprehensive environmental assessment; and
- Amend the *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA) to exempt the Project from other EA requirements.

The project will remain subject to strong provincial oversight and other regulatory requirements including Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECA) under the *Environmental Protection Act* (EPA) and *Ontario Water Resources Act* (OWRA).

Summary of ERO 025-0389

Included Summary of the Project Includes:

- Construction of new processing and sorting building capable of indoor storage
- Installation of stationary equipment for processing construction & demolition waste into ALCF in the new processing/ sorting building
- Placement of mobile diesel powered shredding/ grinding equipment for wood/construction & demolition waste outdoors
- And much more!

Proposed project

York1 Environmental Waste Solutions Ltd. is proposing to build an 8-hectare engineered landfill cell and re-establish landfill operations at an existing landfill site, including construction of any other works or facilities such as onsite roads, and fencing to receive waste and restart waste management activities and landfilling at the site, located at 29831 Irish School Road, in the former Township of Camden, Municipality of Chatham-Kent, Ontario.

The existing landfill site has a theoretical approved capacity of 1,620,000 cubic metres to landfill non-hazardous solid waste including construction and demolition waste and excess soil that are not reusable.

As part of the project, York1 Environmental Waste Solutions Ltd. is also proposing to re-establish and expand waste processing and transfer operations at the site, including expanding the existing 0.8-hectare waste processing site to 25 hectares.

Other activities are also anticipated, including:

- the construction of a new processing and sorting building capable of indoor storage
- the addition of waste classes for accepted and processed waste
- installation of stationary equipment for processing construction and demolition waste into alternative low-carbon fuels (ALCF) in the new processing/sorting building
- placement of mobile diesel-powered shredding/grinding equipment for wood/construction & demolition waste outdoors
- installation of a soil treatment/soil washing system for processing solid and liquid soil to recover sand and aggregate material
- construction of stormwater management infrastructure

Summary of ERO 025-0389

If Passed:

- Existing ECAs will allow the facility to operate
- Modifications to the waste disposal site will be subject to ECA requirements for air, noise, emissions, waste management activities & sewage works

Permitting requirements for the project

There are existing ECAs under the EPA for the site, which allow for an 8-hectare landfilling area and for a 0.8-hectare waste processing site within the 35-hectare property.

Modifications to the waste disposal site will be subject to ECA requirements for air, noise emissions, waste management activities and sewage works under the EPA and OWRA for the landfill site, as well as the processing and transfer facility.

Timelines

If the legislation is passed, it would come into effect on Royal Assent.

Dresden's Current ECA

Existing Environmental Compliance Approval for Waste Storage, Transfer and Processing - ECA A020401

Given under the Environmental Protection Act, 1990 on October 9, 1998.

- Site usage limited to storage, transfer, and processing of non-hazardous solid waste from industrial, commercial, institutional, and municipal sectors.
- Operations confined to 0.8 ha (2 acres) of the site, accepting a maximum of 75 tonnes per day, with a storage limit of 75 tonnes on-site.
- Hours of operation: 7:00am - 9:00pm, Monday to Saturday

Ministry of the Environment
Ontario

Provisional Certificate No. A 020401

**PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL
WASTE DISPOSAL SITE**

Under The Environmental Protection Act, 1990 and the regulations and subject to the conditions thereof, this Provisional Certificate of Approval is issued to:

Dresden Tile Yard Limited
P.O. #2
Dresden, Ontario
N0P 1M0

for the use and operation of an 8 hectare landfilling site within a total site area of 25 hectares,

all in accordance with the following plans and specifications:

Located: Southwest 1/4 of lot 8, West 1/2 of lot 7
Concession 5
Township of Caledon
County of York

which includes the use of the site only for the disposal of the following categories of waste (NOTE: Use of the site for additional categories of waste requires a new application and amendments to the Provisional Certificate of Approval: 19 (General) and 19A (Other) limited to landfills only).

and subject to the following conditions:

1. No operations shall be carried out at the site after sixty days from this issuance, ensuring adequate values this Certificate including the process for this condition has been registered by the applicant as an instrument in the appropriate Land Registry Office against title to the site and a duplicate registered copy thereof has been retained by the applicant in the premises.

Dated this 20th day of November 1998

For the Minister of the Environment

Dresden's Current ECA


Given under the Environmental Protection Act, 1971

Authorization granted for the operation of an 8-hectare landfilling site within a total site area of 35 hectares.

Permitted for disposal:

- 5% commercial waste
- 95% "Other" waste, limited to incinerator ash.

NOTICE
PAGE 1 OF 9


Ontario

Ministry
of the
Environment

Ministère
de
l'Environnement

Waste Wood Disposal Limited
P.O. Box 553
432 Hughes Street
Dresden, Ontario
N0P 1N0

You are hereby notified that Provisional Certificate of Approval for a Waste Disposal Site (Processing) No. A 020401 dated August 17, 1992, including all revisions and amendments, is amended by a Notice.

all in accordance with the following plans and specifications:

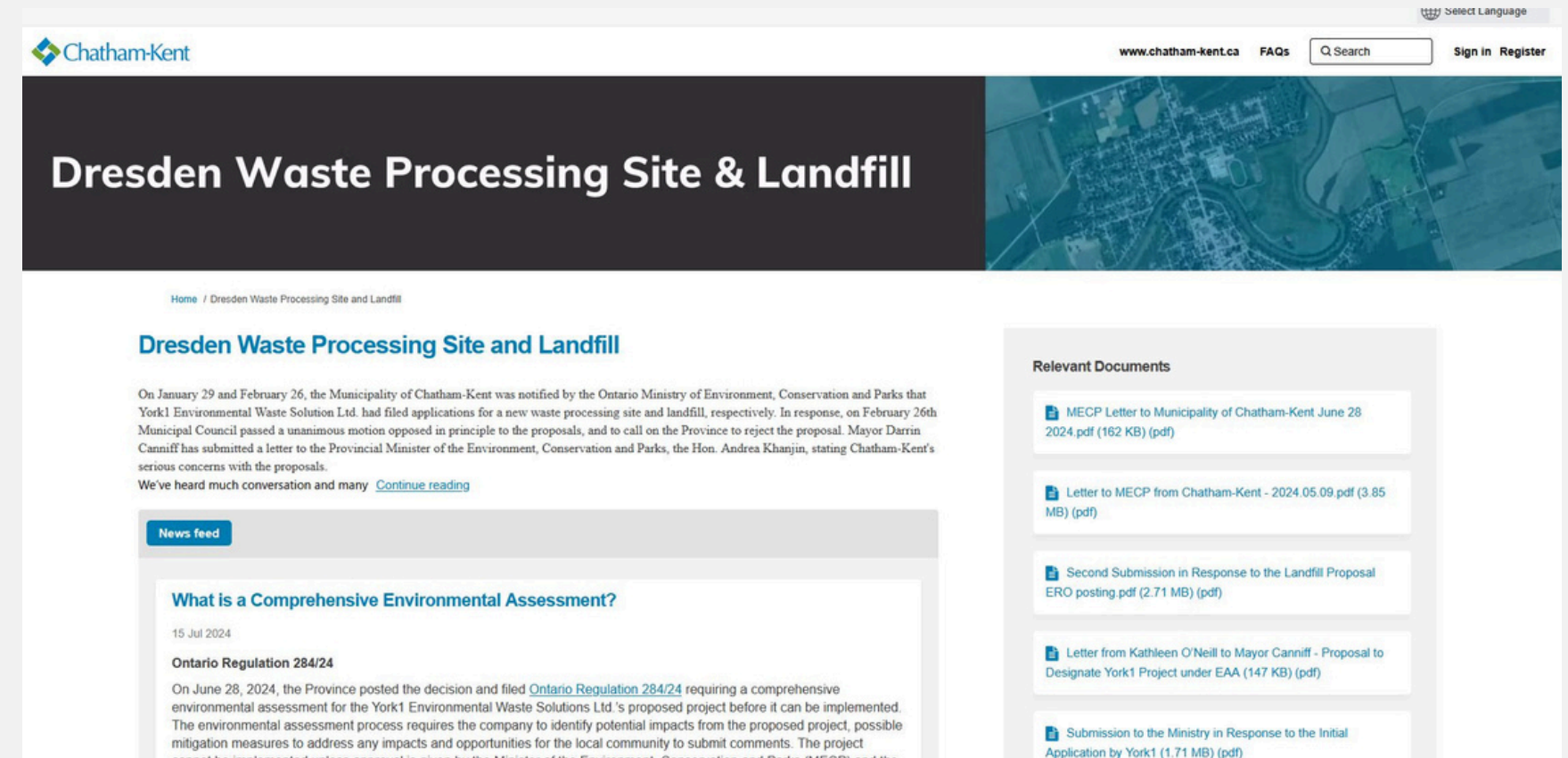
The application for a Waste Disposal Site (Processing) dated March 16, 1998 and supporting information as listed in Schedule "A" which is attached to this Provisional Certificate of Approval and forms a part of this Certificate.

Located: Lot 7, Concession 5
(formerly Township of Camden)
Municipality of Chatham-Kent

which includes the use of the site only for the storage, transfer and processing of the following categories of waste (Note: A change of the use of the Site or the addition of new categories of wastes requires a new application and amendments to the Provisional Certificate of Approval) non-hazardous Solid Waste from the Industrial, Commercial, Institutional and Municipal Sectors.

Municipality Stance

- All details can be found on the “Let’s Talk CK” Dresden Waste Processing Site and Landfill
- New Website URL - **DEFENDDRESDEN.CA**
- The Municipality has not shown anything but full opposition to the proposed project
- In all conversations, personal and professional all municipal staff have been very clear on their position.



Experts Retained by the Municipality:

MUNICIPALITY:

- Michael Duben- *CAO*
- Bruce McAllister- *GM, Development Services*
- Ryan Jacques- *Director, Planning Services*
- David Taylor- *Director, Legal Services*

EXPERTS

- Peter Pickfield- *Garrod Pickfield Environmental, Municipal and Planning Law*
- Colin Leger- *Garrod Pickfield Environmental, Municipal and Planning Law*
- David MacGillivray - *P.Eng., P.Geo, Grounded Engineering*

Previous Steps Taken by Council & the Community

Once these applications came to the attention of the Municipality and local community, formal opposition was submitted to the Province through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO).

- Council unanimously opposed the proposal and instructed staff to hire expert legal and engineering professionals to advocate for our community.
- A major request from the Municipality was for the Minister of the Environment to require a full Environmental Assessment for the proposed site.

Previous Steps Taken by Council & the Community

- Community opposition to the proposal was strong and widespread.
- Numerous submissions were sent to the Province, highlighting potential risks to our town, local economy, children, and the environment.
- On June 28, 2024, the Minister of the Environment approved Ontario Regulation 284/24, mandating a full Environmental Assessment.
- This decision requires the property owner to conduct extensive additional studies and ensures that community concerns can be formally raised through a structured consultation process.

Recent Provincial Change in Direction

- On Thursday, April 17, 2025, the Province introduced legislation titled Bill 5: Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025.
- Included in this legislation are provisions to repeal Ontario Regulation 284/24, effectively overturning the requirement for a full Environmental Assessment for this property.
- The legislation also proposes to exempt the project from other approvals typically required under the Environmental Assessment Act.
- If Ontario Regulation 284/24 is revoked and the project is exempted from Environmental Assessment requirements, the property owners would only need to obtain approval from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for new or amended Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECAs).

Recent Provincial Change in Direction

- If the Environmental Assessment process remains in place, it would require comprehensive studies on the proposal's potential impacts — including traffic, the natural environment, socio-economic factors, and human health risks.
- Under the Province's proposed new approach, significantly fewer studies would be required.
- This approach would also remove most opportunities for public and community input on the project.

What's the Municipality Doing?

- The Municipality has re-engaged expert lawyers and engineers who supported Chatham-Kent in 2024.
 - Exploring all legal options
 - Preparing engineering support for a full Environmental Assessment
 - Submitting a formal objection to the Environmental Registry by May 17
- Reaching out to local MPPs, the Minister of the Environment, and the Premier to raise concerns about the serious impacts on Dresden and Chatham-Kent
- Developing a Community Coalition

Comprehensive Environmental Assessment VS ECA

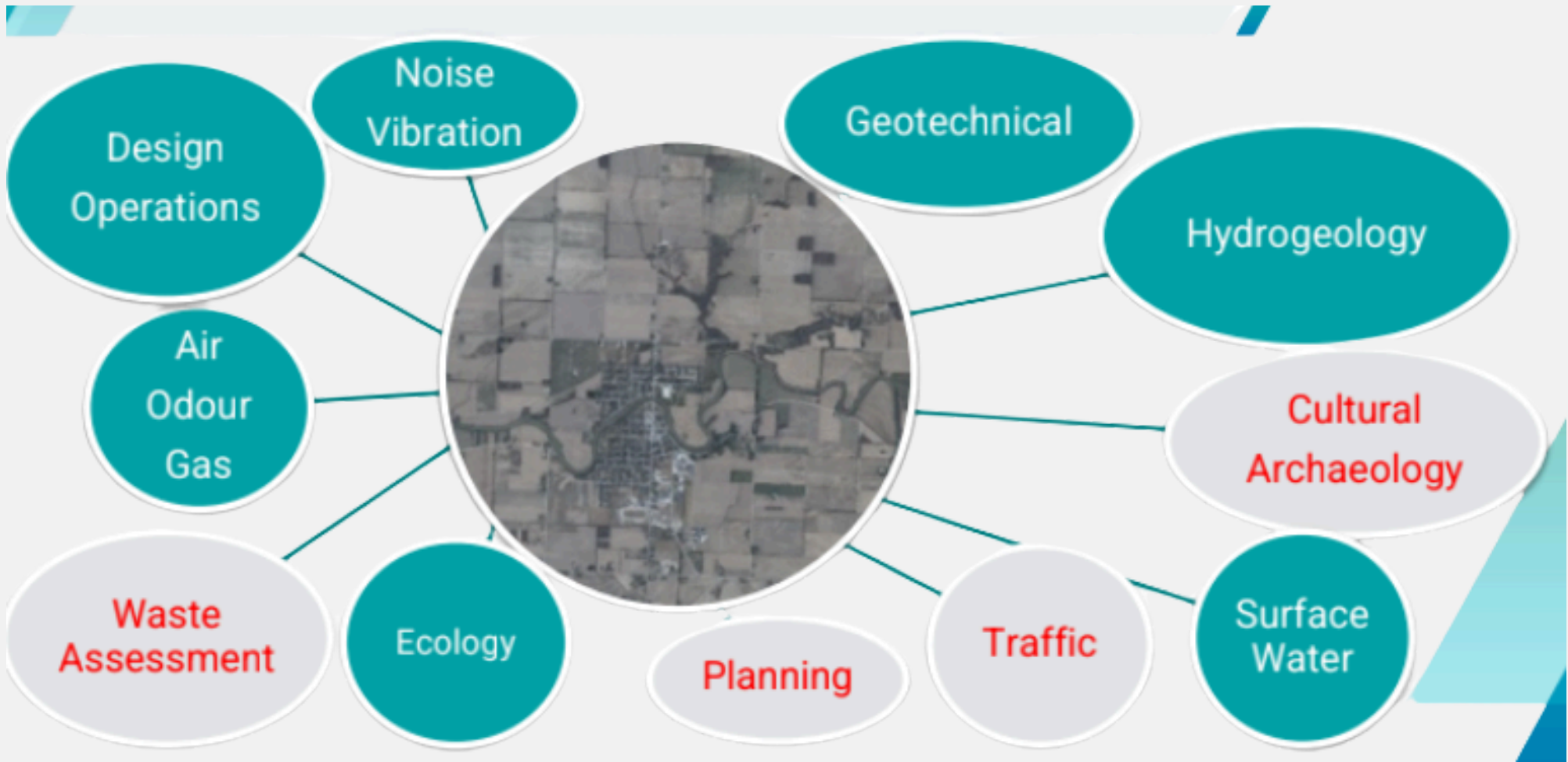
Comprehensive Environmental Assessment (EA):

- Broad review of environmental, social, health, and economic impacts.
- Requires multiple expert studies (traffic, ecology, human health, etc.).
- Public consultation is mandatory and built into the process.
- Can result in major project changes or cancellation.
- Takes place early in planning, before approvals or construction.

Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECAs):

- Focuses only on specific technical aspects like emissions or discharges.
- Requires fewer studies and narrower analysis.
- Public input is minimal or not required.
- Does not address broader community or health impacts.
- Issued late in the process, after the project is mostly finalized.

Comprehensive Environmental Assessment VS ECA



Current Requirements: Comprehensive Environmental Assessment	Proposed Requirements: No environmental assessment ECAs required for modifications to existing site*
Terms of Reference	No TOR approval required
Notice of terms of reference to the public and the Municipality	No public notice of TOR
Opportunity for public comment to the Ministry on the terms of reference	No public comment on TOR
Municipal support is required before the Ministry will receive the EA for a landfill	Municipal support not required
Consultation with Indigenous communities	Not Required
EA Application Contents	Required ECA Application Contents**
Description of the purpose of the project	Application must include project description, including a description of the waste to be received
Statement of the rationale for the project and alternatives to the project	A description of monitoring programs
Description of the environmental effects of the project	No description of environmental effects
Description of mitigation measures	Mitigation measures required for specific option
Description of the consultation undertaken	No description of consultation
Supporting Documentation	Supporting Documentation
Design and Operations	Required
Storm and Surface Water	Required
Hydrogeology	Required
Geotechnical	Required
Air/Odour/Landfill Gas	Required
Natural Sciences/Ecology	Required
Noise and Vibration	Required
Traffic Study	Not required
Planning Justification Report	Not required
Economic Assessment	Not required
Cultural/Archaeology/Indigenous	Not required
Characterization of Existing Waste	Not required
Public notice of submission of the EA and opportunity for public comment to the Ministry	ECA applications are posted on the Environmental Registry for public comment
Public notice of result of Ministry EA review and opportunity for public comment on the Ministry review	No opportunity for public comment on Ministry's decision
Includes opportunity for "any person" to refer the EA application to the Ontario Land Tribunal (though Minister has discretion on whether to refer the application)	

Why is it important we comment?

- **This is an incredibly unique ERO submission**
- **May be one of the highest commented EROs in history**
- **York1s comment extremely stressed that they did NOT want to do a EA**
- **The last EROs submitted about this project received over 500 comments.**
- **By continuing to submit comments, we show the MECP that this issue remains important and top of mind for the community.**

Our Concerns

1. Sets a Dangerous Precedent

- Skipping an EA undermines Ontario's environmental protection process.
- Signals to other developers that environmental oversight can be avoided.
- Weakens public trust in the Ministry of the Environment's role as a watchdog.

2. The Site Is Based on a Permit from the 1980s

- The world has changed — so have environmental standards and community needs.
- Basing a modern dump on outdated permits ignores new risks and realities.
- The original permit was for a different type and scale of project.

3. The Location Is Problematic

- The site is near homes, farms, and water sources.
- Risk of groundwater contamination and air quality issues.
- Threatens the health and wellbeing of Dresden and surrounding areas.

Our Concerns

4. Environmental Risk Without Oversight

- No EA means no baseline environmental studies or mitigation plans.
- No plan for dealing with potential spills, leachate, or accidents.
- No strategy for protecting endangered species or ecosystems nearby.

5. Long-Term, Irreversible Impact

- If approved, the dump will affect the area for generations.
- Once it's built, it cannot be undone.
- Future residents will be forced to live with the consequences.

6. The Ministry Has a Duty to Protect Us

- The Ministry's role is to safeguard our environment — not to bypass its own safeguards.
- EAs are not a burden; they're a critical tool for accountability.
- Dresden deserves the same protections as every other community in Ontario.

Our Concerns

7. Mistrust of Incoming Company:

- False Reporting: York1 and The Recycling Depot GP Inc. were convicted for submitting false and misleading information to the Ministry of the Environment.
- Missed Shipments: They failed to report 458 inbound soil shipments in their 2021 annual report.
- Clerical Errors?: The defendants admitted to mistakes but only corrected the report after being caught.
- Fines: Both companies were fined \$25,000 each + a \$6,250 victim surcharge, with three months to pay.
- Lack of Transparency: This incident highlights serious concerns about their lack of transparency and responsibility.
- Community Impact: If they couldn't meet basic regulatory requirements in Toronto, how can we trust them here in Dresden?

What Can I Do?

1. Tell Others **THE FACTS**

a. Our accountability and reputation as a community hinges on how we react to these types of situations

2. Comment on the current ERO - The deadline is MAY 17, 2025

3. Take a flyer & help others make their comments

How to Comment

Removing Environmental Assessment Requirements for the York1 Waste Disposal Site Project | Environmental...

We are proposing to remove environmental assessment requirements for the York1 waste disposal site project through the proposed Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025.

 ontario.ca

Comment

Let us know what you think of our proposal.

Have questions? Get in touch with the contact person below. Please include the [ERO](#) number for this notice in your email or letter to the contact.

[Read our commenting and privacy policies.](#)

Submit online

[Submit a comment](#)

Submit by mail

Dresden Landfill Comments
Environmental Assessment Branch
135 St. Clair Ave W
4th Floor
Toronto, ON
M4V 1P5
Canada

Extra Details

Connect with us

Contact

Dresden Landfill Comments

 416-314-8001 or 1-800-461-6290

 DresdenLandfill@ontario.ca

Sign up for notifications

We will send you email notifications with any updates related to this consultation. You can change your notification preferences anytime by visiting settings in your profile page.

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Call to Action:
Comment on Current ERO

We are here to help you!



- Volunteers with laptops are at the back to help you submit a comment
- Pamphlets at back door - please take some and encourage others to comment

