



**– OCTOBER, 2010 –**

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## **ONGOING INITIATIVES**

### **1. Climate Change Workshop**

To ensure the Climate Change Workshop is a complete success, it has been decided to post-pone the event. The original date of December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010 would not allow for enough time to secure key note speakers and give the event the media attention it deserves.

The proposed new date for the workshop is either Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, or Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

The following venues have been contacted to host the event:

- The University of Windsor
- St. Clair Center for the Arts
- Roseland Golf Course
- WFCU Center

The outline of the workshop may look something like this (in no particular order):

- One or two introductory speakers
- A key note speaker
- A workshop session broken into two or three different groups:
  - A business sustainability workshop
  - A climate change adaptation workshop for municipal officials
  - A grassroots approach to sustainability workshop

The speakers we are looking into include:

- Author Bob Willard
- University professors
  - Dr. Dan Henstra
  - Dr. David Ting
- Government officials and representatives from:
  - IJC
  - FCM
  - ICLEI
  - Chicago's Chief Environmental Office
  - OCETA
- Sustainable Business leaders
  - Michael Pec (Gemesa)
  - Paul Sharbeno (OSEA)
  - Andrew Heintzman (Investeco)

We are also looking to have representatives from these sectors conduct the workshops. Currently, we are in the process of inviting these guests and hope to have a concrete list and workshop outline by the end of this year.

## **2. REMASCO Environmental Assessment**

Jim Gallant has provided WECEC with literature regarding the REMASCO operation in Kingsville. They are using municipal waste pellets to operate various gasifiers to generate hot water for the heating system of a greenhouse.

Jim has sent some history on REMASCO as well as the proposed scope of the human health risk assessment they are proposing to undertake as part of the EA Screening Process. Jim is seeking input from WECEC on what other issues or studies we would like them to include in the scope.

If required, Jim would be happy to deliver a talk to WECEC regarding the operation. In addition, he has offered to give WECEC members a tour of the facility.

## **3. Delegation Policy**

A delegation policy has been written as per the WECEC Strategic Plan. This document will be available on the website to assist with delegation requests.

## **4. Share the Road Application**

WECEC has formally requested to be involved in the Share the Road Bicycle Friendly Communities application. The request has been sent to Jennifer Leitzinger (City of Windsor) and Cathy Copot-Nepszy (Windsor Essex County Health Unit). Both parties have assured that the application will be sent to WECEC for review and comments.

## **5. Provincially Significant Wetlands**

### **a. Airport woodlots**

As discussed at the last WECEC meeting, a group was formed to develop a strategy for connecting the airport woodlots. Since then, this group has amalgamated with the original ad-hoc committee developed to protect the Provincially Significant Wetlands on the west side of Windsor. A meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> to develop appropriate steps to work towards joining the airport woodlots.

### **b. DRIC compensation properties**

I have been working with the City Geomatics department to develop a map of the west end of Windsor where the proposed DRIC project may be constructed. This map will detail city versus non-city owned property in the area as well as show an outline of the proposed project. As the highway will pave over PSW's, Transportation Canada will have to compensate for those lands by purchasing compensation property.

A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> with concerned groups such as the Field Naturalists, City Councillors, ERCA, the DRCC, City planners, as well as other members from the ad-hoc PSW working group. We will discuss and prioritize land in the area and develop a strategy

to present to Transport Canada. This will help to ensure that the best possible lands in the area are looked into as compensation properties.

As an additional resource, the federal, provincial, and territorial governments have recently released (October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010) a comprehensive report detailing the biodiversity status of Canada's ecosystems.

The report highlights several important pieces of information relevant to the Windsor area including (but not limited to):

- Estimates of total grassland loss prior to the 1990s include 97% of tallgrass/savannah in southern Ontario;
- 80 to 90% of original wetlands near urban areas have been converted to other uses;
- Trends in lakes include decreases in seasonal and year-to-year water-level fluctuations in some of the Great Lakes;
- In Lake Ontario, since 1960, water-level regulation has reduced plant diversity and altered habitat for animals living along the shoreline.

c. Protection of Ojibway Shores

A unified approach has been developed between the City of Windsor, Peter Barry, and the DRCC to move forward in the protection of Ojibway Shores. This plan includes the addition of "No Parking" signs along Broadway blvd., blitz enforcement of by-law enforcement by the police, as well as a strong educational campaign in early April. The campaign will include information brochures in ATV stores as well as media attention.

## 6. Website

Eliquid has received many of the documents and information that will be uploaded onto the website. We are waiting for the initial draft of the website to be completed.

Information to be placed on the website includes:

- Committee member information
- Pictures of various events
- Monthly meeting information
  - Agenda's
  - Minutes
  - Location/time
- Public service videos
- Publications
- Reports to Council
- Resources

## IMPORTANT UPDATES AND INFORMATION

### 1. City of Windsor Council report – Climate change adaptation and mitigation plan

Environmental Coordinator Karina Richters is presenting a report to Council Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, to encourage Windsor's participation in an ICLEI Climate Change Adaptation initiative. ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (Management) Inc., referred to as ICLEI Canada, is an international association of local governments as well as national and regional local government organizations that have made a commitment to sustainable development.

This fall, ICLEI Canada is launching a new adaptation initiative with support from National Resources Canada. The initiative will assist local governments in the development and implementation of a local adaptation plan. This will not only provide a locally developed Climate Change Adaptation Plan, but will also build capacity internally for ongoing implementation and monitoring. The program also aims to build expertise and knowledge within Council on the municipality's roles and strategic needs in relation to reducing vulnerabilities and managing the impacts of climate change.

Although climate change adaptation is a complex process, this initiative aims to provide a straightforward methodology to adaptation planning using a five-milestone approach. The milestones with associated deliverables are as follows;

#### Milestone One – Initiate

##### Deliverables:

- List of adaptation team members, and potential internal and external stakeholders;
- Initial list of climate change impacts expected to affect Windsor;
- Review of existing corporate/community actions, plans, policies and strategies.

#### Milestone Two – Research

##### Deliverables:

- Final list of relevant climate change impacts which are linked to traditional service areas;
- A vulnerability assessment;
- A risk assessment.

#### Milestone Three – Plan

##### Deliverables:

- Vision, goals and objectives;
- List of adaptation actions, relevant departments, timelines, cost and funding;
- List of preliminary indicators and corresponding baselines;
- Implementation schedule;
- Draft Adaptation Plan;
- Selection of 3-5 key actions to be implemented immediately.

#### Milestone Four – Implement

##### Deliverables:

- Implementation of the selected 3-5 key actions;
- Draft communications strategy.

Milestone Five – Monitor

Deliverables:

- 3-5 selected actions will be monitored for their progress and effectiveness;
- Final Adaptation Plan;
- Communicating the success.

ICLEI Canada will be providing technical support for all participants (limited to 20 municipalities) over the two year initiative. The support is meant to assist with all stages of the initiative, from impact scoping and baseline reports, to risk assessment, establishing indicators, and implementation.

**2. Great Lakes Petroleum Terminal asphalt terminal facility**

On November 18, 2009, the Air Quality Division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment issued a Permit to Install for an asphalt cement storage and handling terminal from Great Lakes Petroleum Terminal, LLC (GLPT). Since that time, GLPT has requested incorporating an additional storage tank into the existing permit. This storage tank is an existing tank used by a previous owner located at the same site as the GLPT facility. It is a 209,000 gallon raw material storage tank and it will include controls to reduce odorous emissions.

Emissions will not increase even after the applicant incorporates the additional tank into their current facility. This is because the maximum material throughput will remain the same (and because the emissions are directly related to the material throughput). The volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from the facility are expected to be about two tons per year.

*Notice of Air Pollution Comment Period and Public Hearing*

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) is holding a public comment period from **October 6, 2010, until November 10, 2010, and a public hearing also on November 10, 2010**, on Great Lake Petroleum Terminal, LCC's proposal to incorporate an existing storage tank, already located on site, into the operation of an asphalt cement storage terminal. The facility is located at 12500 Stocker Street, Detroit, Michigan. The public comment period and hearing are to allow all interested parties the opportunity to comment on the Department's proposed conditional approval of a Permit to Install (PTI). It has been preliminarily determined that the incorporation of the storage tank into the asphalt cement storage terminal will not violate any of the Department's rules nor the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Written comments should be sent to Ms. Mary Ann Dolehanty, Acting Permit Section Supervisor, Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Air Quality Division, P.O. Box 30260, Lansing, Michigan, 48909-7760.

**3. AutoAlliance International Inc.**

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE), Air Quality Division (AQD), is proposing to act on Permit to Install (PTI) application No. 138-10 from AutoAlliance International LLC. The permit application is for the conversion of the existing permit requirements for the automotive assembly and painting operations at the facility into a flexible permitting format. In addition to painting and assembling automobile bodies, the facility also paints plastic automobile parts. The AutoAlliance International facility is located at 1 International Drive, Flat Rock, Michigan. The proposed flexible

permit is not associated with any physical or operational changes at the facility. As such, the proposed permit is not subject to state or federal New Source Review (NSR) requirements.

*Notice of Air Pollution Comment Period and Public Hearing*

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) is holding a public comment period from **October 20, 2010, until November 19, 2010, and a public hearing, if requested, on November 29, 2010**, for the proposed conversion of the existing permit requirements for the automotive assembly and painting operations at the AutoAlliance International LLC facility to a flexible permitting format. The public comment period and hearing, if requested, are to allow all interested parties the opportunity to comment on the Department's proposed conditional approval of a flexible permit. It has been preliminarily determined that the conversion of the existing permit requirements to a flexible permitting format will not violate any of the Department's rules nor the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Additionally, a flexible permit will require revisions to Renewable Operating Permit (ROP) No. MI-ROP-N0929-2003 (SRN N0929). This public comment period meets the public participation requirements for a future administrative amendment to the ROP.

Written comments or a hearing request should be sent to Ms. Mary Ann Dolehanty, Acting Permit Section Supervisor, DNRE, AQD, P.O. Box 30260, Lansing, Michigan, 48909-7760. All statements received by November 19, 2010, will be considered by the decision-maker prior to final permit action. If a hearing is requested, the comment period will be extended until the close of the hearing.

#### 4. Newspaper articles

a. Windsor Star (September 28<sup>th</sup>): *Controversial Nuclear Shipping Talks Hit Ottawa*

There will be two day long public meetings starting today in Ottawa where close to 80 groups from across Canada, the United States and Sweden will give testimony on a controversial plan by Bruce Power to haul 16 decommissioned radioactive steam generators across the Great Lakes.

If the licence is approved by the CNSC, it would be the first time a shipment of this size has travelled on the Great Lakes. Citizens are concerned about more shipments being approved if this one goes through.

Bruce Power argues the proposed plan is safe, because the generators contain on "low-level radiation". If the containers are shipped to Sweden, 90% of the metals can be safely broken down.

b. Windsor Star (September 29<sup>th</sup>): *Windsor Area Solar Plant Moving Forward*

Negotiations with the Windsor International Airport operator are nearly complete for Solar Source Corporation to begin construction on a new solar panel manufacturing plant located on airport lands.

On Tuesday, Solar Source announced a partnership with a company that will help its clients set up solar power generating projects. ESEI Solar will help solar panel buyers with engineering, procurement of other parts and construction of rooftop and ground installations.

As of January 2011, all solar panels that are going to be installed on rooftops and on the ground must be made in Ontario. So the faster we can make solar panels in Ontario the better we're going to be able to take advantage of the market opportunities.

c. Windsor Star – September 30: *Windsor rail link 'vision' unveiled by Al Teshuba*

About 50 people filled an East Indian restaurant Wednesday night to hear Can-Am Tourism Development Inc.'s proposal for an international Asian district and light rail system.

According to Al Teshuba, the session was to promote a vision and to allow influential community leaders a firsthand understanding of what our project is. Al is the director of community communications for Can-Am Tourism Development Inc.

The proposal would border Riverside Drive, Wyandotte Street, Cameron Avenue and Wellington Avenue and could potentially transport 5,000 tourists across the border daily.

After gathering feedback from the community, the next phase will be submitting applications to the provincial and federal government for funding.

d. Windsor Star – October 7: *Spanish solar panel company bringing 200 jobs to Essex County*

A Spanish-based manufacturer of solar panels will build a \$7 million plant in the Windsor area creating about 200 jobs.

The Siliken Group announced plans in February to build a plant in Ontario which would supplement company plants in Valencia, Spain and San Diego, Calif., to meet a growing demand for photovoltaic modules.

Fueled by its climate, provincial Green Energy Act initiatives and a skilled workforce, the Windsor area is attracting considerable investment in the renewable energy sector.

e. Windsor Star – October 16: *Urban chicken lovers come out of their shell*

A group of concerned chicken supporters, who belong to a fun-sounding but serious group called CLUCK (Canadian Liberated Urban Chicken Klub), will meet with the Windsor licence commission Tuesday morning to discuss issues involving backyard chickens. The chicken club is continuing a two-year battle to convince the city to allow residents to raise a small number of hens for eggs.

"The end goal is to make it legal to have a few chickens in Windsor," said Steve Green, who raises chickens, and says CLUCK counts almost 170 local members. "Currently, you can have 80 pigeons but you can't have one chicken."

Though store-bought eggs have been recalled occasionally over the years, backyard eggs often prove more organic and clean. Backyard chickens are cheap, so even low-income families can secure a lot of high-protein eggs relatively inexpensively.

Chickens live between five and 10 years. Hens typically lay one egg a day for about six years. Mike Chantler, deputy licence commissioner, said the city must consider a number of issues, including possible licence fees, rules of ownership, health effects, how to enforce bylaws, what to do about bad owners, and what to do with abandoned chickens.

## TASKS FOR NEXT MONTH

### 1. Provincially Significant Wetlands

Continue to develop and implement action plans for connecting the airport woodlots, protecting Ojibway Shores, and prioritizing DRIC compensation property.

Invite Kevin DeVos and City planners to the next WECEC meeting and deliver our DRIC compensation strategy.

### 2. Climate Change Workshop

Determine a date for the workshop and select a venue. Then, I will send preliminary invitations to all potential speakers and workshop leaders and develop a concrete workshop outline.

### 3. Website

Continue to receive biographies of WECEC members and send them to Eliquid. Once the preliminary website is ready, I will meet with Eliquid to finalize the website.

### 4. Solar Source

Await response (or follow up) from either Ross Beatty (Solar Source), Kerri Brock or Lia Vanbaalen (ESEI Group) to inquire about delivering a presentation to WECEC regarding the solar panel plant being built on airport property.

### 5. REMASCO

Continue the REMASCO delegation by either providing written comments to them about the project, inviting the company to speak at a WECEC meeting, or participating in a tour of the facility.