

For immediate release
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**YORK REGION'S SOUTHEAST COLLECTOR TRUNK SEWER
TO UNDERGO FULL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**
Province Requires Strict Environmental Protection Measures

TORONTO –York Region's proposed Southeast Collector trunk sewer will have to undergo a full environmental assessment before the project can proceed, Environment Minister Laurel Broten announced today. The Minister approved the Terms of Reference for this key component of the York Durham Sewer System with this requirement.

“The Southeast Collector will undergo a full environmental assessment to ensure that the project takes the community's health and environment into consideration,” said Broten. “When complete, the assessment will give us a solid understanding of how to ensure York Region is fully protected.”

The Southeast Collector sewer will now undergo an individual environmental assessment. York Region will be required to follow eight conditions that have been put in place by the ministry to make sure this project is planned in a manner that is environmentally responsible and highly protective. The conditions include the identification and assessment of alternative routes, the development of monitoring and mitigation measures for any dewatering activities that may occur and the assessment of alternative design and construction techniques for the project.

“An individual environmental assessment is a very comprehensive and in-depth tool for assessing impacts to the environment,” said Broten. “This will ensure that there will be tough environmental protection measures in place for the Southeast Collector and an enhanced level of environmental scrutiny surrounding this project.”

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