



November 29, 2017

Reference No. 086822

Brent Spagnol, MCIP, RPP
Director of Planning Services and By-Law Enforcement
Township of Springwater
2231 Nursery Road
Minesing, ON
L9X 1A8

Dear Mr. Spagnol:

**Re: County of Simcoe – Environmental Resource Recovery Centre
County Initiated Official Plan Amendment
Ministry of Municipal Affairs File #: 43-OP-169096**

The County of Simcoe (County) continues to pursue the development of the proposed Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC) located at 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West in the Township of Springwater (Township). In support of the ERRC, applications for Amendments to the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law were submitted to Township Planning staff on November 18, 2016. In addition to these Amendments, a number of supporting studies were also submitted, including an Archaeological Assessment Report (AAR) prepared by Archaeological Services Inc. (ASI).

As part of the One Window Provincial Planning Service, a copy of the draft AAR was circulated to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MMA) and partner ministries including: Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR), Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS), Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA).

Following the submission of the AAR, review comments were prepared by provincial staff and submitted to the County through MMA on April 7, 2017. A meeting was also held on May 5, 2017 between the County, the Township, MMA, and GHD to discuss the AAR review comments.

To address these comments, GHD and ASI have prepared the following responses. For ease of reference, review comments have also been provided in bold below.

MTCS staff also reviewed the "Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment" (dated November 2016) and "Stage 3 Site Specific Assessment" reports prepared by ASI (dated November 2016). Technical review of Archeological Assessment reports can only be carried out by MTCS Archeological Review Officers following submission of the reports to the Archeological Program Unit directly by the licensed consultant archeologist responsible for the assignment, in accordance with the terms and conditions of their license.

MTCS staff note that the Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment has been reviewed and entered into the register as compliant. At this time, a Project Information Form (PIF) number for the Stage 3



assessment has been issued, but the Stage 3 report included in this-circulation has not been submitted for review. It is not recommended that a planning application be approved until the Archeological Program Unit has issued a letter indicating that all associated Archeological Assessment Reports have been deemed compliant and entered into the register.

The Stage 3 Site Specific Assessment Report was submitted to the MTCS on April 27, 2017. In their response letter dated July 12, 2017 (included as Attachment A), MTCS noted that the ministry is satisfied that the fieldwork and reporting for the archaeological assessment are consistent with the ministry's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists and the terms and conditions for archaeological licences.

The complete AAR was subsequently entered into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports.

We trust that this letter addresses all review comments. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you require anything further.

Sincerely,

GHD

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brian Dermody'.

Brian Dermody, P. Eng.

Environmental Engineer

BD/sw/1

Encl.

cc: David Parks, MCIP, RPP – Director of Planning, Development and Tourism – County of Simcoe
Lisa Merritt, MSc. – Partner/Director, Environmental Assessment Division – ASI

Attachment A

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

Archaeology Programs Unit
Programs and Services Branch
Culture Division
401 Bay Street, Suite 1700
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Jul 12, 2017

Katherine Hull (P128)
ASI Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Services
528 Bathurst Toronto ON M5S 2P9

RE: Review and Entry into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports: Archaeological Assessment Report Entitled, "STAGE 3 SITE SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT SIMCOE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE GRIBBIN SITE (BDGW-49) PART OF LOT 2, CONCESSION I, FORMER FLOS TOWNSHIP NOW SPRINGWATER TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF SIMCOE, ONTARIO", Dated Apr 17, 2017, Filed with MTCS Toronto Office on Apr 27, 2017, MTCS Project Information Form Number P128-0150-2016, MTCS File Number 0005412

Dear Dr. Hull:

This office has reviewed the above-mentioned report, which has been submitted to this ministry as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18.¹ This review has been carried out in order to determine whether the licensed professional consultant archaeologist has met the terms and conditions of their licence, that the licensee assessed the property and documented archaeological resources using a process that accords with the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists set by the ministry, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations are consistent with the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario.

The report documents the Stage 3 assessment of one archaeological site located within the study area as depicted in Figure 1 of the above titled report and Figure 3 of the Supplementary Documentation. The report recommends the following:

1. The Gribbin site (BdGw-49) represents a mid-nineteenth century Euro-Canadian archaeological resource with cultural heritage value or interest. Given that this site is located on a section of the County of Simcoe's property that will not be impacted by the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre, it has been determined that avoidance and long-term protection is the preferred approach to the Stage 4 mitigation of impacts.

We offer the following strategy to ensure that the site is avoided and protected during construction of the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre.

a. The proponent's engineer must provide a letter and documentation detailing their support of the long term protection and avoidance strategy.

A letter from Simcoe County addressing their support for long term protection and avoidance of the Gribbin

Site is included in the Supplementary Documentation Report.

b. Appropriate avoidance and protection measures must be established to protect the site from any impacts related to the construction and installation of the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre.

A conceptual site plan showing the location and extent of the Gribbin site (BdGw-49) and 10 metre buffer area or no-go zone as defined in S &G Section 4.1 Standard 2 b is included in the Supplementary Documentation report.

A buffer of 10 m has been established around the Gribbin site (BdGw-49) as a no-go zone for any construction activity.

No construction activity is anticipated to occur within approximately 85 metres of the protected site area. To ensure that the site is protected from any inadvertent impacts, the following detailed avoidance strategy has been committed to by the Proponent (see letter provided in Supplementary Documentation report) and will remain in place until the project construction is finished and the required Stage 4 avoidance and protection process for the Gribbin site (BdGw-49) has been completed:

i. Prior to any construction activity in the vicinity, temporary fencing or a similar barrier will be erected around the site and its 10 m protective buffer within the Project lands to define the no-go area.

ii. written and verbal instructions will be provided to all on site construction personnel working within the Project lands to avoid the location of the site and its protective 10 m buffer;

iii. the location of the area to be avoided will be included on all relevant contract drawings, including explicit instructions to avoid that area, when applicable;

iv. any construction activity that is undertaken adjacent to the Gribbin site and the 10 m buffer, including the installation of fencing, will be monitored by a licensed archaeologist who will be empowered to stop construction if there is concern the archaeological site is being impacted.

v. Once the project construction is complete ASI will inspect and report to MTCS on the effectiveness of the above strategy to avoid and protect the Gribbin site (BdGw-49).

2. To support the long-term protection of the Gribbin site (BdGw-49) and its 10 m protective buffer we recommend that Simcoe County put in place a condition of site plan approval to ensure the archaeological site is protected on a long-term basis. Further, Simcoe County must ensure that the following conditions will be met:

a. The condition of site plan approval put in place by Simcoe County must clearly set out how the protection of the Gribbin site is to be addressed in the future, including the definition of steps for further protection or excavation by a licensed archaeologist;

b. The allowable uses for the protected site area must be defined and shall not include any activities that involve even minor forms of soil disturbance, such as minor landscaping, and tree removal;

c. Simcoe County must provide documentation confirming their awareness of their obligations for the protection of the Gribbin site and their willingness and capacity to fulfill those obligations.

Documents from Simcoe County supporting the long-term protection of the Gribbin site are located in Supplementary Documentation - Site Location & Avoidance and Protection Strategy, Appendix A and B;

Based on the information contained in the report, the ministry is satisfied that the fieldwork and reporting for the archaeological assessment are consistent with the ministry's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists and the terms and conditions for archaeological licences. This report has been entered into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports. Please note that the ministry makes no representation or warranty as to the completeness, accuracy or quality of reports in the register.

Should you require any further information regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Shari Prowse
Archaeology Review Officer

cc. Archaeology Licensing Officer
Brian Dermody, GHD
Stephanie Mack, County of Simcoe

¹In no way will the ministry be liable for any harm, damages, costs, expenses, losses, claims or actions that may result: (a) if the Report(s) or its recommendations are discovered to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent; or (b) from the issuance of this letter. Further measures may need to be taken in the event that additional artifacts or archaeological sites are identified or the Report(s) is otherwise found to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent.