

**Project:** Harrington and Embro Dam EAs      **Meeting No.:** PIC 2  
**Project No.:** 1505      **Meeting Date:** May 10, 2016  
**Recorder:** M. Pushkar      **Meeting Time:** 7 – 9 pm  
**Report date:** May 26, 2016

**Location:** Embro Community Centre – 355644 35<sup>th</sup> Line, Embro, ON

**Attendees:** Rick Goldt, Bill Mackie, (UTRCA)  
Wolfgang Wolter, Mariëtte Pushkar (ERI)  
Marie Keasey, Doug Matheson, Marcus Ryan, Margaret Lupton (Zorra Township)  
Members of the public (2)

**Purpose:** Public Information Centre 2 – Embro Dam

Item	Description	Action By
1.	<p><b>Presentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation of study findings, evaluation criteria and alternatives was made by Wolfgang Wolter (ERI)</li> </ul>	Info
2.	<p><b>Questions posed by members of the public and answers provided by team:</b></p> <p><b>1. How much effort was put into identifying salamander Species-at-Risk?</b>  Incidental observations of salamanders were made during the field assessments by UTRCA staff. A specific field investigation for the presence of salamanders was not undertaken.</p> <p><b>2. Can shallow wells be identified on the slide so that we can make a better informed evaluation?</b>  Where possible, based on MOE data, shallow wells will be identified on the mapping.</p> <p><b>Are there shallow wells?</b>  There are at least three shallow wells (2 – provincial monitoring, 1 well on the dam for monitoring)</p> <p><b>3. With regards to the offline pond, will it go stagnant or green with algae?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Algal growth can be a concern and is a risk. There are various aspects that would decrease the likelihood of algal growth in the study area, within the proposed alternatives:</li> <li>There will still be high groundwater inputs</li> <li>In the alternatives, there will still be a connection between pond and creek to ensure some water augmentation and/or flushing.</li> <li>Adaptive management could be implemented</li> <li>An offline pond does not have same risk of sediment concentration of nutrients: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contaminated material will be dredged</li> <li>There will not be as much sediment/nutrient loading as existing conditions (i.e., upstream landuse changes etc.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>4. What is the issue if fish species upstream and downstream are different?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Habitat fragmentation occurs due to the dam.</li> <li>Diversity and health of the fish communities is affected by the dam.</li> </ul>	ERI

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Species numbers are important factors in assessing health of community.</li> <li>• Removal of the dam will gain ~ 2 km of upstream habitat for the fish that now occur downstream.</li> <li>• Dam removal will improve water temperatures that will benefit downstream water quality and habitat.</li> </ul> <p><b>5. U.S. and Canada want to decrease total phosphorous loading to the Great Lakes. Fifty percent of contaminated sediment goes through with total phosphorous, why then do we want sediment movement?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phosphorous becomes a part of the biomass (i.e. consumed by fish etc.).</li> <li>• Sediment movement is required for river processes (i.e., loss of sediment load increases erosion potential of flows)</li> <li>• Issue of total phosphorous loading involves sediment from fields (landuse management); not just the creek.</li> </ul> <p><b>6. Is there any issue with silt sediment? What can be done?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The silt can be re-used on land and does not have to be landfilled. Only a small sample was taken for the sediment testing.</li> </ul> <p><b>7. What was the cyanide from? Was it from Blue-green algae? What was the concentration?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The sample was taken 1 m below the ground.</li> <li>• The origin of the cyanide is not known at this time.</li> <li>• The concentration levels and MOE standard will be identified before the presentation is posted on the UTRCA website.</li> </ul> <p><b>8. Where does the money come from for implementing the preferred alternative? What is the risk and feasibility of finding funding source?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government funding – there is a table which indicates that more money is available for dam removal projects</li> <li>• Fundraising by public/friends of environment</li> <li>• Conservation Authority</li> </ul> <p><b>9. Is the selection of the preferred alternative limited by funding?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding is considered in the alternative evaluation process but does not define the preferred alternative. Funding may impact selection of the preferred alternative.</li> </ul> <p><b>10. No weather data was provided; what happens if a catastrophic even occurs?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UTRCA – risk of dam overtopping is based on the 50-year IDF.</li> </ul> <p><b>(Residents have had 5” of rain in 24 hours)</b>          The magnitude of the event depends on existing conditions at time of storm such as; pre-existing soil moisture, time of year, area over which storm occurs (was it local?), duration/intensity of storm etc.</p> <p><b>11. Once decision is made, what will be the time span for taking action (e.g. 10 years)?</b>          Action will take place as quickly as possible - although obtaining funding may take a few years. The EA process allows 5 years.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ERI</p>
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