

*“Inspiring a Healthy Environment”*

## **Community Letter**

Thursday, September 10, 2026

### **Re: Plan for Decommissioning of the Embro Dam**

To whomever it may concern,

The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) completed the Class Environmental Assessment for the Embro Dam during March 2026. After a 30-day comment period, the Notice of Project Completion was published on April 28, 2026. The Project Plan recommended to “Remove the dam and construct one or more offline ponds or wetlands.”

The UTRCA is making progress towards the implementation of the Project Plan, to remove the Embro Dam. This includes undertaking studies, as per the recommendations of the Project Plan, to inform the design and construction stages.

For 2026, the UTRCA has retained a consultant to undertake several studies including: a water well survey, hydrologic review/update, sediment sampling, substrate sampling, as well as an update of environmental screening and review of aquatic species, to determine environmental mitigation measures.

Additionally, beginning on Monday, September 14, the UTRCA will lower the water level in the reservoir by removing up to 3 stoplogs, in accordance with the routine operations at the Embro Dam. This will be a gradual process, spanning approximately three weeks. UTRCA staff will be on site to monitor.

In 2027, the UTRCA will initiate the design, as well as the construction work for decommissioning the Embro Dam. This work is expected to last for 2 to 3 years. Minor enhancements to the Embro Conservation Area may be added afterwards.

Regular communication with the Community Liaison Committee (CLC), First Nations, Township of Zorra, and other interest holders will be maintained throughout the design and construction stages to provide opportunities for review, input, and community engagement. For more information, please visit the [Project Website](#). If you have questions or concerns, please contact:

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