# **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - FEBRUARY 3, 2003**

# REQUEST FOR INTER-REGIONAL WATER SERVICE CONNECTION QUALITY FARMS PROPERTY – 8400 HUNTINGTON ROAD

#### Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

That the Region of York be requested to obtain approval from the Region of Peel for the supply of an inter-regional water service connection from the existing Peel Regional watermain on the west side of Highway 50 opposite Langstaff Road, to Quality Farms located at 8400 Huntington Road.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval to the installation of an inter-regional water service connection to Quality Farms located at 8400 Huntington Road.

#### Background - Analysis and Options

Quality Farms is a world famous dairy cattle operation located at 8400 Huntington Road immediately south of Langstaff Road and east of Highway 50 as shown on Attachment 1. According to the landowner, there are three existing wells and a pond on the property that have provided the necessary water supply for the dairy cattle operation and dwelling over the years. Recently, the quantity and quality of the water from the wells has deteriorated and the water level in the existing pond has dropped by about 50 percent. The water quality is now no longer fit for animal consumption and potable water for domestic use in the dwelling is being brought in from an external source. The landowner has provided City staff with correspondence from the attending veterinarian at Quality Farms stating that the perceived deterioration of both water quality and quantity has precipitated significant and detrimental health issues with the herd of world famous dairy cows at Quality Farms. As a result, the landowner is now urgently seeking a new source of potable water for the property.

The City of Vaughan has no watermains in the immediate vicinity of the subject property. The cost of extending the City's existing Kleinburg or Woodbridge municipal systems, if feasible, to service the subject property would be prohibitively expensive. However, Peel Regional watermains are located within the existing residential area on the west side of Highway 50 opposite Langstaff Road as identified on Attachment 1. Given the circumstances, the provision of an inter-regional water service connection to the Quality Farms property is warranted and feasible.

On January 9, 2003, Vaughan Staff met with the landowner and staff from both York and Peel Regions to discuss the urgency of the situation, and the need for the installation of an emergency temporary inter-regional water service connection to Quality Farms. Based on these discussions, all parties have agreed to pursue the installation of an emergency water connection now with the understanding that the usual formal approval process associated with cross-boundary water connections would follow in the coming months.

Typically, the water service connection would be installed by the Region of Peel at the owner's expense, and the execution of a tri-party agreement between Peel, York and the property owner for the connection, supply and payment of water fees will be required. In order to initiate the formal approval process, the Region of Peel requires a formal request from Region of York Council for the inter-regional water service connection.

# **Conclusion**

To initiate the formal process associated with providing an inter-regional water service connection to Quality Farms at 8400 Huntington Road, it is recommended that Vaughan Council formally request the Region of York Council to in turn send a request to the Region of Peel for the required water service.

# **Attachments**

1. Location Plan, Inter-Regional Water Service Connection

# Report prepared by

Michael Frieri, Senior Engineering Assistant, Engineering Planning & Studies, ext. 8729 Andrew Pearce, Development Supervisor, Engineering Planning & Studies, ext. 8235

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Robinson, P. Eng. Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works



