The following are answers supplied by the Region of York via email in response to an inquiry from Lake Simcoe Watch.

Has the Region completed its environmental assessment of this project? If no, when does the Region expect its environmental assessment will be completed?

- The environmental assessment for the Holland Marsh phosphorus reduction facility is contingent on the Upper York Sewage Solutions Environmental Assessment approval and cannot begin until that occurs
- The Regional Municipality of York is extremely disappointed with the Ontario government's proposed legislation entitled the <u>York Region Wastewater Act</u>; if enacted, the act would put a hold on any decision on the Upper York Sewage Solutions (UYSS) Individual Environmental Assessment (IEA) application
- The province now plans to establish an "Expert Advisory Panel" to provide advice to the government concerning all options for additional wastewater capacity to accommodate anticipated future growth in York Region and Durham Region

How much money is the Region hoping to secure from secondary funding sources for this project? Please let us know the potential secondary funding sources that the Region has approached for funding.

- The Government of Canada is investing \$16 million through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) for the storm treatment facility to protect Lake Simcoe from excess phosphorus
- The Regional Municipality of York would be contributing \$24 million to the project; this funding has not been confirmed to date as it is dependent on funding through the UYSS IEA and project approval
- Collaboration with watershed stakeholders and potentially other levels of government will be required to establish the appropriate funding source

Please provide us with the Region's best estimate of when construction will commence on this project.

Please provide us with the Region's best estimate of when the Holland Marsh phosphorous reduction facility will be in service.

 Work continues to be at varying stages of preliminary design and public engagement; once the secondary funding source is confirmed through UYSS IEA approval and subsequent environmental approvals, it would be 2 to 3 years before construction could begin **Clare Faulds** | Head of Policy, Communications and Liaison Commissioner's Office, Environmental Services