

**Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks  
*Drinking Water and Environmental  
Compliance Division***

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**Ministère de l'Environnement, de la  
Protection de la nature et des Parcs  
*Division de la conformité en matière d'eau  
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Your email to Premier Ford regarding your concerns about the closed Ninth Line Landfill located in Oakville and about two other locations near your home where you allege that historical landfilling operations have occurred was forwarded to the Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. I am pleased to respond to you on behalf of the Minister.

The Ninth Line Landfill in Oakville is owned by the Town of Oakville and is managed by the Regional Municipality of Halton. This landfill received municipal waste as well as waste from the Ford Motor Company facility for approximately six years until its closure in 1963. I understand that you have concerns about the potential impacts that this site may have on groundwater and surface water within Joshua's Creek.

Halton Region oversees this site on behalf of the Town of Oakville and has been carrying out proactive environmental monitoring and reporting. The most recent monitoring report, dated April 12, 2019, documents the history of leachate, surface water and groundwater sampling conducted at the site. The report has been received and reviewed by ministry staff.

The report underwent a technical review by both a groundwater and a surface water expert. Groundwater sampling results indicate leachate concentrations are low, and for the most part measured parameters have decreased in concentration between 1999 and 2018. Based on the surface water sampling data, the landfill's impact on the water quality of Joshua's Creek is negligible.

The ministry's technical review identified the need for additional groundwater and leachate monitoring in 2019 and 2020 and seasonal surface water monitoring (three times per year), in 2020 and 2021. The Region and the Town of Oakville have committed to carrying out the additional monitoring. The next report on this work is expected in December 2020.

You also indicated that the waste deposited at the Ninth Line Landfill extends beyond the property line onto the Parkway property to the south. The area where the landfill extends beyond its property lines is clearly identified in the environmental reports. These areas are monitored as part of the ongoing environmental management efforts. Ministry staff notified Infrastructure Ontario about the contamination that exists on their property. Environmental monitoring reports and the ministry's review documents are being shared with Infrastructure Ontario.

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Page 2.

The ministry has also followed up on your concerns about potential waste landfilling operations that you indicated took place at the Ford Motor Company property and on the Parkway green space property located on the northeast corner of Upper Middle Road East and Joshua's Creek Drive. We obtained and reviewed historical aerial imagery and attended at the sites to make observations. Ministry staff discussed the concerns with the property owners and gathered more information on the history of the sites. Owners for both properties indicated that they are unaware of any landfilling operations taking place on their property.

To determine if these sites are impacting the water quality of Joshua's Creek, in July 2019, the ministry completed a surface water sampling program in which samples were taken upstream and downstream of the two sites. Surface water samples were analyzed for contaminants typically associated with landfilling activities, including ammonia, metals, phenols and volatile organic compounds. The results suggest that the two alleged landfilling sites had no detectable impacts on water quality in the creek.

The ministry's review of the available information does not indicate that waste was buried at those locations, or that the sites are impacting the water quality of Joshua's Creek.

Lastly, you raised concerns that the Parkway and the closed Ninth Line Landfill properties will be developed for commercial and residential use. The ministry is currently unaware of plans to develop this land. Development of the Ninth Line Landfill property would require extensive environmental work, submission and approval of a risk assessment and the filing of a Record of Site Condition with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. Should you have questions with regard to plans for future use of the properties, please contact the property owners.

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Thank you again for writing to share your concerns.

Sincerely,

***Tina Dufresne***

Tina Dufresne  
District Manager, Halton-Peel District  
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

c: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier (WSU 2020-66349)  
Mr. Stephen Crawford, MPP, Oakville  
Rob Burton, Mayor Oakville  
Gary Carr, Regional Chairman - Halton