

Vittoria Dam Class Environmental Assessment

The Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA), working with a consultant team led by Matrix Solutions Inc. (Matrix), has now completed the planning and conceptual design process approved under the *Environmental Assessment Act* in the *Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects* for undertaking a remedial flood and erosion control project regarding the Vittoria Dam located on Mill Pond Road, approximately 1 km east of Vittoria.

Per the Notice of Completion (April 30, 2024), the Environmental Study Report (ESR) documenting the project, was posted to the LPRCA's website for review and comment by any person or group that expressed an interest in the study, including members of the public, non-governmental organizations, municipal and provincial agencies, and indigenous communities. Minor comments, generally administrative and editorial in character, were received and have been incorporated into an updated Final ESR document, that is now considered approved.

As described in the ESR, the preferred alternative involves a decommissioning of the dam through the removal of all available operational dam elements related to flow control including the stop logs and gains, as well as the low-level sluice gate bypass system. The decommissioning will be undertaken over an extended period of 2 to 3 years or more to limit potential remobilization and offsite transport of accumulated sediments within the existing reservoir, and to provide time for the sensitive flora and fauna of the area to acclimate to changing conditions. To protect a highly sensitive native Brook Trout population known to exist in Young's Creek upstream of the existing reservoir, a low-level barrier will be retained at the structure, limiting the potential for upstream migration of fish and other invasive species.

The final **Environmental Study Report** and other project-related materials are available on the LPRCA's project webpage: <https://www.lprca.on.ca/flood-forecasting-warning/vittoria-dam-class-ea/>

The LPRCA will now commence on the detailed planning and design processes including developing and initiating environmental monitoring programs, formalizing the design and approach to construction, and obtaining all relevant permits and approvals prior to initiating the draw-down / decommissioning processes.

Should further questions, comments, or suggestions remain these can be directed to LPRCA at the contact information provided on the project website linked above.

We thank you for your interest, and for your participation in the planning of this project.

This Notice of Project Completion was issued on August 26, 2024.