



# New STONEY CREEK REGIONAL FACILITY PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE

## New What is a Terms of Reference?

The Terms of Reference is the framework for the next step in the process: the environmental assessment. If the environmental assessment was a recipe, the terms of reference would be like a cookbook that tells Terrapure how to conduct the environmental assessment.

## New If the Minister Approves the Terms of Reference, is the project approved?

No. Approval of the Terms of Reference only means that Terrapure can proceed to conduct the Environmental Assessment. Both the Terms of Reference and the Environmental Assessment must be approved by the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change.

## New What's the difference between the Draft Terms of Reference and the Proposed Terms of Reference?

The **draft** Terms of Reference was released to the public for review and comment. We received comments from the community and other stakeholders, such as the City of Hamilton, aboriginal communities, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, and other review agencies. As a result of the feedback we received during this extensive outreach we have made a number of enhancements. These changes are reflected in the **proposed** Terms of Reference. The proposed Terms of Reference has been submitted to the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change for review and approval. As part of this process, members of the public, review agencies and aboriginal communities have the opportunity to review and provide comments on the proposed Terms of Reference to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change by March 10, 2017.

## New What changed between the Draft Terms of Reference and the Proposed Terms of Reference?

As a result of the feedback we received during our extensive outreach and consultation, we have made a number of enhancements to provide more detail and clarification to the proposed Terms of Reference. These changes are in direct response to input from the community and other stakeholders, such as the City of Hamilton, aboriginal communities, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, and other review agencies. These changes are summarized [here](#).

The primary change to the Terms of Reference involves broadening the number of options or "Alternative Methods", from 2 to 6, that will be evaluated in the Environmental Assessment.

## New What are these six new "Alternative Methods"?

The 6 options (or "Alternative Methods") that we have proposed to explore in the Environmental Assessment include different layouts and configurations for the site.

Based on feedback we received from the community, the City and other stakeholders, we have broadened the number of options to be explored and have provided an initial overview of each.

Information on these six alternative methods is included in Section 5 (page 13) of the Proposed Terms of Reference.

## New Why isn't there specific information for each of these options regarding height, area, etc.?

Based on the feedback we received during our extensive consultations, we have now broadened the number of options to be explored. The development of the specific details and evaluation of these options would now happen during the EA, if the Terms of Reference is approved. This allows for a more comprehensive analysis of more options, with more opportunities for consultation.

## New Will I be consulted further?

Yes! There will be many more opportunities for public input during the next Environmental Assessment phase, should the Terms of Reference be approved and the Environmental Assessment proceed.

## New I have comments on the Terms of Reference. What do I do with them?

Since we are in a regulated review period, you are required to submit comments to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Project Officer by March 10, 2017:

Gavin Battarino, Special Project Officer  
Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change  
Environmental Approvals Branch, Environmental Assessment Services Section  
135 St. Clair Avenue West, 1st Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P5  
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The Ministry will forward a copy of all comments to Terrapure.



# TERRAPURE & THE STONEY CREEK REGIONAL FACILITY

## Who is Terrapure?

Terrapure Environmental (Terrapure) is a leading Canadian provider of innovative, cost-effective environmental services and recycling solutions that help address industry's most complex environmental challenges. With an unwavering focus on environmental, health and safety excellence, the company provides services that minimize waste and maximize the recovery or recycling of valuable industrial by-products through a coast-to-coast facility network and on customer sites.

## Where is the Stoney Creek Regional Facility?

The Terrapure Stoney Creek Regional Facility (SCRF) is located at the northwest corner of Mud Street and Upper Centennial Parkway (Highway 20) in the community of upper Stoney Creek and has been part of the local community since it was approved by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) in 1996.

## What is the SCRF?

The SCRF is unique in Ontario in that it only takes in excavation materials and by-products from industries, such as local steel production. The highly engineered site ensures maximum environmental protection and has been called "state of the art" by an independent panel of experts. The SCRF operates Monday to Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and is regulated by the MOECC.

## Does the SCRF smell?

The SCRF does not take in garbage so there are no garbage-related odours.

## What type of material does the SCRF take in?

The SCRF is only permitted to receive non-hazardous residual materials from industrial operations like the local steel producers and infrastructure projects like the new James Street GO station and the McMaster Children's Hospital expansion.

## Where does the material come from?

Approximately 50 percent of the material received annually at the SCRF comes from customers in the City of Hamilton, so the site plays a vital role supporting local industry and the economy.

## How does the SCRF contribute to the local community?

Terrapure has an exemplary track record of operating the SCRF and enjoys strong relationships with its neighbours and the City of Hamilton. Terrapure has provided over \$22 million to the City

of Hamilton and the Heritage Green Community Trust over the history of the SCRF. Terrapure looks forward to continuing to provide funding for local community groups and maintaining these great relationships while increasing our investments in the health and well-being of the community.

## How does the SCRF support local industry and the local economy?

The SCRF plays a critical role in supporting local industry and the local economy with a conveniently located, environmentally sound facility for non-recyclable industrial residual material.

## How is the environment protected?

Terrapure's compliance record at the SCRF is exemplary. We operate in compliance with or exceeding regulatory requirements. The highly engineered site ensures maximum environmental protection through a double-liner system. It is constructed with two levels of natural clay liner and a single geosynthetic membrane liner along with extensive leachate and groundwater collection systems. The liner is approximately 10 feet thick and ensures nothing is able to escape to the natural environment. The design has been called "state of the art" by an independent panel of experts.

We have been in operation for 20 years, with more and more neighbours and residential development building up around us, and we have never had an incident affecting health or the environment. In fact, Hamilton Public Health has reviewed all of the extensive health and environmental monitoring data accumulated over 20 years in existence and confirmed there is nothing that poses a risk to the community.

## What are the Heritage Green Trust and the City of Hamilton Royalty Program?

Terrapure maintains two major community investment programs related to the SCRF – the Heritage Green Community Trust and a City of Hamilton Royalty Program. One dollar for every tonne of material received at the site each year goes into each initiative, which support community charitable and infrastructure programs. Over the nearly 20 years that these programs have been in place, they have injected a combined total of more than \$22 million into the local community.



## STONEY CREEK REGIONAL FACILITY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

### What is Terrapure Proposing to do?

Terrapure is proposing to add to the approved capacity of the SCRF by 3.68 million cubic metres (m<sup>3</sup>) for the disposal of post-diversion solid, non-hazardous industrial residual material.

### Existing Approval

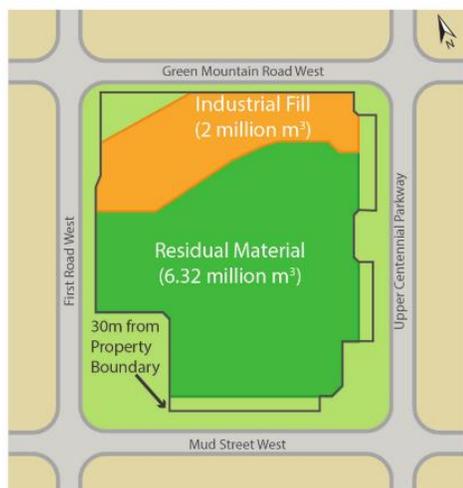


Figure not to scale

### Why is Terrapure proposing to increase the capacity of the SCRF?

We are responding to growing demands from our local customers, particularly those in Hamilton. Industries such as steel-making and infrastructure developments like the McMaster Children's Hospital expansion and the new James Street GO Station rely on us to provide a safe, environmentally sound facility to support the growth of the local economy. Fifty percent of the material received annually comes from customers in the City of Hamilton. If it had to go to another facility farther away, it would add significant cost and environmental impact from increased transportation. The proposed site reconfiguration would allow Terrapure to continue to provide a significant economic contribution to the local community, with well-paying jobs and over \$14 million in additional funding to community groups and local infrastructure projects in Stoney Creek.

### How did Terrapure arrive at the additional amount of residual material being applied for?

Terrapure identified a realistic amount of additional residual volume required to meet the needs of local customers from the City of Hamilton and surrounding area over a timeframe that makes logical business sense.

### What other options were considered by Terrapure besides adding capacity?

Terrapure considered the following three other options:

- Do nothing/ Status Quo
- Establish a new disposal site elsewhere in the City of Hamilton
- Export waste to other disposal facilities

After assessing the three other options, it was determined that none would provide local industry with options that were affordable or realistic.

### Why doesn't Terrapure look at a different location for receiving the additional waste?

Terrapure has considered finding an alternative site for a new facility and determined it not to be feasible. Given that 50% of the material accepted at the SCRF comes from local industry in Hamilton, a new site would need to be located in Hamilton. The proposed changes prevent the need to site a new landfill in Hamilton.

### Does this proposed change mean the site will be open longer?

No. In fact, our proposal will help ensure the site closes up to 9 years sooner than under the current approval. Currently, without the proposed additional capacity for residual materials, the site is projected to be open for another 16-22 years, accepting a combination of residual materials and industrial soil or "fill". If the proposed additional capacity is approved and we are able to accept more residual materials instead of fill, the site could close up to 9 years earlier than under the current situation. This is the case because the market for residual materials from local industry is much stronger than that for industrial fill.

### Will more trucks be coming to the SCRF because of the proposal to add capacity?

No. Presently, the site is permitted to receive up to 250 trucks per day; however, the average daily number received is about 70-80 trucks – well below the permitted limit. There would be no change to the maximum number of vehicles to the site per day as a result of the proposed changes.



### **Will the site be visible from the surrounding community?**

We expect that the visibility of the site's operations would not really change as a result of the proposed changes. Terrapure will undertake a visual assessment as part of the Environmental Assessment process, where view-sheds will be analyzed and appropriate screening measures put in place, if necessary. Screening measures may include earth berms, vegetation, and fencing, which would be used to ensure that views of the SCRF are minimized from the surrounding community.

### **What about noise?**

Noise level limits and monitoring requirements for the existing SCRF are currently prescribed by the MOECC and are not expected to change as a result of this proposal.



### EA PROCESS & CONSULTATION

#### What is the approvals process for allowing these proposed changes to proceed?

The proposed changes to the SCRF are subject to an Environmental Assessment (EA) under the *Ontario EA Act*. The EA process is the most rigorous and thorough process available in Ontario. An EA is a study that assesses the potential environmental effects (positive or negative) of a proposal. Key components of an EA include consultation with government agencies and the public; consideration and evaluation of alternatives; and the management of potential environmental effects. Conducting an environmental assessment promotes good environmental planning before decisions are made about proceeding with a proposal.

This approvals process is extremely rigorous and consists of two steps. Terrapure is presently preparing a Terms of Reference as part of the first step, which outlines how the EA, or second step, will be carried out.

#### How long does the EA process take before a decision is made?

There is no set time limit for the completion of an EA process. The length of time it takes depends on a number of factors including the type of proposal, study area conditions, the level of stakeholder interest, the type and extent of studies needed, the time it takes the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change (Minister) to make decisions, etc. For the proposed changes to the SCRF, we are expecting the EA process to take about 3 years before a final decision is given by the Minister.

#### Who ultimately decides whether the proposed changes can proceed or not?

The Minister of the Environment and Climate Change is responsible under the *EA Act* for approval of the proposed capacity increase of the SCRF.

#### Is the Community Liaison Committee being consulted on the proposed changes? If so, how?

Yes. Terrapure is engaging with members of the Community Liaison Committee ("CLC") as a key stakeholder during the EA process, similar to all interested stakeholders. In addition to special informational workshops or meetings requested by the CLC to specifically discuss the proposed EA project, all CLC members are invited to attend all public related events throughout the EA process (e.g., Public Open Houses).

The committee is comprised of citizen members from the local community surrounding the facility, representatives of Terrapure,

the City of Hamilton and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.

#### Is the City of Hamilton being consulted on the proposed changes? If so, then how?

Yes. Terrapure is consulting directly with the City of Hamilton throughout the EA process, both with politicians and City staff.

#### Will the public continue to be consulted on the proposed changes?

Yes. Terrapure will continue to consult extensively with the surrounding upper Stoney Creek community to share information and understand and respond to questions about the proposed capacity increase of the SCRF, ensuring any adverse impacts on neighbours or the environment are avoided or minimized. With this in mind, Terrapure has and will continue to consult widely using a variety of methods to maximize the opportunities for the public to be involved including:

- Newspaper advertisements
- Direct notifications
- Public Open Houses
- Project website and email account
- Toll-free information hotline
- Project social media accounts (facebook and twitter)

#### What is the Government Review Team and their role in the EA process?

The Government Review Team (GRT) consists of staff from government ministries and agencies (federal, provincial, including local Conservation Authorities; and, municipal, including local Boards of Health) who contribute to the review of EA documentation (Terms of Reference and EA) by providing comments from their mandated areas of responsibility.

#### How do the proposed changes align with the new provincial Waste Free Ontario & Circular Economy Act?

Terrapure's proposal aligns perfectly with the government's direction on continuing to require permitted, well-designed, environmentally-secure landfills to manage residual materials. The relatively short lifespan will provide an important bridge as the government and society work towards the vision of a zero-waste economy.