

FURTHER TO WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD #2/05
To be held Friday, June 10, 2005

Pages

4. DELEGATIONS

- 4.1** Sandy Agnew, Member, Black Creek Project and Humber Watershed Alliance, speaking in regards to item 7.5 - Oakdale Golf and Country Club.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- 6.1** A letter dated June 5, 2005, from Sandy Agnew, Member, Black Creek Project and Humber Watershed Alliance, in regards to item 7.5 - Oakdale Golf and Country Club.

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CORRESPONDENCE 6.1

June 05, 2005

**To: Chair and Members of the Watershed Management Advisory Committee
Meeting #2/05, June 10, 2005-06-02**

From: Sandy Agnew, Black Creek Project and Humber Watershed Alliance member.

**RE: Report on the Proposed Use of TRCA Property in Downsview Dells Park for a Well
for the Oakdale Golf and Country Club, Humber River Watershed**

I wish to take issue with several aspects of the above report. Firstly the rationale that there is a net environmental gain is tenuous. Oakdale Golf and Country Club's (OGCC) own consultants have stated that the Black Creek is too polluted with salt to continue to be used for irrigating the golf course. OGCC is not able to use the surface water from the creek. Therefore dam is no longer of any value to them and could be removed without any negative consequence for OGCC. The golf course should remove it without expecting compensation from TRCA.

Also, any runoff from the clean ground water used to irrigate may well be flushing salt and other chemicals from the now polluted soil back into Black Creek.

Secondly, the report neglects to mention that there was considerable vocal concern and opposition expressed at the Humber Watershed Alliance (HWA) meeting. The HWA resolution #G25/05 passed at that meeting specifically requests that HWA members be invited to **"participate"** in future discussions with OGCC. The staff report recommends that HWA only be "advised" of discussions. As a member of HWA I want the opportunity to comment on the terms of an easement agreement as they are being negotiated not after they are finalized.

I have major concerns that TRCA staff are not giving enough weight to either the real value of the publicly owned groundwater versus the frivolous and wasteful end use of watering grass or to the precedent of TRCA assisting golf courses to waste our most precious resource, clean ground water.

I understand that TRCA and MOE are developing a protocol for water taking by golf courses. No agreement should be made with OGCC until the terms of that new protocol are finalized.

Finally, I am requesting delegation status to address the Watershed Management Advisory Board meeting on June 10, 2005.

Sandy Agnew,
Black Creek Project and Humber Watershed Alliance member