

NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT

Highway 11/17 Four-Laning from Coughlin Road to Red Rock Road #9 Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study

THE STUDY

WSP, on behalf of the **Ministry of Transportation (MTO)**, has initiated the Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the four-lane expansion of Highway 11/17 from 800 m west of Coughlin Road to Red Rock Road #9, as shown in the key plan.

BACKGROUND

Following the planning and preliminary design phase, an Environmental Study Report (ESR) was filed for public review and comment in 1997, and subsequently, the project was cleared to proceed. The EA approved plan within the study limits included:

- Expansion of Highway 11/17 to four lanes on a new highway alignment;
- Improvements / modifications to select intersecting side-roads; and
- Two new bridges across the Black Sturgeon River.

The four-lane highway corridor was designated (protected) in 2003.

THE PROCESS

This project will follow MTO's *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities* (2000) process for Group 'B' projects.

As part of the study, an Addendum to the 1997 Environmental Study Report will be prepared to document any changes to existing environmental conditions from the 1997 study, and proposed changes to the previously approved plan for Highway 11/17 within the study limits. Potential changes to the 1997 approved plan include: widening the proposed right-of-way from 90 m to 110 m, and alignment revisions to the intersecting roadways.

Consultation will take place throughout the study with external agencies, property owners and the public. Two (2) Public Information Centres (PICs) are planned. Notices providing the time and location of the PICs will be posted on the project website, published in local newspapers, and sent to persons on the project mailing list.

The Addendum to the 1997 ESR will be available for a 30-day review period. Notices will be posted on the project website, published in local newspapers, and sent to persons on the project mailing list when the Addendum is available for viewing.

COMMENTS

If you wish to obtain additional information or provide comments, or if you would like to be added to the study's mailing list, please contact:

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Comments and information are being collected to assist the MTO in meeting the requirements of the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. All comments will be maintained on file for use during the study and, with the exception of personal information, may be included in study documentation and become part of the public record.

Please visit us at www.hwy11-17-coughlintoredrock9.com

