

Public Works

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APPENDIX B

Additional Region of Peel Comments from Regional Council on the Proposed Changes to the Provincial Policy Statement

October 21, 2019

Planning Consultation
Provincial Planning Policy Branch
777 Bay Street
13th floor
Toronto, ON M5G 2E5

Dear Planning Consultation staff,

Re: Additional Region of Peel Comments from Regional Council on the Proposed Changes to the Provincial Policy Statement - ERO # 019-0279

Regional staff comments on the Proposed Changes to the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) were presented to Regional Council on October 10, 2019. As per the Council resolution (Appendix C) included in this package of the Regional Council report and detailed comments, Council members provided additional comments on two select matters of importance in the PPS, as described below.

Comments to Address the Changing Nature of Employment

For several years, Peel has studied the changing trends in employment and use of employment lands. The Region has observed a shift in employment trends, specifically around increases in work from home arrangements, automation, and warehousing/logistics operations. Additionally, there has been an increase in the number of requests for conversion of employment lands, which traditionally preserve a significant proportion of land for industrial uses, to commercial, retail, residential or other mixed uses.

The Region of Peel's challenges in employment planning are indicative of the changing nature of employment in the Greater Golden Horseshoe and complex economic trends. To address these complexities, provincial and municipal employment policies should be receptive to market changes to have the flexibility to support new economic opportunities, while providing certainty and protection for traditional industries and sectors. The PPS should recognize the changing nature of employment and include policies which balance emerging needs with preserving adequate employment land area to meet the demands of industrial employers and growth targets.

Comments on Mineral Aggregate Resource Conservation Policy 2.5.2.3

When finalizing revisions to the mineral aggregate resources policies of the PPS, the Ministry should take into account concerns regarding policy 2.5.2.3 and the recycling of aggregates in licensed operations. The situation of accessory aggregate recycling facilities within licensed operations can have the unintended consequence of delaying the surrender of the licence for pits and quarries when extraction is complete, thereby delaying rehabilitation. There are also concerns that uncontrolled importation of materials can have unintended consequences including the potential to contaminate groundwater and sources of drinking water. The Province should ensure that aggregates recycling and rehabilitation policies including supporting requirements under the *Aggregates Resources Act* address these and other concerns.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. The Region of Peel wishes to continue to be circulated on future updates to the PPS 2019 and looks forward to receiving further information and consultation opportunities.

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Regards,



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Regional Planning and Growth Management