

David J. Mawle

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Minister Jonathan Wilkinson
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario Canada
K1A 0A6

May 18, 2021

Dear Jonathan

Attached you will find current photographs of proof the Caledon and Erin lands and water is currently in a significant drought.

This winter was relatively mild and usually snow levels in the bush and forests would melt in the spring slowly, allowing rivers, streams and ponds sustainable depths and flow until April showers top up the water levels.

This year there was very little snow in the bush and April showers did not arrive. Currently we have a drought in our area to such an extent the rivers, creeks, streams are very low and ponds have already dried up.

My concern is that there will not be enough dilution of 7.2 million litres of effluent waste (endo-toxins, micro plastics and other chemicals) to prevent poisoning of the West Credit River should the proposed sewage plant be allowed to discharge into the river, therefore killing life downstream!

This ludicrous plan of the town of Erin to allow the building of quantity 10 new subdivisions in Erin township is not acceptable. No real master plan has been completed. There are no plans for road infrastructure, changes to allow up to 10,000 more cars per day on the current roads, also no plans for recreation, parks and schools to accommodate this potential influx of homes, people and vehicles.

Please review the attached current photographs taken today (May 18, 2021) and the facts below 1 – 7.

- 1) The Environmental Study Report failed to require effluent temperature limits and design objectives in spite of representatives from all three provincial regulatory agencies expressing the need.
- 2) Sewage effluent will create an oxygen depleted and toxic plume that will likely extend several hundred meters downstream into Brook Trout nursery habitat.
- 3) In fact, the Environmental Study Report reported that Brook Trout redds were extremely abundant in the study reach and the study area provides habitat for this critical life state.
- 4) Brook Trout habitat immediately downstream of the sewage discharge location will be made uninhabitable.
- 5) The scope of the ESR was narrow, with inadequate consideration of the expanded population growth and the toll it will take on the West Credit River's aquatic ecosystem.
- 6) Brook Trout require 19°C or less of fresh, cold water to survive, and spawn. The sewage plant's effluent waste will not be temperature controlled to prevent the killing of the Brook Trout and life downstream.
- 7) The West Credit River is the last unpolluted, cold, fresh water stream in Southern Ontario. It needs to be protected for future generation. It is currently a Unesco World Biosphere Reserve

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

David J. Mawle

Cell: <Personal information removed>



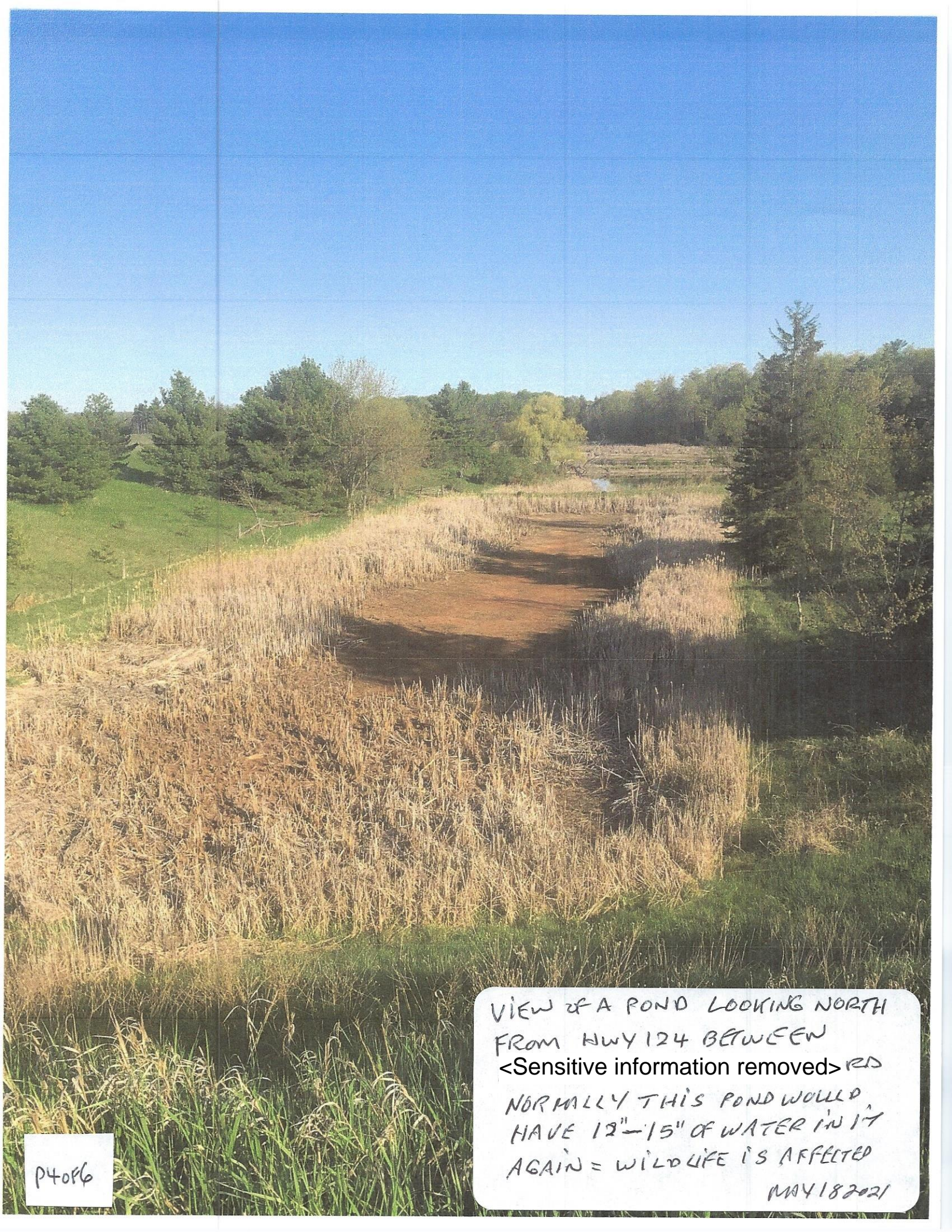
MY HOME. <Personal information removed>
<Personal information removed> LACK OF
WATER IN OUR 30 YEAR OLD
WELL HAS FORCED ME TO
SPEND \$10,000.00 ON A NEW WELL
MAY 18 2021.

P2066



A SMALL SPRING FED POND
 ON THE SOUTHSIDE OF
 BEL FOUNTAIN. BETWEEN SHAW'S
 <Sensitive information removed>
 FROGS, TADPOLES AND OTHER
 ENDANGERED SPECIES ARE AT
 RISK FROM BIRDS AND RACCOONS, ETC

P3066



VIEW of A POND LOOKING NORTH
FROM HWY 124 BETWEEN
<Sensitive information removed> RD
NORMALLY THIS POND WOULD
HAVE 12"-15" OF WATER IN IT
AGAIN = WILDLIFE IS AFFECTED

MAY 18 2021

P4086

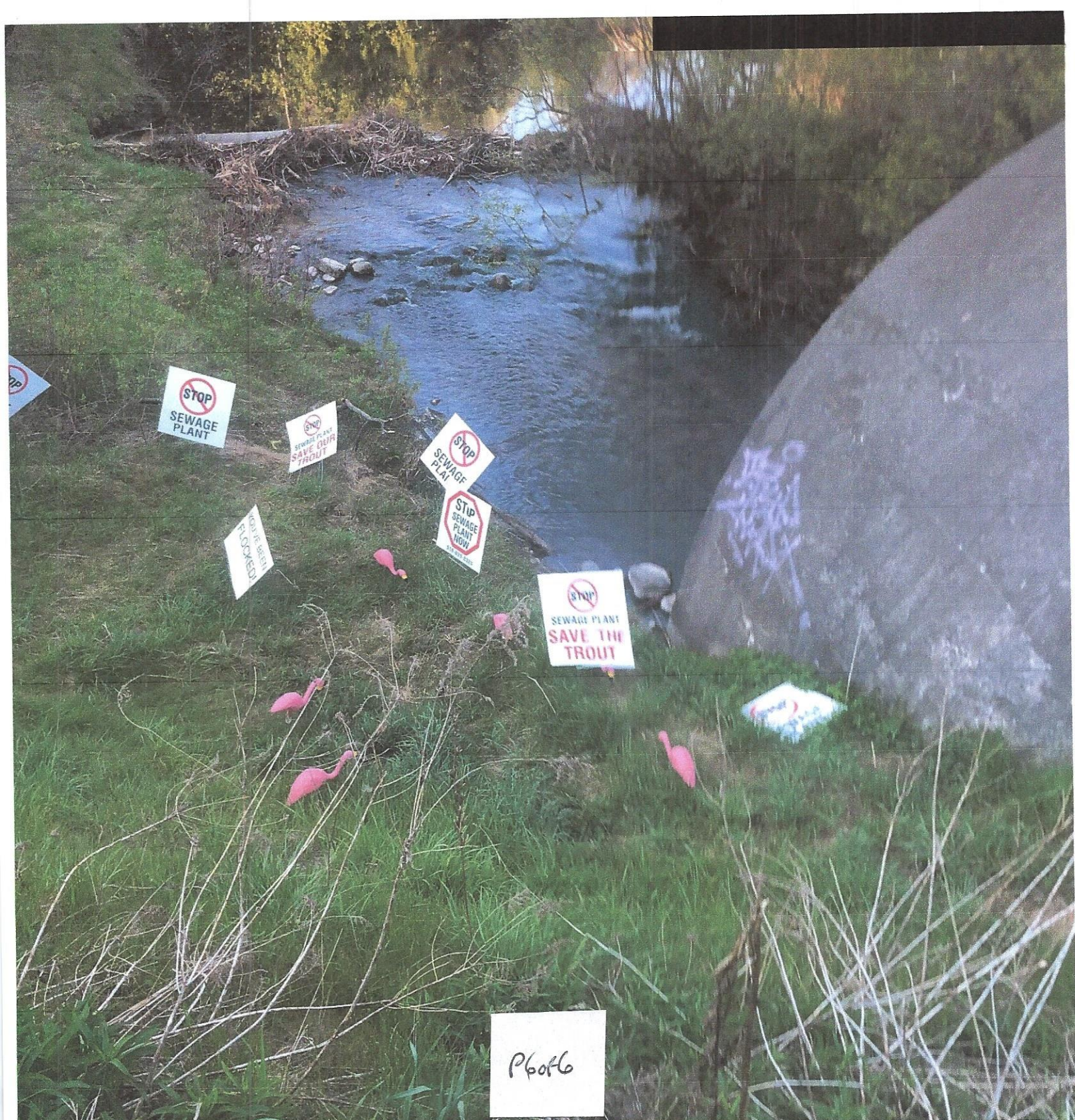
PHOTO LOOKING WEST FROM
(SIR)WINSTON CHURCHILL RD. AT THE
CONCRETE CULVERT. THE RIVER
HAS SHRANK CONSIDERABLY THIS
SPRING TO A LACK OF SNOW IN THE
BUSH, THE LACK OF RAINFALL AND
GLOBAL WARMING. IT IS ONLY 10" DEEP

LOCATION
OF
DUMPSITE
PIPE

CONCRETE
CULVERT

P5066





Photo

VIEW OF WEST CREDIT RIVER
LOOKING WEST. A BEAVER DAM
(TOP OF PHOTO) WAS BREACHED
WITH A MAN MADE POLE AROUND
THE TIME WATER FLOW TESTS
WERE MADE. THIS LEADS TO
A SERIES OF QUESTIONS!

THE RIVER IS VERY LOW.
NORMALLY THE ROCKS SHOWING
IN THE STREAM (TOP LEFT)
ARE COVERED IN WATER. THE
RIVER HERE/NOW IS ONLY 10" DEEP!
IN TIMES LIKE THESE THERE IS NOT
ENOUGH RIVER TO ALLOW DILUTION OF
7.2 MILLION LITERS (DAILY) OF EFFLUENT



P10F3
5.18.2021

~~ERIN~~ HAS A CURRENT WATER SHORTAGE

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Erin To Spend Another \$600,000 To Secure Viable Water Source

Posted on **April 13, 2018** by Source Protection Media Releases

ERIN – Finding a new water source has been an elusive endeavour thus far, according to consultants seeking another \$600,000 from the Town of Erin.

Christine Furlong of Triton Engineering and Andrew Pentney of Groundwater Science Corp told council on April 3 the search for a new viable water supply has not been successful.

Sites at the Erin fire hall and town-owned lands near Kenneth Avenue were tested but both underperformed.

Furlong said those sites were chosen for testing as they were the most cost-effective and were owned by the town.

“Finding and drilling new wells has been a significant challenge, given public interest, the new regulatory environment around source water protection and in your case, the natural features that rely on ground water recharge and discharge near the urban areas near Hillsburgh and Erin village,” said Furlong.

The town’s draft wastewater environmental assessment stated the Credit River could permit a residential population of 14,559, a significant increase from the original 6,000 noted in the Servicing and Settlement Master Plan (SSMP) completed in 2014.

As a result, the water supply deficit has increased, explained Furlong.

"Instead of one or two wells to service 6,000 people, we're now looking at five to seven wells to service 14,600 people," she said.

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"Given the potential in service population and the failure to find adequate water in the previous-mentioned sites, expansion of the drilling program is needed to find and secure additional water supply to support the pending official plan review."

There are eight potential exploratory sites, three of which will be part of the next round of testing.

Furlong was seeking approval from council to use the remaining budget of \$133,500 and the remaining reserve fund of \$122,000 (allocated to finding a new well following the trichloroethylene contamination of well E5 in the 1990s) to test the three new sites.

Furlong also asked for an additional \$604,000 to complete two additional production wells.

She added this was to ensure the project could move forward during a potential "lame duck" council period prior to the fall election.

Councillor John Brennan said it was a "big pill to swallow," noting the additional water supply was needed because of the added sewage capacity.

"The water systems are already short for the existing population," said Furlong. She noted that after the two production wells are online, additional wells can be capped until needed.

"Really, this is the first municipality I've worked with where we've sunk holes and not found water," she said.

Brennan asked if the new test wells would be tapping into the same aquifer as the underperforming test wells. Erin sits in both the Grand River and Credit River watersheds.

Furlong confirmed all exploratory wells were within the Credit River watershed because taking from the Grand River watershed would lead to an inter-basin transfer.

"Then you get into even more regulatory requirements, to the point where you even have to go and talk to our friends in the United States of America," she said.

Pentney added, "We're looking at a deeper source (in the Credit River watershed)."

Councillor Jeff Duncan said, "I think the EA for the water supply is just as important as the wastewater and it's something we're going to have to grapple with."

Councillor Rob Smith said with all the data from conservation authorities, Nestlé Waters Canada and Source Water Protection, "you would think ... we would know where the water is in town."

Councillor Matt Sammut agreed. "I don't get it either. We live in 2018 and I've seen maps of aquifers; maybe we don't have it in Erin but the amount of money that we're spending just seems wild," he said.

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Pentney said much of the data relates to testing rather than predictive analysis.

"The amount of money that has been spent so far to search for water, in the scheme of overall municipal systems, it is not large," he said.

Mayor Allan Alls asked why the town hasn't pursued expansion of the Bel-Erin well.

"The Bell Erin ... is still in the plans to look at it, but it alone will not solve all of your problems," said Furlong.

"You need way more water than what that well can produce and to bring it up to standard would require significant treatment technology to go in there."

Alls added the EA needed to move forward.

"Now, understand that we've got to do these two wells – there's no if, ands or buts about it," he said.

CAO Nathan Hyde added, "we have a pretty good handle on the finances.

"It's a bitter pill to swallow; we don't like having to incur significant costs like this, but I think we're well positioned to address it moving forward."

Council unanimously approved the extra spending.

Original story here: <http://www.wellingtonadvertiser.com/comments/index.cfm?articleID=39769>

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