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NEWS RELEASE

Picton Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement Moves Ahead

Picton, ON - At the Council meeting of April 28, 2009 Council unanimously accepted a quotation from Maple Reinders Constructors Ltd. to design and build the new Picton Wastewater Treatment Plant at a price of \$24,707,250. The construction contract is expected to commence on Monday, May 11, 2009 at the previously selected and Ministry of the Environment approved site on Champlain Lookout.

\$10.3M of the construction cost will be covered by Canada-Ontario Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (COMRIF), with the remainder being financed through water and sewer system users, as mandated by Provincial legislation.

The Treatment Plant will be designed to treat an average flow rate of 6,000 cubic m/day. This will provide capacity for the current system users and future capacity for development. The Plant will also handle peak day capacities and peak instantaneous flows that will eliminate the partially treated by-pass events that now occur during heavy wet weather conditions.

"The extensive process we have undertaken has resulted in two things, a delay which drove up costs, but a savings of over \$6M from the tender issued in 2008," said Project Committee Vice-Chair, Peter Mertens. "The municipality commenced this process in 2004 and we are confident we have exhausted all alternatives and reached the best possible solution for our needs."

"The construction of this new plant will serve the Picton community, support growth in the urban areas, provide safe disposal of rural septage and improve treatment quality for the next 60 to 80 years," said Mayor Leo P. Finnegan. "I would like to thank our staff, the members of the various Project Committees over the years and Council for their commitment to finding the best possible solution for our residents."

The existing plant, which was established in 1947, was identified for replacement by 2002.

Council will be holding a public information session to review the overall schedule of events since 2002 and explain the decision-making process, financial implications and the approach taken for the new plant.

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For further information, contact Matt Tracey Director of Water & Wastewater Services at 613-476-3537 or Steve Carroll, Commissioner of Public Works at 613-476-2148.

