THE STUDY
The City of Peterborough (the City) has initiated a Detailed Sanitary Sewer Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) process for the Mitigation and Management of Extraneous Flows into the Sanitary Sewer System. Peterborough is located approximately 150 km northeast of Toronto on the Trent-Severn Waterway in the Kawartha Region and has a population of approximately 75,000. The purpose of the Class EA is to identify and evaluate alternative solutions for the reduction of inflow and infiltration (“I and I”) into the City’s sanitary sewer system. The study area consists of the sanitary sewer collection system catchment area within the City, which is tributary to the Peterborough Sewage Treatment Plant.

PROBLEM STATEMENT
In July 2004, the City was hit by a severe rainfall event that caused significant damage. Flood damage was reportedly in excess of $100 million, including indirect physical damages to private and public property. In addition, the City suffered indirect damages such as disruption to residential living conditions, loss of business, and loss of wages or income. Studies to date have shown that there were four main causes of the damage: unprecedented heavy rainfall, insufficient storm sewer capacity, poorly defined overland flow routes and extraneous (unwanted) water getting into the sanitary sewer system. The Detailed Sanitary Sewer Class EA is developed as part of the overall evaluation and solution to the existing and potential flooding concerns within the City. This project presents an opportunity to mitigate and manage extraneous flows in the sanitary sewer system.

THE PROCESS
The purpose of the Class EA is to identify and evaluate alternative solutions for the reduction of I and I into the City’s sanitary sewer system. A cost-benefit analysis will be undertaken to compare the costs of correcting I and I conditions and the costs of transportation and treatment of these flows. An evaluation process that includes physical, economic, environmental and social/cultural/health implications will be used to assess and evaluate the alternative solutions to select the preferred solution.

This study will follow the Master Plan approach in order to fulfill the obligations under the Environmental Assessment Act. The Master Plan will follow Approach #2, as outlined in Appendix 4 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment document, October 2000, as amended in 2007. Successful completion of the Master Plan under this approach would fulfill Phases 1 and 2 of the Class EA process, and the final public notice for the Master Plan would become the Notice of Completion for any Schedule ‘B’ projects recommended within the Master Plan. It is noted that any Schedule ‘C’ projects would require the completion of Phases 3 and 4 of the Class EA.

A key component of the study will be consultation with interested stakeholders (public, landowners and regulatory agencies). Two Public Information Centres (PICs) will be held during the study period to present the project and receive public input. Details regarding the forthcoming PICs will be advertised as the study progresses.

Upon completion of the study, a Master Plan document will be presented which provides the planning rationale and EA documentation required to proceed with detailed design of the recommended works. The draft Master Plan will be presented to the City’s staff for review and comment. After the Master Plan has been finalized, it will be made available for public review at selected City facilities.

It is preferred to receive all comments and questions by e-mail to the below noted address:

Email: PeterboroughSanitaryEA@coleengineering.ca

If methods of communication other than e-mail are required, please contact one of the following project leaders.

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Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

This Notice issued Friday, July 2 and Wednesday, July 7, 2010.