

## MEMORANDUM

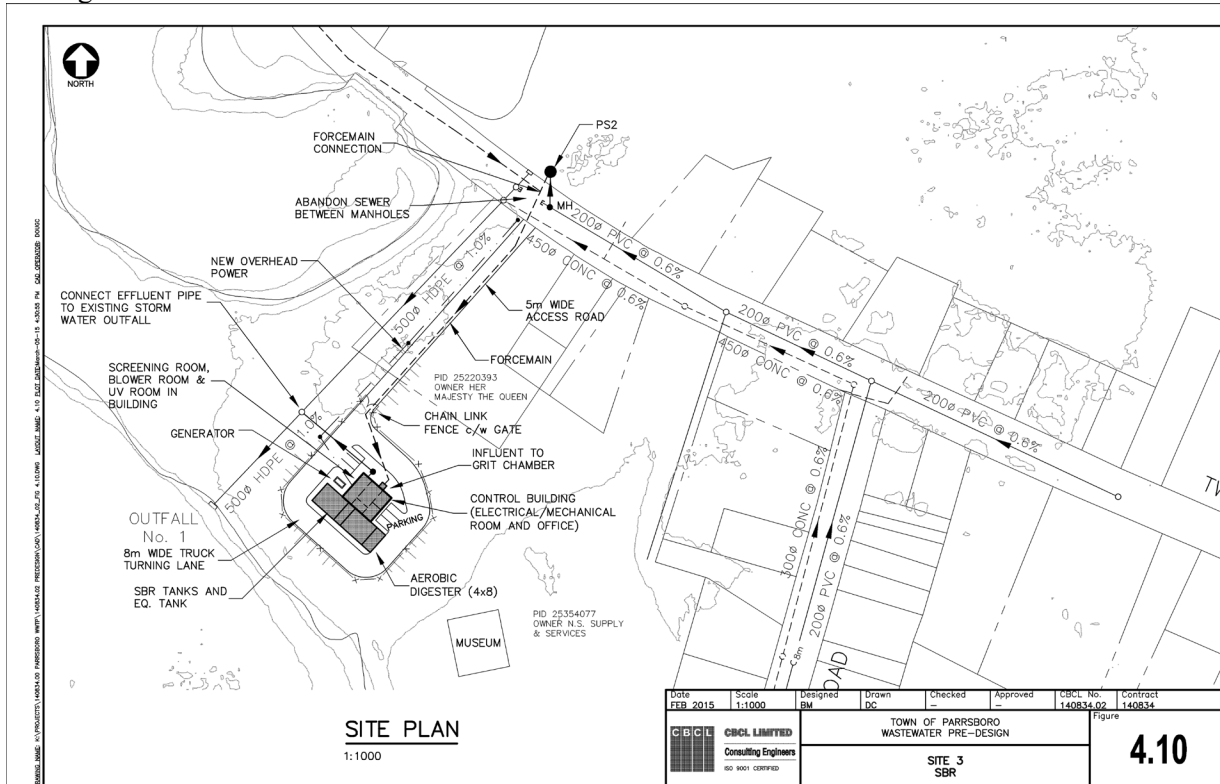
**TO:** Council

**FROM:** Justin Waugh-Cress, P.Eng

**DATE:** March 13, 2017

**RE:** Parrsboro Wastewater Treatment Plant - Location

The current proposed location of the Parrsboro Wastewater Treatment Plant is adjacent to the Fundy Geological Museum.



**Figure 1 Current Proposed WWTP Location**

This site was chosen by the Council of the Former Town of Parrsboro as their preferred location. This site is currently owned by the Province of Nova Scotia.

During our public consultation for this project it was discovered that there is significant opposition to the utilization of this site from the Fundy Geological Museum (FGM) and Nova Scotia Museums.

A meeting was had with the provincial departments of Communities and Culture, Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, and Municipal Affairs. In this meeting the use of this site was discussed and potential ways to mitigate the concerns raised by the FGM.

The process for gaining title to a piece of property when that transfer is opposed by another department will take more than 8 weeks with no assurance of success.

Taking the above into account, CBCL was authorized to conduct geotechnical testing on the County owned property across the road. This site was identified in the pre-design report as a potential location for the WWTP. The below figures show the alternate site and the two options in relation to each other.

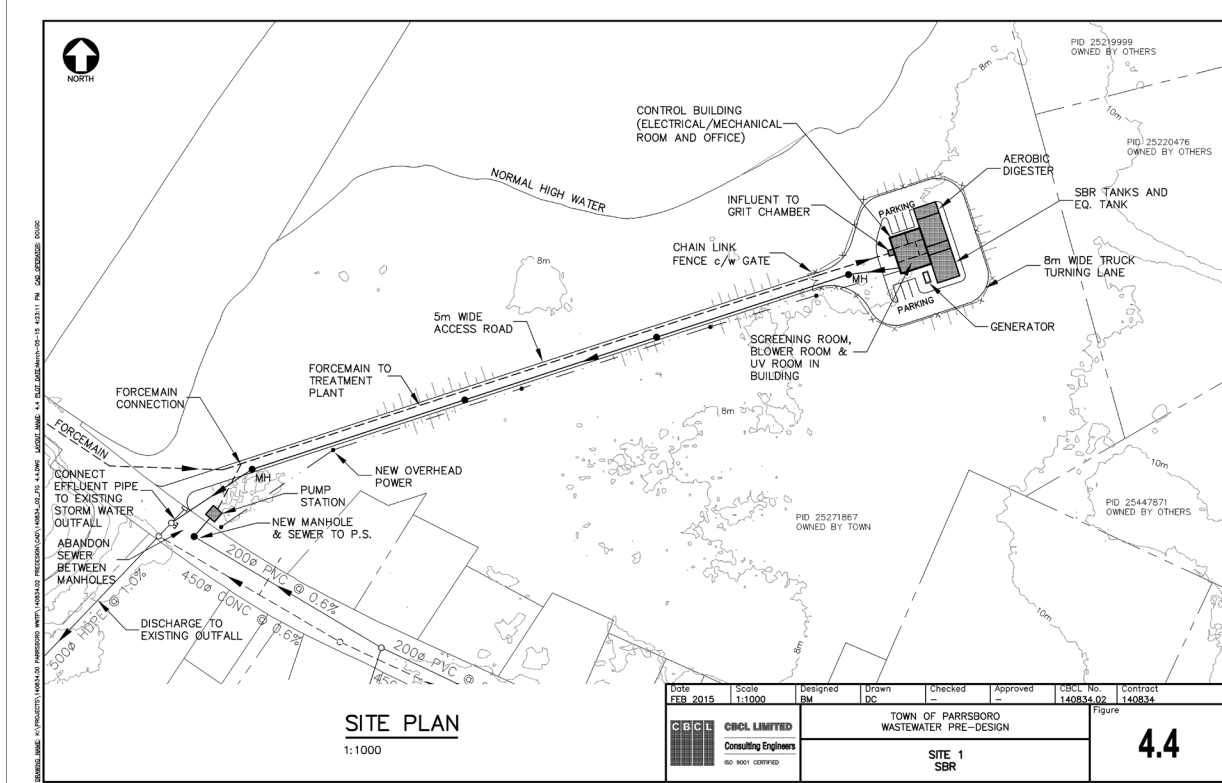


Figure 2 Alternate WWTP Site



Figure 3 Current and Alternate Sites

The results of the geotechnical investigation have determined that the alternate site has suitable soil conditions to support the construction of a wastewater treatment plant.

The change from the current proposed site to the alternate site comes with an increased capital cost burden as a result of additional site work to build an access road and additional discharge pipe. CBCL have revised their construction cost estimate to take these additional costs into account. It is estimated that moving the WWTP to the alternate site would increase the budget by \$346,000.

A site plan showing the alternate WWTP location and possible building lot subdivision is attached. The WWTP location on this plan meets all Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) setback guidelines from existing residences and property lines.

Staff recommends constructing the WWTP in the alternate location. Due to the tight timelines required by the Clean Water Wastewater Fund (project completion March 31, 2018) a delay of eight weeks or more with no guarantee of success would seriously impact the ability to complete the project on schedule. Additional benefits to shifting sites include meeting all NSE setback guidelines, higher site elevations above harbor, geotechnical conditions on site superior, and there is room to expand the plant should future development warrant. If approved the additional capital cost would be included in the 2017/18 Capital Budget, if these funds cause exceedances in the total capital budget they will have not be eligible for cost sharing in the funding program.