

## 4.0 RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSED CRRRC

Taggart Miller undertook an analysis (presented in Supporting Document #1 of the approved TOR) in order to assess the opportunity to provide an integrated waste management facility focused on resource recovery of IC&I and C&D wastes in the Capital Region and eastern Ontario. The analysis considered current market conditions and how these conditions might affect the opportunity. The study looked at established provincial and municipal programs, goals and policies, and identified existing facilities. It also considered factors affecting current and possible future diversion rates for IC&I and C&D waste materials.

Taggart Miller's analysis concluded that there is an opportunity to provide new environmentally safe waste management services for IC&I and C&D wastes in eastern Ontario. Taggart Miller then undertook an assessment to quantify and better understand the opportunity. A potential service area was identified, consisting of the City of Ottawa and a selected area of eastern Ontario. The existing known diversion and disposal facilities for IC&I and C&D waste materials were identified. The most up-to-date data available to Taggart Miller on waste generation and diversion within the potential service area was obtained and compiled, and future IC&I and C&D waste generation and materials requiring management by diversion and disposal were estimated. A well-established approach to estimate waste generation volume (for IC&I/C&D) as a direct function of population was used.

Based on the diversion rates available at the time of the TOR development and the indicated population growth, the quantity of IC&I and C&D material requiring management over the analysis/planning period was estimated to be approximately 1,000,000 tonnes/year using 2010 as the base year, increasing gradually to approximately 1,500,000 tonnes in 2046. The assessment showed that in the absence of increased diversion capacity/rates and/or additional approved disposal capacity, there could be an IC&I and C&D waste management capacity deficit in the proposed service area of anywhere from 350,000 tonnes/year to 1,250,000 tonnes/year in the planning period of 30 years used for the CRRRC.

Waste Management's Ottawa landfill received EA approval in September 2013 for the reopening of the landfill to provide ten year disposal capacity. If the remaining required approvals are obtained by Waste Management, this would satisfy a good portion of the IC&I and C&D waste disposal need through to about year 2025. This was considered in the TOR. After approximately 2025, which is relatively short in terms of waste management planning, an IC&I and C&D waste management deficit would remain. More fundamentally and in any event, the primary focus of the proposed CRRRC, unlike the Waste Management landfill or the BFI Navan landfill, is diversion of waste from landfill. Even if there is now adequate waste disposal capacity in the Capital Region to 2025, the existing 12-13% diversion rate for IC&I waste in the Capital Region (and provincially) clearly illustrates the need for new and innovative facilities like the CRRRC to move the diversion agenda of both the City of Ottawa and the Province forward.

Based on this assessment Taggart Miller concluded that there is a clear opportunity to provide IC&I and C&D waste management services in the Capital Region and eastern Ontario over the planning period, and that it is in a good position to respond to this opportunity/need. Without the private sector taking the lead on investments in diversion and residuals disposal infrastructure of the sort envisaged by Taggart Miller with respect to the CRRRC, there is no reasonable prospect of meeting local or provincial diversion goals given the current waste management infrastructure in the proposed service area.

As noted above, it is estimated that only about 12 to 14% of IC&I and C&D waste materials in the Capital Region are currently diverted from disposal. In 2009 the City of Ottawa released a document called “Diversion 2015: An IC&I 3R Waste Diversion Strategy for Ottawa”. The strategy identifies that it is the City’s goal to increase diversion of IC&I and C&D material to 60% by 2015 (City of Ottawa, 2009). As of 2014, no significant facilities or measured changes have been put in place to make such a significant increase in diversion and reach this goal. The City can only exercise very limited control on or influence over the way IC&I and C&D waste materials are managed by the private sector. The private sector has not invested sufficiently in facilities in the Ottawa area (or indeed in the province) to process recyclables from the IC&I/C&D sector to achieve the provincial and local diversion objectives. As a result, the majority of IC&I and C&D wastes still go to disposal. The majority of participants in the City of Ottawa’s consultation process on a 30 year waste management plan felt it is important to find local waste management solutions. The City has indicated that local businesses and institutions are encumbered in their waste diversion efforts by the lack of affordable diversion services. The proposed CRRRC fully supports the City of Ottawa’s objective to increase diversion of IC&I and C&D wastes from disposal.

Since development of the TOR for this EA, provincial goals and policies have been updated that further support and reinforce the rationale for the CRRRC. In particular, in June of 2013 the Minister of the Environment introduced Bill 91, the *Waste Reduction Act* – “...as a way forward to break Ontario’s recycling logjam, boost diversion rates and establish a system that encourages the private sector to invest in more recycling and jobs in our province.” (Minister of the Environment, 2013).

Also in 2013 Statistics Canada released the most recent waste management industry survey, which indicated that while IC&I and C&D waste in Ontario remains at about 65% of the waste generated in the province, the diversion rate for these waste streams remains around 12% (Statistics Canada, 2013a). The proposed CRRRC fully supports the provincial policy, reinforced recently by the Liberal government with the introduction of Bill 91, to increase diversion of IC&I and C&D wastes from disposal.