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**Project to establish a technical landfill site at Danford Lake  
in the Municipality of Alleyn-et-Cawood**

## **Conclusion**

At the end of its inquiry and its analysis, the commission concludes that it is not desirable to authorize the project to establish a technical landfill site at Danford Lake in the Municipality of Alleyn-et-Cawood.

The commission recalls that the Québec Residual Materials Management Policy puts regional municipalities in charge of planning the management of residual materials. It was within this context that the Table des préfets de l'Outaouais began a process, which aims to define a common solution to the management of residual materials. The regional solutions arising from this consultation initiative have yet to be decided upon. If the project to establish a technical landfill site at Danford Lake were authorized before the regional initiative on the management of residual materials in the Outaouais Region were completed, this would compromise the consultation efforts undertaken for the selection of a management method, a valorization technology and the location of the facilities.

Moreover, the global capacity of 8 metric tons proposed over a timeframe of approximately thirty years for the technical landfill site at Danford Lake would far exceed the needs of the Outaouais Region. This disproportion would be more pronounced once the region has implemented a technology to valorize its residual materials allowing the region to significantly reduce its landfill needs.

The commission nevertheless recognizes that resorting to landfilling will continue to be necessary as a complementary management method to the chosen valorization technology. The quantities that will have to be disposed of in a landfill will depend on the valorization technology chosen.

To minimize the environmental impacts and to distribute as fairly as possible the associated inconveniences, it is important that regional residual materials management facilities be located near the sources that generate these materials in order to minimize the transport, which is not the case for the technical landfill site planned at Danford Lake.

However, since the residual materials valorization solution sought in the region cannot be determined or implemented soon enough to meet the needs of the Outaouais Region, notably within the perspective of the upcoming closure of the trench sanitary landfills required for January 2009, an interim replacement solution is needed over the short term. A number of options are currently being examined by the RCM of Outaouais and the City of Gatineau. However, it is imperative that the interim solution promptly lead to the putting in place of a residual materials treatment technology in the Outaouais Region, which would put an end to their transport outside the region. The region's commitment to a transparent decision-making process based on public participation and subject to a meticulous timetable would make it possible to develop an optimum solution for the management of residual materials, while making this solution socially acceptable.

If the project were to be carried out, it would lead to a major increase in trucking on Route 301, between Kazabazua and Danford Lake, whereas the increase would be moderate on Route 105. Moreover, were the groundwater to become polluted by the leachate, it could be difficult to limit the problem and to treat the volumes of contaminated water associated with a landfill site of this scope.

The establishment of a landfill site of a regional scope in a small community like that of the Municipality of Allevyn-et-Cawood raises questions of fairness, particularly in that this site is located far away from the main centres that generate residual materials in the Outaouais Region.

The scope of the project in relation to the receiving environment, the difficulty for residents to participate in the decision-making of municipal authorities and concerns about the control of environmental repercussions have resulted in major opposition to the project within the population. In the eyes of the commission, this project is problematic from a social acceptability standpoint.