



August 11, 2015 – EBR Review Excess Soil Policy in Ontario

Representatives from RCCAO, SOiil, ONEIA and other Ministries involved with excess construction soils met with MOECC staff to be updated on findings to date from the Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR) Review of Excess Soil Policy in Ontario. Chris Lompart, Manager, Land and Water Policy Branch MOECC led the discussion on potential future policy elements coming out of the study which is anticipated to be completed this fall.

While comments are preliminary, the MOECC identified the need for additional clear policy and that, in some quarters, there is a lack of confidence in the current regime (e.g., inadequate soil tracking). Improvements will be possible if there is more upfront planning to encourage reuse, greater source site responsibility and further technical guidance. Making these elements and other concerns “fit together” with existing policies is recognized as a complex matter involving many other Ministries beyond the MOECC. The need for an overarching strategic framework providing a detailed approach and timeline was discussed. Formal EBR consultations are expected to begin in September.