

Milton Logistics Hub: 2023 Q2 Report

For the period April 1 to June 30, 2023

1.0 Project Overview

The Milton Logistics Hub (the “Project”) was the subject of a multi-year federal environmental assessment process, which culminated in a federal Decision Statement on January 21, 2021, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Authorization on July 23, 2021, and a Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA) decision on November 22, 2021. It is subject to over 300 conditions designed to protect the community and the environment, including a requirement to produce reports on a quarterly basis that describe how CN has addressed feedback on the Project.

2.0 Summary of Construction Activities

Project construction commenced on January 17, 2022, with [Phase One activities](#) as identified in Construction Schedule 15.2. During the 2023 Q2 period, site activities have included: excavation for storm water management pond 1; excavation for footings of Culvert 1; additional matting and seeding channel banks to improve vegetation growth on slopes in the realigned Tributary A; installation of temporary track for existing mainline tracks; mainline diversion grading and ditch work; installation of sewers along the realigned mainline; installation of chorus frog exclusion fencing; and installation of communications and signalling lines.

All activities are being carried out in accordance with the conditions outlined in the federal [Decision Statement](#).

2.1 Construction Site Photos

The following are images of various construction activities that have occurred during this reporting period.



2.1.1. Mainline Diversion Grading and Ditch Establishment



Figure 1 – April 25, 2023

2.1.2 Mainline Diversion Grading and Ditch Establishment



Figure 2 – April 25, 2023

**2.1.3 Progress on Stormwater Management Pond 1
Inlet Installation**



Figure 3 – April 23, 2023

**2.1.4 Progress on Stormwater Management Pond 1
Excavation**



Figure 4 – May 15, 2023

2.1.5 Tributary A
Snapping Turtles and Tadpoles Observed in Wetland Pockets



Figure 5 – May 5, 2023

2.1.6 Vegetation Re-growth at Former Indian Creek Beaver Pond



Figure 6 – May 18, 2023

2.1.7 Installation of Communications and Signalling Lines



Figure 7 – April 23, 2023

2.1.8 Mainline Diversion Grading and Ditch Establishment Stripping and erosion sediment controls in place north of Tributary A



Figure 8 – May 23, 2023

2.1.9 Enhancement Areas: Tributary A – Turtle Nesting on Valley Slopes



Figure 9 – June 20, 2023

2.1.10 Enhancement Areas: Tributary A – Turtle Nesting on Valley Slopes
Snapping Turtle observed near Culvert 2A



Figure 10 – June 19, 2023

2.2 Meetings with Regulatory Agencies

CN regularly meets in person or virtually with representatives from the relevant regulatory agencies: Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Health Canada, Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA), and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC).

Meetings with regulatory agencies occurred on:

- April 11, 2023
- April 20, 2023 (on site)
- May 9, 2023
- June 13, 2023

DFO was on site on March 21, 2023 for Tributary A to review erosion identified by the contractor and CN's environmental monitor. Erosion issue was immediately resolved through the addition of erosion and sediment controls to reduce potential impacts of runoff and through the installation of additional check dams within the channel, with subsequent re-seeding and matting of the eroded slopes in April 2023.

The regulatory agencies requested information from CN in response to their review of the annual follow-up program reports. CN provided a response to ECCC regarding the results of the various wildlife follow-up programs on August 16, 2023 to address their questions regarding bat box installation, monitoring of off-site grassland habitat, proof of turtle signage, and status of turtle nesting mound installation.

When not meeting on site, participating agencies were provided with a virtual tour/photo log of the site. No areas of concern or non-compliance were identified by the agencies during these meetings.

3.0 Community Engagement

In 2021, CN announced the establishment of the Community Consultation Committee (the "Committee") for the Milton Logistics Hub as part of its ongoing community communication and engagement related to the Project. CN elected to form the Committee as a component of the federally mandated [Community Liaison Communication Process](#) (See Project Documents). The Committee is led by independent third-party co-facilitators and its membership represents environmental, business, community, post-secondary education, and other interests in Milton and across Halton. The Community Consultation Committee serves as a community feedback forum to CN from Indigenous groups and local stakeholders prior to construction, throughout construction, and into operation of the Project.

3.1 Community Consultation Committee Meetings

The Community Consultation Committee met on:

- April 6, 2023 (site tour followed by in-person meeting)
- June 1, 2023 (virtual)

Topics discussed included: sustainability activities on the Milton site, such as habitat enhancements and LEED certification, as well as CN's broader initiatives; plans to share truck emission monitoring data once the facility is operational; accidents and malfunctions communications plan specific to the Milton terminal and CN's broader safety, prevention, and response measures across the CN rail network; integration with local emergency services and CN's ongoing relationship with local first responders, including the command structure in emergency situations and communications.

On May 18, 2023 CN attended a meeting with the Halton Region Federation of Agriculture. CN provided an overview of the Milton Logistics Hub project and answered questions from participants in the meeting. Topics included: safety on site; truck traffic; legal issues with Halton Region and Town of Milton; stormwater management and capacity to withstand severe storms; ways CN could enhance the land to be better utilized for agricultural use; and soil quality. The meeting provided an opportunity for CN to connect with Greenbelt Foundation for soil analysis.

3.1.1 Photographs from Community Consultation Committee April 6, 2023 site visit



3.2 Road Closure Notification

In order to inform the nearby community of the planned temporary closure of a portion of Lower Base Line in order to facilitate mainline realignment work, notification to the community was made through the following methods:

- Advertisement in the *Milton Canadian Champion*, *Oakville Beaver*, and *Burlington Post* newspapers published on June 22, June 29, and July 4, 2023.
- Digital placements in InsideHalton.com, targeted at Milton, Oakville, and Burlington from June 16 to July 10, 2023.
- Notice posted on the Construction Updates section of cnmilton.ca on June 15, 2023.
- Notices were hand-delivered to 53 neighboring residences on June 16, 2023.
- By email to the Project Distribution list (self-subscribed Project Update mailing list) on June 17, 2023.
- By email to the Community Consultation Committee on June 16, 2023.

On May 12, 2023, CN provided the Town of Milton with a construction update on the CTA approved Lower Base Line underpass and requested input on the construction closure detour plan. On May 19, 2023, the Town of Milton indicated opposition to the road closure and provided feedback without prejudice on CN's proposed closure detour plans.

CN Police notified Halton Regional Police, Halton Paramedic Services, and Milton Fire Department on June 14, 2023. The correspondence to the local emergency services advised the closure could commence as early as the week of June 26, 2023 and committed to follow up once the date of the road closure was confirmed. CN Police contacted local emergency services again on June 29, 2023 to confirm the July 4, 2023 road closure date. In both pieces of correspondence, CN Police provided the road closure notice and detour map. The local emergency services did not raise concerns.

See Appendix A for Road Closure Notification.

4.0 Indigenous Consultation

CN continues to meet regularly with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) through a working group that was established to share project information, provide opportunities for members to participate in field programs, and to identify ongoing economic opportunities on the Project and within CN's operating area.

CN continues to engage with Six Nations of the Grand River (Six Nations) on the Project and provide opportunities for members to participate in field programs.

CN meets regularly with the Huron Wendat Nation (HWN) to share updates on the Project and provide opportunities for members to participate in field programs.

A representative of the HWN is a member of the Community Consultation Committee. MCFN and Six Nations of the Grand River have standing invitations to participate in the Community Consultation Committee, such as becoming a regular member of the Committee, attending Committee meetings, or presenting to the Committee.

5.0 CN Milton Website Postings

The following new documents were posted to the CN website during this reporting quarter:

Annual Reports

- [2023 Q1 Quarterly Report](#)

Construction Updates

- [Notice of Lower Base Line Road Closure \(July 2023\)](#)

The Construction Updates page was updated to reflect changes to the phases of construction, per Schedule 15.2. Information about the Lower Base Line road closure was added to the Construction Updates page, with direction to the Notice of Lower Base Line Road Closure for further details.

6.0 Feedback and Consideration of Input

Per the Community Liaison Communication Plan, 2.2.2., the following methods were available to potentially affected parties and the wider community for providing feedback to CN:

- a) CN Public Inquiry Line
- b) Community Consultation Committee
- c) CNMilton.ca
- d) Emergency Line
- e) Project Information Centre
- f) Local Government Engagement
- g) Social Media
- h) Noise Complaints Protocol

In addition to these methods, feedback could also be submitted through additional methods, such as via email to individual CN employees, contractors, or other divisions within CN, particularly as part of direct correspondence on specific matters.

Below is a summary of input received in 2023 Q2 (April 1 to June 30 2023). The table below summarizes feedback from Potentially Affected Parties into key themes, citing the various sources of that feedback, and describes how CN has considered and addressed feedback. Per Condition 4.9.3, this includes noise complaints received (if any) and any corrective action taken during the reporting quarter relating to noise complaints.

6.1 CN’s consideration of input from community and stakeholder engagement

TOPIC		
Summary of Topic	Source of Input	CN Consideration/Response
<p>1. Safety Protocols and Emergency Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns about grass fires near the main line and interest in fire plan and extreme weather fire risk mitigation plan. Interest in co-ordination between CN and local first responders regarding incident response. Interest in CN’s fire prevention measures. Interest in whether the Conditions in the Decision Statement included rules for the movement of chemicals on trains. 	<p>Community Consultation Committee</p> <p>Public Inquiry Line</p> <p>Halton Region Federation of Agriculture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CN noted that grass fire incidents on occasion can occur across the network in hot and dry conditions and CN’s annual vegetation management program is in place as a mitigation measure. Protocols are in place during times of high heat and high temperatures with instructions to crews and increased frequency of track inspections. CN Police and CN Dangerous Goods department have regular discussions and training sessions with emergency responders in Milton, throughout Halton, and with municipalities across Canada. In the case of a major incident, local authorities take control and make decisions on how to manage a situation, with CN providing support. CN noted that the swift response by the Milton Project team along with local authorities is an example of the emergency management protocol in action and collaboration with local authorities. CN provided a debrief on the grass fire incident with local authorities. Intermodal moves finished goods and as such 2% to 4% of goods are labelled dangerous (e.g., paint, perfume). Some of the trains moving through Milton every day carry chemicals, which have specific operating procedures. All terminals have a safety plan.

TOPIC		
Summary of Topic	Source of Input	CN Consideration/Response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A representative from CN's Dangerous Goods department will present to the Community Consultation Committee at a future meeting about emergency planning and collaboration with local authorities.
<p>2. Project Site and Terminal Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest in capacity of stormwater management ponds. Interest in the amount of pavement at the terminal. Interest in how much of the land is used for farming and whether there are limitations on the types of crops that can be grown. Interest in size of berms on site. 	Halton Region Federation of Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the Conditions in the Decision Statement, CN is required to monitor in/out flow; CN is required to provide reports on this monitoring until the federal regulatory agency advises otherwise. Stormwater management ponds are designed to handle the regional "100 year storm", per Conservation Halton's definition, as well as subsequent rain events. 160 acres is paved (approx. 20% of the 1000 acres of CN-owned land); non-permeable with the exception of some permeable surfaces around the stormwater management ponds. Project is 400 acres and the balance of the unused land is farmed. Land is leased to tenant farmers who are required to follow local regulations; federal permits only apply to CN operations and cannot be applied to tenants. Berms are currently 2.5m high, but are ultimately designed to be 5 m during operation.
<p>3. Lower Base Line</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern about the impact of detour routes increasing traffic on Henderson Road, a neighboring residential street, including CN vehicles. Interest in construction hours and anticipated noise levels associated with construction. 	Direct correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CN's published detour plan intentionally avoids Henderson Road and widespread community notification identifies detour routes. CN offered to work with Town of Milton on developing, installing, and maintaining additional signs along Henderson Road to deter motorists from using the road as a thoroughfare while Lower Base Line is closed. CN advised the Project team and the principal contractor that none of the vehicles, regardless of weight or class, servicing the site may use Henderson Road. Construction hours are typically 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Notification to nearby residences is made in advance of night construction with contact information with noise concerns. CN noted in the correspondence that this was the

TOPIC		
Summary of Topic	Source of Input	CN Consideration/Response
		procedure undertaken for night construction that occurred in January 2023 and that no complaints were received.
4. Wildlife Habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggestion that CN could collaborate with local environmental groups and Toronto Zoo about bat houses. 	Community Consultation Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CN has engaged with local environmental groups and the Toronto Zoo to discuss bats, as well as other endangered species in Milton and across southern Ontario. CN will continue to have conversations on potential joint projects.
5. Greenhouse Gas Emissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns about greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from trucks accessing the facility and how trucks are monitored. Interest in having data on truck emissions clearly communicated. Interest in whether CN will monitor only its own fleet of trucks or all trucks accessing the terminal. Interest in whether CN undertakes a GHG inventory. 	Community Consultation Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the Conditions in the Decision Statement, CN is required to monitor the emissions profile of every truck on site and report high emitters. A program will be implemented to assess the emissions of every truck entering the Milton facility, working collaboratively with partners to ensure their trucks are meeting emissions standards and in good working condition. CN agreed to share data on truck emissions with the Committee and encouraged the Committee to provide feedback on whether the reporting on data is adequately communicated. GHG inventory reporting is handled by CN's sustainability team and reported publicly via http://www.cn.ca/en/delivering-responsibly
6. Cultural Heritage Properties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest in houses that could be used by local community organizations. 	Community Living North Halton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CN met with representatives from Community Living North Halton to explore whether homes on Project site could be used for programming purposes. CN and Community Living North Halton discussed options for use and agreed to continue the discussion to identify potential opportunities for the re-use of buildings on CN-owned land that are not part of the Project. CN to arrange a site visit to 5381 Tremaine Road for Community Living North Halton.

TOPIC		
Summary of Topic	Source of Input	CN Consideration/Response
<p>7. Traffic and Road Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns about the number of trucks on local roads. Interest in CN's contribution to road maintenance. Interest in CN's plans for an underpass on Lower Base Line. 	<p>Halton Region Federation of Agriculture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per the Federal Decision Statement (Condition 4.19), CN is limited to no more than 800 trucks per day on average over the course of a month and the maximum daily number of trucks entering the facility cannot exceed 880 trucks. This is separate to trucks already travelling local roads as part of overall regional goods movement. Having a terminal near distribution centres reduces the amount of time trucks are on the road. The Project is a centralized point for all directions of the movement of goods in the area. A grade separation at Lower Base Line is part of the mainline track alignment. Construction of the track realignment and underpass will take approximately two years. CN will fully fund the grade separation on Lower Base Line. The traffic study that was prepared for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) identified that truck activity to and from the terminal would have a minimal impact on regional traffic. CN has always paid and continues to pay taxes on CN-owned land and leases properties.

Appendix A – Road Closure Notification

Notice posted on the Construction Updates section of cnmilton.ca on June 15 and hand-delivered to 53 neighboring residences on June 15, 2023.


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Notice of Road Closure

CN will be commencing work on mainline realignment on Lower Base Line

Lower Base Line between First Line and Tremaine Road will be closed to through traffic in order to facilitate CN's mainline track realignment construction.

During the construction period, only local traffic (residents between First Line and Tremaine Road) will have access to Lower Base Line. For residents west of the CN track, access will be provided via Tremaine Road. For residents east of the CN track, access will be provided via First Line.

All other traffic will be detoured around the construction area via Tremaine Road, Britannia Road, First Line, Regional Road 25, and Burnhamthorpe Road. Please see the detour route map on the reverse page for more information. Please abide by all road signage and follow designated traffic routes.

The closure is scheduled to commence July 4, 2023 and will continue for approximately two years.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

For questions or concerns regarding this notice, contact:

CN Public Inquiry Line
 Tel: 1.888.888.5909
 Email: milton@cn.ca

For more information about the CN Milton Logistics Hub or to sign up for updates, please visit cnmilton.ca

Front


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Detour Routes – Lower Base Line Road Closure



Name	From	To
D-1	East on Britannia Road or North on First Line	Lower Base Line West of railway tracks
D-2	Lower Base Line East of railway tracks	Lower Base Line East of railway tracks
D-3	Lower Base Line West of railway tracks	Lower Base Line East of railway tracks
D-4	West on Britannia Road or North on Tremaine Road	Lower Base Line East of railway tracks

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Print advertisement in the *Milton Canadian Champion*,
Oakville Beaver and *Burlington Post* on June 22, 2023.



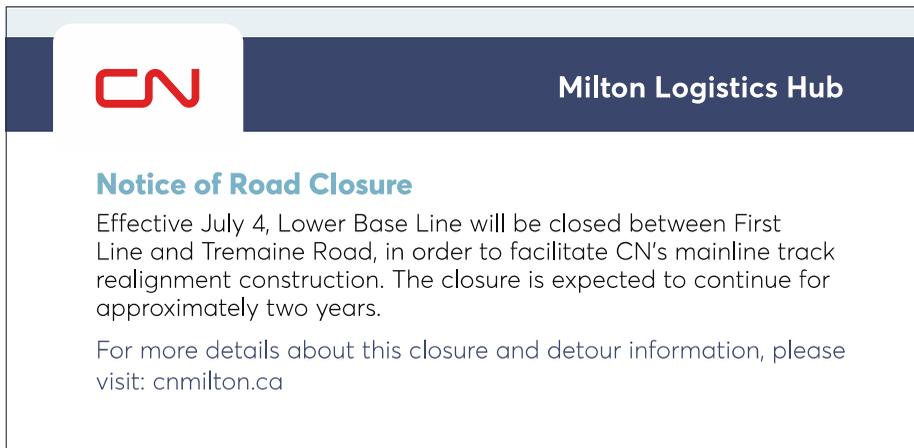
CN Milton Logistics Hub

Notice of Road Closure

Commencing as early as the week of July 4, Lower Base Line will be closed between First Line and Tremaine Road, in order to facilitate CN's mainline track realignment construction. The closure is expected to continue for approximately two years.

For more details about this closure and detour information, please visit: cnmilton.ca

Print advertisement in the *Milton Canadian Champion*, *Oakville Beaver* and *Burlington Post* on June 29 and July 6, 2023.



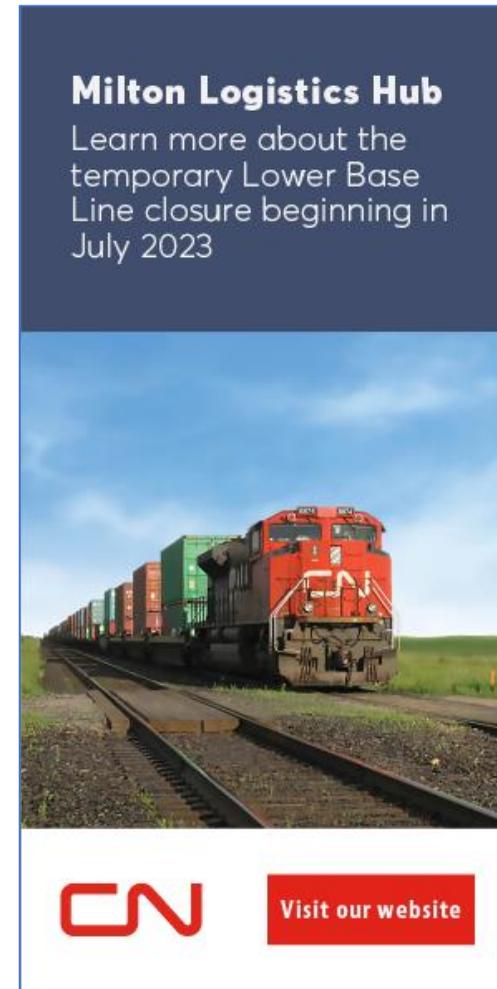
CN Milton Logistics Hub

Notice of Road Closure

Effective July 4, Lower Base Line will be closed between First Line and Tremaine Road, in order to facilitate CN's mainline track realignment construction. The closure is expected to continue for approximately two years.

For more details about this closure and detour information, please visit: cnmilton.ca

Digital placements on InsideHalton.com from June 16 to July 10, 2023.



Milton Logistics Hub

Learn more about the temporary Lower Base Line closure beginning in July 2023



CN Visit our website



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