



Next Steps in Regional Sewer Improvements: Fall Desludging and Optimization Study

Sept. 3, 2025

The next steps in the ongoing efforts to improve odour control measures at the Regional Sewer Treatment Plant in New Minas will include desludging operations and installing automated samplers to gather information about what's coming into the Plant at key locations in the system.

Staff briefed Council on the latest Regional Sewer Treatment Plant updates during a Municipal Council meeting on Sept. 2. The related briefing report can be found [here](#).

Staff reported that the action taken to get more air into the lagoons successfully increased dissolved oxygen (DO) levels and there was a period of odour-free operations in August. The Municipality investigated some odour complaints received during the odour-free period at the Plant later in the summer and determined the odour was caused by seasonal farm operations.

The fall plans supporting the ongoing commitment to improve odour control measures at the Plant will include the following:

- The award of a contract to remove biosolids from Lagoon 2 (desludging operations). This is scheduled to begin Sept. 15. For more information, please read [this Desludging Notice](#).
- The potential addition of more oxygen diffusers in Lagoons 1 and 2.
- The removal of five geotubes, which were used for previous desludging operations.
- If the budget and timeline permit, the desludging operations could be expanded to additional lagoons.

Work is underway to install six composite samplers that collect data for the design consultant completing a Plant Optimization Study. The sampling results will tell the consultant and Regional Partners more about the materials coming into the Plant and the technology required to manage odours. It is anticipated the consultant's recommendations for future improvements will be received in the spring of 2026.

Unless there is a major change in operations or financing plans, regular reports on operations will be shared through the usual forums at Regional Sewer Committee meetings. These meetings are open to the public, and the schedules are available on www.countyofkings.ca.

For more information, visit www.countyofkings.ca/regionalsewerupdates.

