



**Port Elgin Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP)
Upgrades Schedule 'B'
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment**

WELCOME

Public Information Centre

Location: Rotary Hall, The Plex

(600 Tomlinson Drive, Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0)

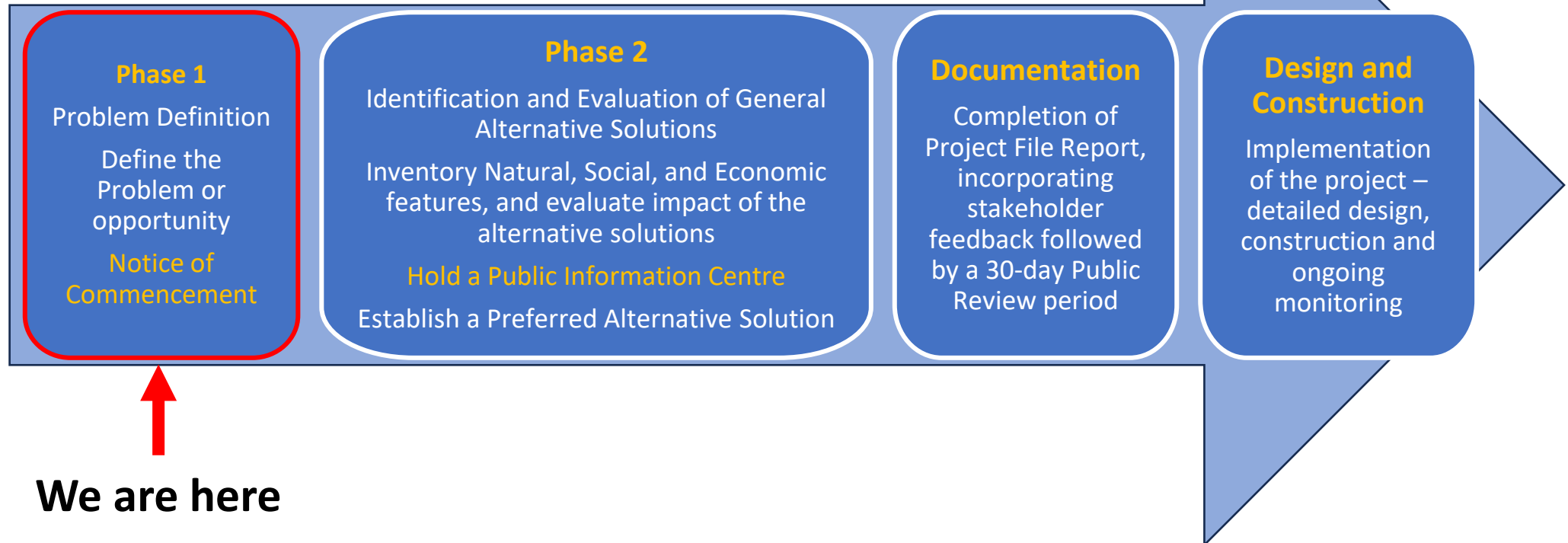
Date & Time: August 11th, 2026 (Tuesday), 6:00-8:00 PM

The Purposes of this Public Information Centre

- To provide a project overview of the Port Elgin Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Upgrades Schedule 'B' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA).
- To present the general alternative solutions considered for wet weather flow management.
- To present project findings to date and receive comments.
- To outline next steps of the Class EA study.

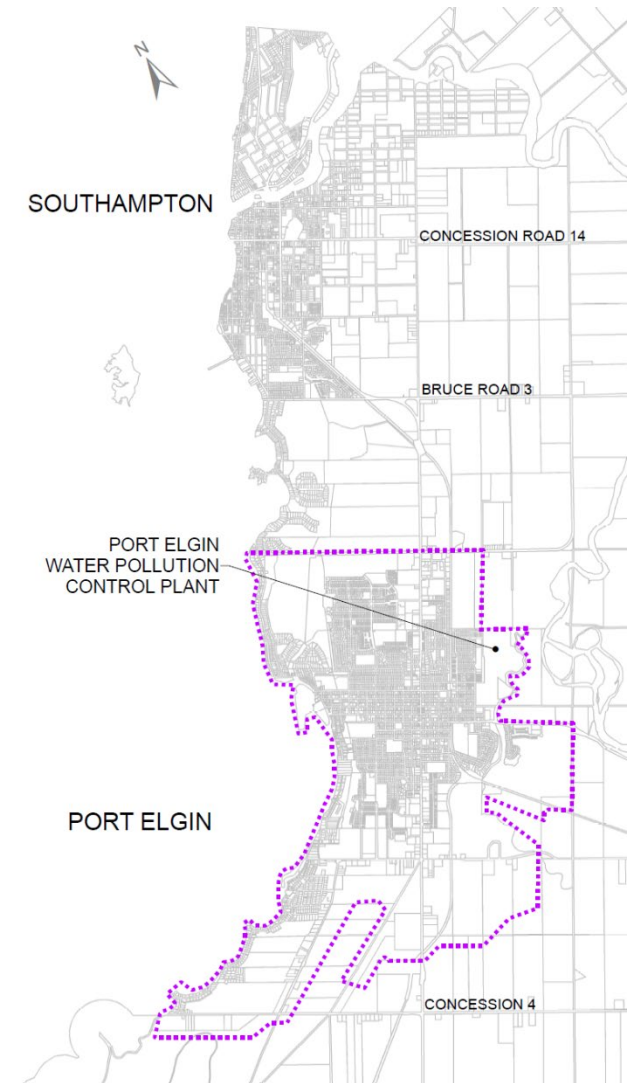
Class Environmental Assessment Process

The Town is undertaking a Schedule 'B' Class EA to meet the requirements of Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act (EAA), requiring the completion of Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class EA process in accordance with the Municipal Engineers Association's Municipal Class EA document dated 2024:



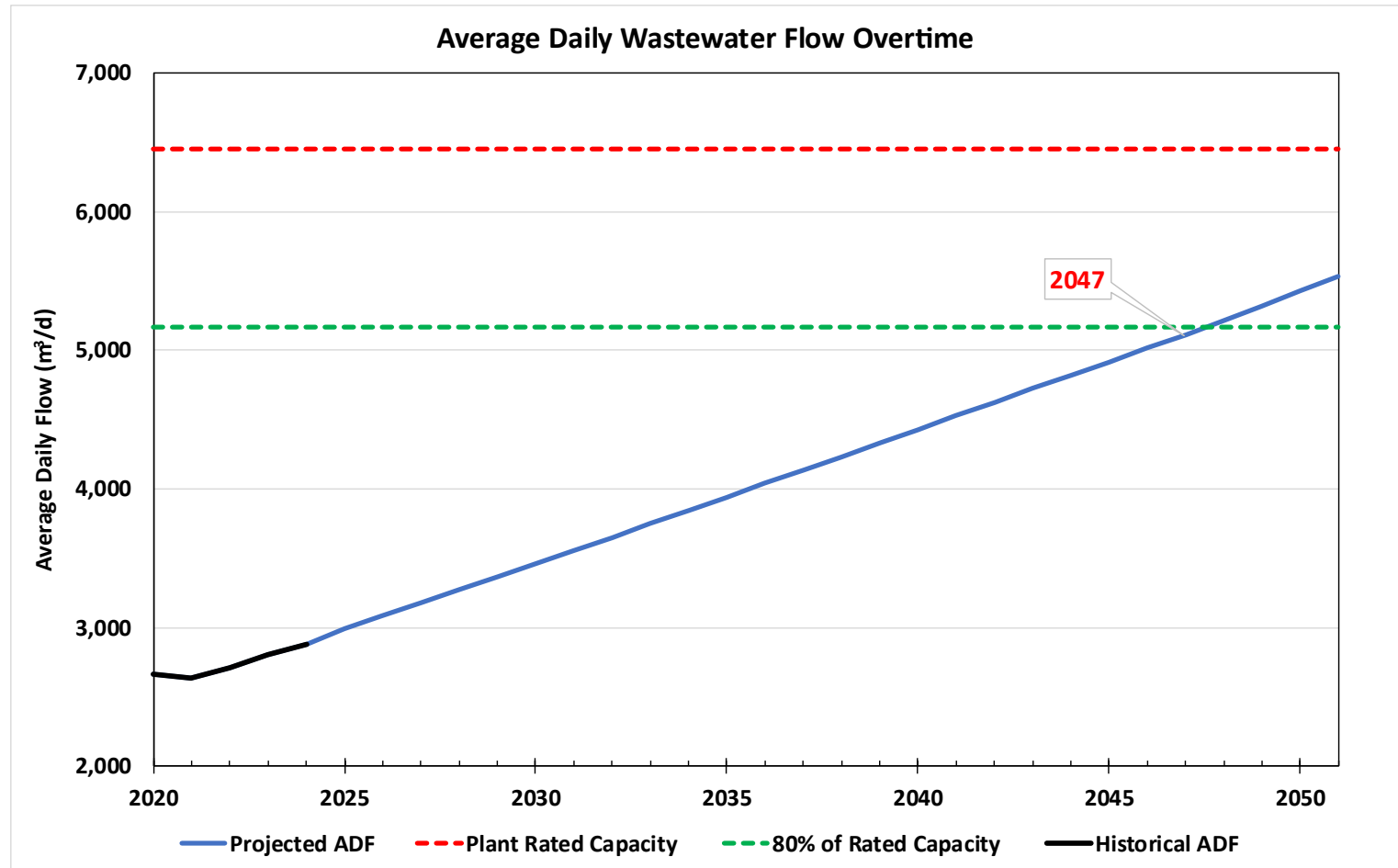
Background and Study Area

- The **Port Elgin Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP)**, located at **815 Lehn Street**, services the community of **Port Elgin**.
- According to the **2021 census**, Port Elgin had a permanent population of **9,619**, representing **71%** of the population in main urban areas of Saugeen Shores.
- Based on the provincial growth forecasts and county-level growth forecasts, the population in **Port Elgin** is projected to reach approximately **17,621** by 2051.



30-Year Wastewater Flow Projection

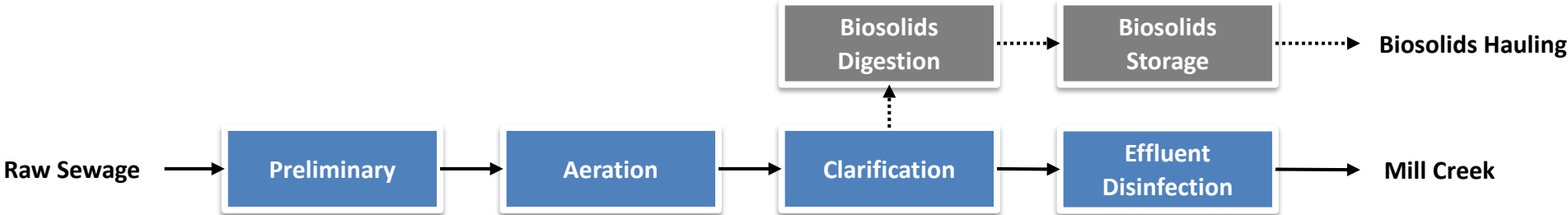
- The Port Elgin WPCP has a rated average daily flow (ADF) capacity of **6,455 m³/d**.
- In **2025**, the capacity utilization of the Port Elgin WPCP reached **52%** of its rated ADF capacity.
- Based on the projected wastewater flows, the average daily wastewater flow **will surpass 80%** of the rated capacity by **2047**.



Existing Port Elgin Water Pollution Control Plant

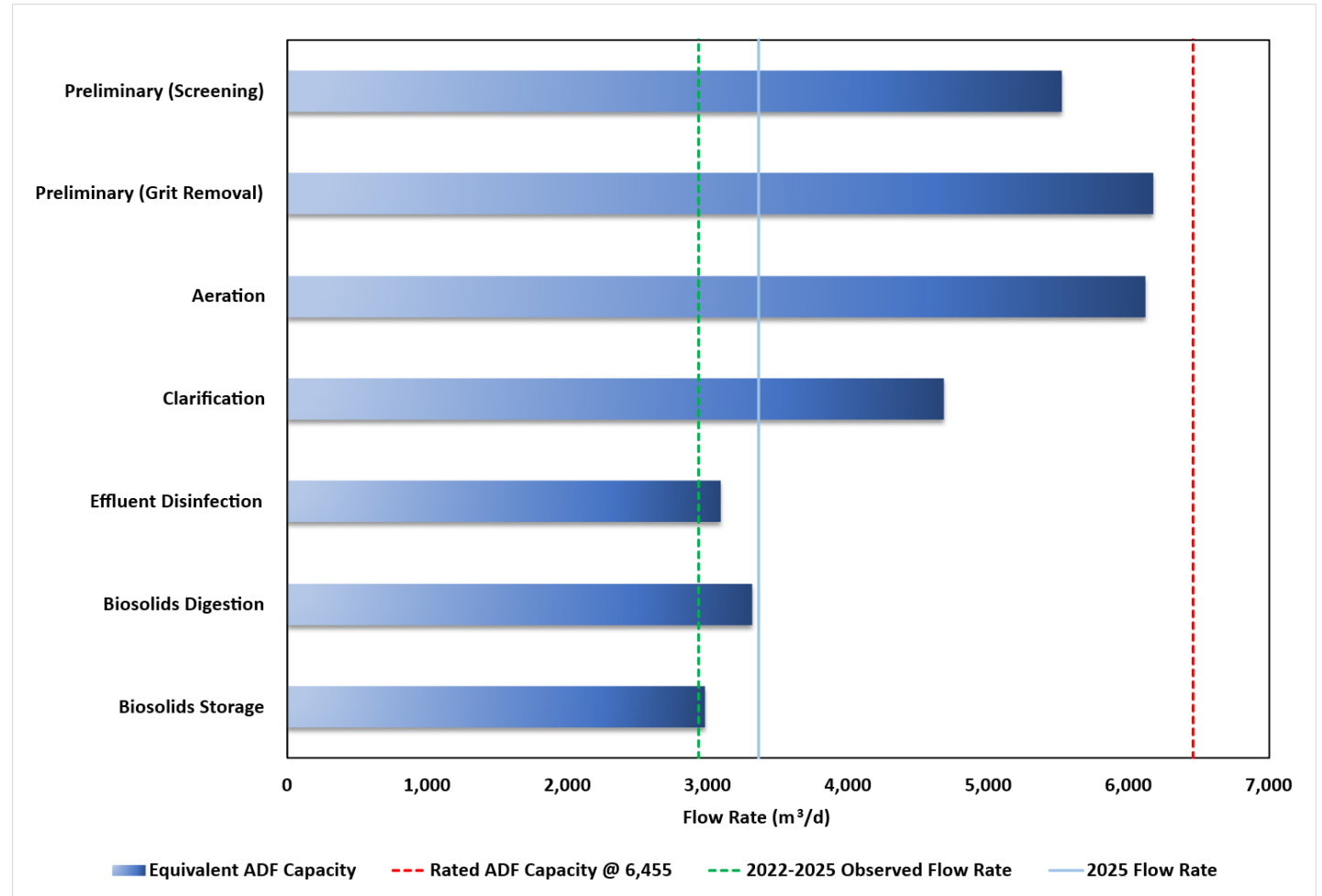


Process	Brief Description and Treatment Steps
Preliminary	Remove screenings, grit and settleable solids.
Aeration	Provide oxygen to bacteria for treating and stabilizing the wastewater.
Clarification	Remove solids from aeration step.
Biosolids Digestion	Stabilise waste organic solids.
Biosolids Storage	Store biosolids for transport and disposal.
Effluent Disinfection	Remove harmful pathogens from effluent.



Process Capacity Assessment

- From **2022-2024**, elevated peak flows were observed during the spring months, indicating typical seasonal inflow and infiltration within the sewage collection system.
- The desktop analysis indicates that the **theoretical average daily flow (ADF) capacities** of the treatment processes are below the rated capacity, with available treatment capacity limited by the high influent peaking factors.



Problem/Opportunity Statement

The Port Elgin Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) has sufficient average daily treatment capacity to accommodate projected growth to 2051. However, excessive wet-weather inflow and infiltration (I/I) generates peak hydraulic flows that exceed the hydraulic capacity of key treatment processes, limiting the plant's ability to reliably manage wet-weather events while maintaining regulatory compliance. This Class EA is therefore being undertaken to identify and evaluate sustainable solutions to manage peak wet-weather flows and improve the plant's hydraulic performance.

The problem/opportunity statement therefore is to:

“Identify and evaluate alternatives to provide flow equalization to manage the peak wet weather flow.”

This Schedule ‘B’ Class EA study will be developed to:

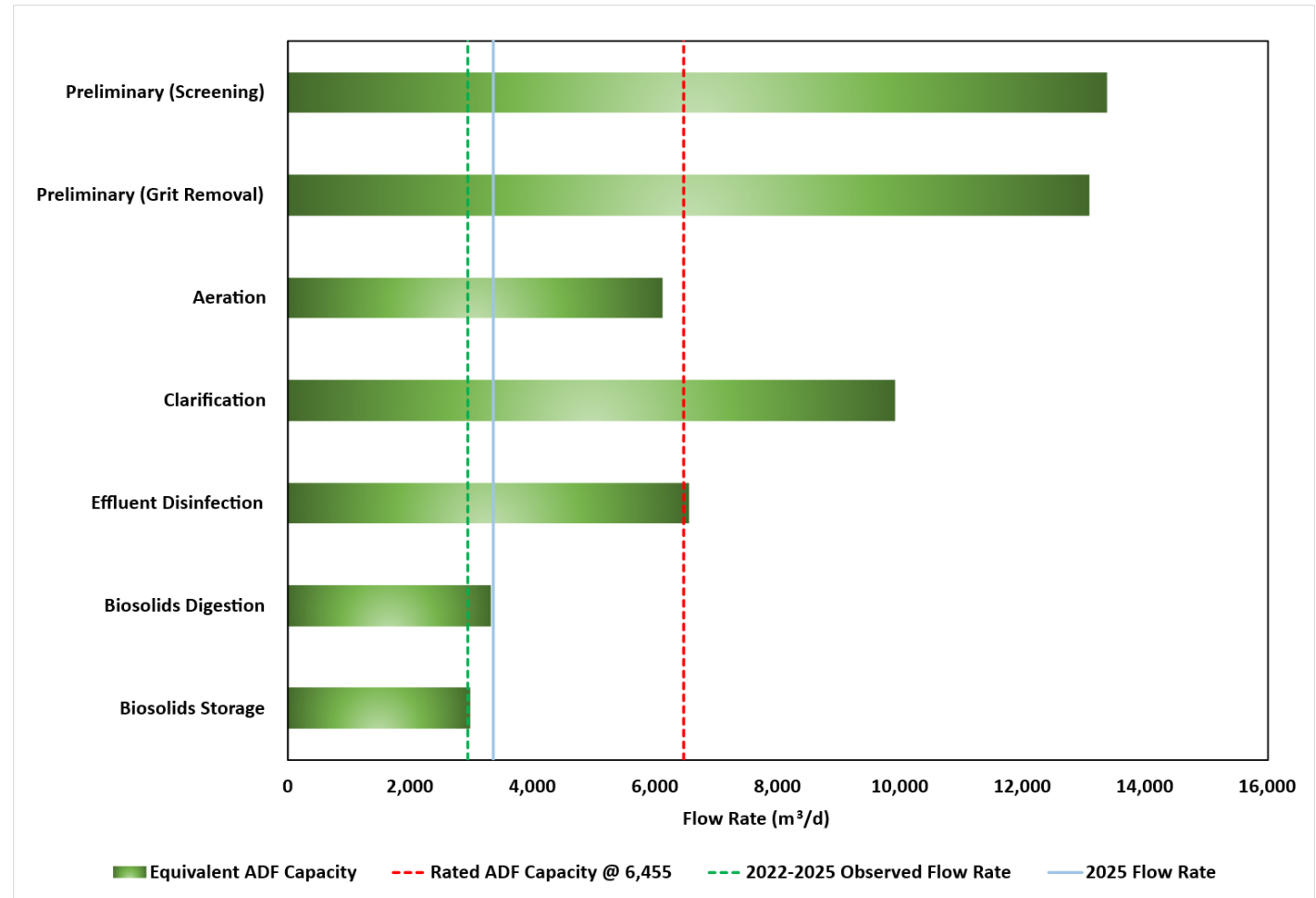
- Address peak wet-weather flows that exceed the hydraulic capacity of key treatment processes.
- Evaluate alternative solutions to improve hydraulic performance during wet-weather events.
- Maintain reliable treatment performance and regulatory compliance.
- Support sustainable long-term operation of the Port Elgin WPCP.
- Identify a preferred solution through the Municipal Class EA process.

Potential Alternatives Considered

Alternative	Description
A. On-Site Flow Equalization Tank	Construct a dedicated flow equalization tank at the plant to temporarily store excess wet-weather influent and return it to the treatment process once peak flows subside.
B. Comprehensive Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Reduction	Reduce groundwater infiltration and stormwater inflow through sewer rehabilitation, manhole sealing, private-side investigations, cross-connection removal, and sewer replacement.
C. Off-site Wet Weather Storage within the Collection System	Construct offline storage tanks, oversized trunk sewers, or utilize strategic pumping stations to temporarily store wet-weather flows before they reach the plant.
D. Hydraulic Upgrades and Real-Time Control (RTC)	Increase hydraulic capacity of critical treatment units (channels, pumps, clarifier inlets, UV, etc.) while implementing smart controls, flow monitoring, and optimized pump operations to maximize existing system storage.

Potential Process Capacity with Equalization Storage

- With an **equalization tank** to attenuate peak flows entering the plant, most treatment processes can operate **beyond** the rated average daily flow (ADF) capacity.
- As part of the study, further investigations will be conducted to confirm required **system upgrades** and identify **operational and process optimization opportunities**.

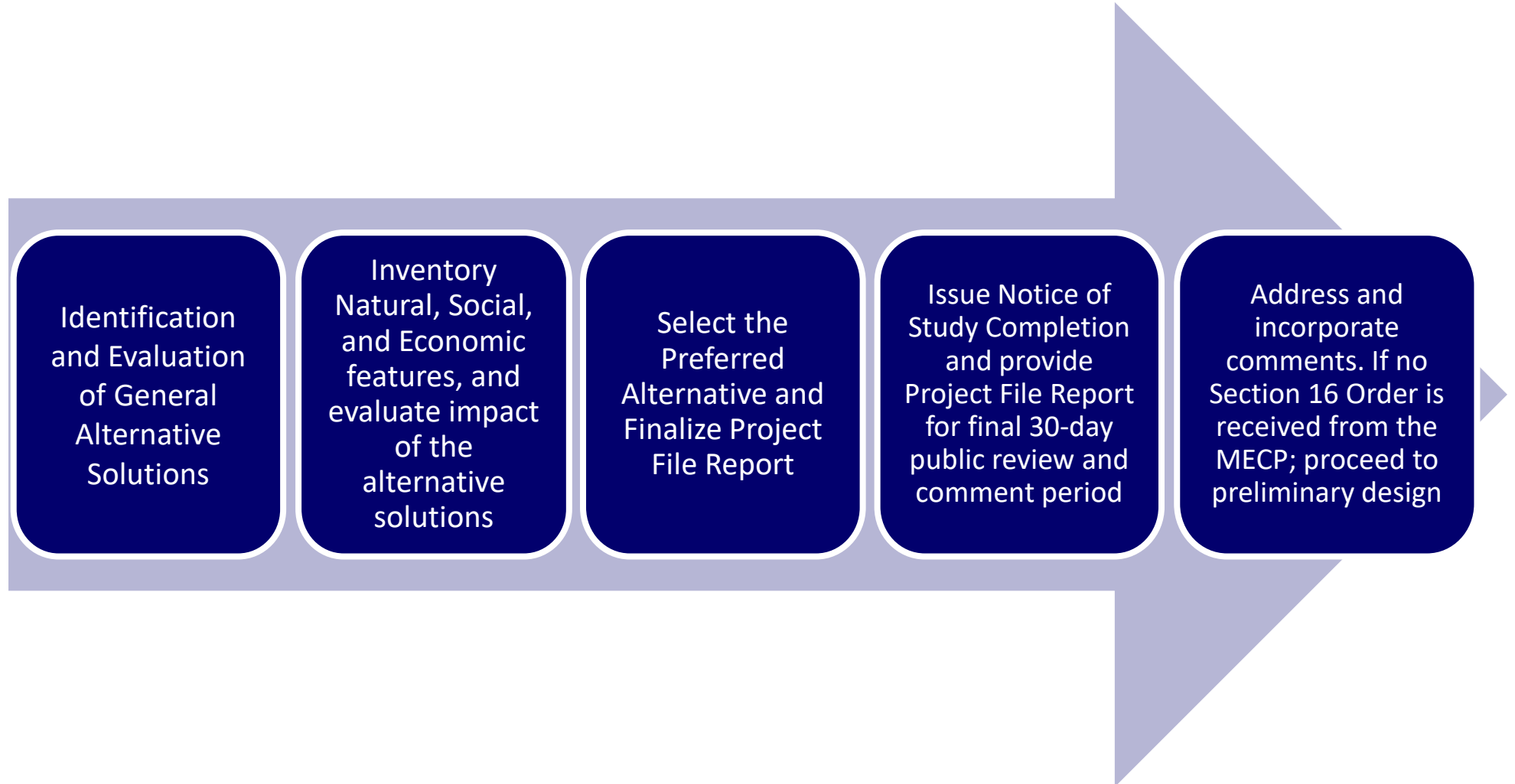


Additional Plant Optimization

In addition to this Class EA study, the Town is undertaking the following plant upgrades. These undertakings are exempt from the Environmental Assessment Act.

- Odours
 - Complete odour reduction program at the headworks (currently being commissioned).
- Aeration System
 - Improve aeration tanks operation to enhance treatment performance.
 - Upgrade aeration blowers to meet current and future capacity needs.
- Clarification
 - Improve flow distribution in the secondary clarifiers.
 - Upgrade return activated sludge (RAS) withdrawal from secondary clarifiers and pumping.
- Effluent Disinfection
 - Increase effluent disinfection capacity.
- Biosolids Digestion & Storage
 - Increase biosolids treatment and storage capacity.

Next Steps



Your Comments are Important to Us

Please complete the comment sheet and let us know your thoughts. We would appreciate receiving your comments by **August 25, 2026 (Tuesday)**.

Alternatively, if you would like to be placed on the mailing list to receive all future notices related to this Class EA, please send your contact information to either of the contacts listed below.



Town of Saugeen Shores

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Information on this project can be found at engage.saugeenshores.ca/WPCP.

