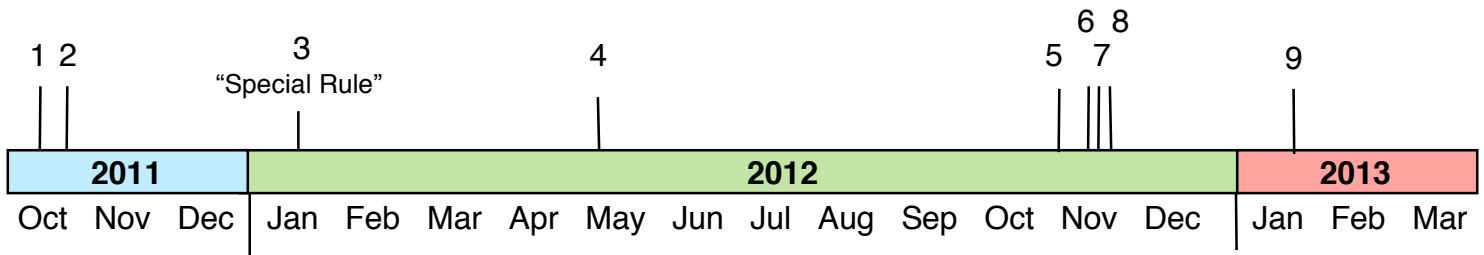


## History of the “Special Rule” (and “Extra Special Rule”)



1. **October 12, 2011.** County of Simcoe approves Township of Springwater’s plan OPA-38 to build 10,000 houses around the village of Midhurst.
2. **October 28, 2011.** The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing appeals the decision to the OMB, giving reasons why OPA-38 does not conform to the PPS or Growth Plan.
3. **January 19, 2012.** The Ministry of Infrastructure amends the Growth Plan and creates a “Special Rule” for Midhurst.
4. **May 3, 2012.** The Warden of the County of Simcoe writes to the Minister of Infrastructure requesting an early resolution to OPA-38. There are also many letters from developers.
5. **November 2, 2012.** In the wake of McGuinty’s resignation and Kathleen Wynne stepping down from MMAH, Bob Chiarelli is appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. He also retains his portfolios for Minister of Infrastructure and Minister of Transport.
6. **November 26, 2012.** Letter from Springwater Township to Simcoe County declaring conformity of OPA-38 with the Growth Plan as amended and asserting that “development is on *lands for urban uses*”.
7. **November 27, 2012.** Letter from Simcoe County to the province declaring conformity with the Growth Plan as amended.
8. **November 28, 2012.** Province partially withdraws its OMB appeal, effectively approving the first 300 hectares of OPA-38 to be developed subject to EA approval.
9. **January 22, 2013.** Province creates On. Reg 22/13 confirming for the first time that the “Special Rule” was for Midhurst and stipulating that the clause requiring that the lands be on *lands for urban uses* as of January 19, 2012 shall not apply to Midhurst. Perhaps this should be called the **Extra Special Rule!**