



October 21, 2011

The Regional
Municipality
of Durham

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C. R. Curtis, P.Eng., MBA
Commissioner of Works

Ms. Agatha Garcia-Wright, Director
Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch
Ministry of the Environment
2 St. Clair Avenue West, 12A Floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1L5

and

Ms. Dolly Goyette, Director
Central Region
Ministry of the Environment
Place Nouveau
5775 Yonge Street, Floor 8
North York, ON M2M 4J1

Dear Ms. Garcia-Wright and Ms. Goyette:

**RE: Durham/York Energy from Waste Project
Submission of the Regional Municipality of Durham Waste
Diversion Program Monitoring Plan
(Environmental Assessment Conditions 10)
MOE File No.: EA-08-02**

The Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) continues to work cooperatively with all lower tier municipalities to ensure that waste diversion programs, policies and targets are being met. Currently, the Region provides blue box collection of recyclables for all eight municipalities. Additionally, the Region provides collection of garbage, food waste, leaf and yard waste, Christmas trees, White Goods and Bulky goods for all municipalities except the City of Oshawa and Town of Whitby which are locally responsible for collection of these materials. The Region is responsible for:

- Collection, processing and marketing of blue box recyclables;
- Disposal of residential residual waste;
- Composting of SSO, as well as leaf and yard waste;
- Operation of a Material Recovery Facility. Public Drop-in Facility for residents to obtain diversion information and kits (such as collection calendars, Blue Boxes, Green Bins, Composters, etc.);
- Operation of Brock Township landfill site;

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- Operation of three waste management facilities;
- Operating as an approved service provider for Ontario Tire Stewardship, Ontario Electronics Stewardship and Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste;
- Providing eight annual compost give-away events to residents within each of the local municipalities;
- Providing eight community events for the recovery of Waste Electronics and Electrical Equipment and Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste to residents within each of the local municipalities;
- Operation of four household hazardous waste depots; and,
- Education and promotion of waste reduction programs.

The Region's waste diversion monitoring plan remains consistent with the Waste Diversion Ontario annual municipal datacall which compiles information on residential materials diverted and disposed by Ontario municipalities. This data can be utilized to calculate a residential diversion rate for each municipality using Generally Accepted Principles (GAP). The GAP calculation includes:

- An allowance for provincial deposit systems based on the deposit containers returned from the residential sector;
- An allowance for residential on-property management through backyard composting, grasscycling and evapotranspiration resulting from use of aerated carts for organics programs;
- Municipally operated (directly or through contracted services) reuse activities;
- Municipally operated (directly or through contracted services) recycling activities including Blue Box materials, Other Recyclables, Waste Electronics and Electrical Equipment (WEEE) and Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW);
- Municipally operated (directly or through contracted services) centralized composting activities for household organics, leaves and yard waste; and
- Disposal of garbage and recycling and composting processing residues through energy-from-waste and landfill.

The attached "Waste Management Services Annual Report 2010" summarizes the results of the at source diversion programs in Table 1 "Tonnes of Residential Waste Managed" on page 30. This table illustrates that the curbside and residential waste diversion rates for the

area municipalities ranges from 60 per cent to 51 per cent for a Regional average of 55 per cent.

The diversion rate at the Region's waste management facilities is at 30 per cent. In 2011, the Region is focusing attention on increasing the diversion rate at the waste management facilities through porcelain and asphalt shingle recycling and the possibility of expanding into demolition material recycling in 2012.

The Region retained a consultant in 2008 to assist in identifying possible strategies for reaching 70 per cent diversion. The consultant's study released in March 2009 suggests that the Region's waste diversion rate can be increased in two ways, by:

- Increasing participation in existing waste diversion programs; and,
- Creating new waste diversion opportunities.

The progress of our diversion program is documented and communicated to the public using various media. The enclosed Waste Management Services Annual Report 2010 summarizes our accomplishments.

The Region continues to promote the 4 R's through its marketing efforts and is currently implementing/evaluating new diversion programs. The Region has submitted the subject plan to the Energy from Waste Advisory Committee for information. In addition, the Waste Management Services Annual Report 2010 has been posted on the Region's website.

We trust that this plan meets the MOE's expectation as outlined in the EA Notice of Approval. If you require additional information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Mirka Januszkiewicz, P.Eng.
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The Regional Municipality of Durham
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- c. D. Dumais, Director, Approvals Program, Ministry of the Environment
- D. Fumerton, District Manager, York Durham District Office, Ministry of the Environment
- L. McDowell, Director, Environmental Promotion and Protection, The Regional Municipality of York
- Energy from Waste Advisory Committee (EFWAC)
- D. Kelly, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of York
- P. Madill, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of Durham

Encl.