

The Regional Municipalities of Durham and York

**MINUTES
of the
JOINT WASTE MANAGEMENT GROUP (JWMG)
for the
DURHAM/YORK RESIDUAL WASTE STUDY**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2005

A regular meeting of the Joint Waste Management Group for the Durham/York Residual Waste Study was held on Tuesday, November 22, 2005, Committee Room B, York Region Administrative Centre, 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, beginning at 10:03 a.m.

Present: Mayor M. Brunelle, Town of Whitby
Councillor C. Clarke, City of Oshawa
Councillor S. Crawford, Town of Ajax
Councillor M. Ferri, City of Vaughan
Councillor J. Heath, Town of Markham
Councillor S. Self, Township of Uxbridge
Mayor K. Shier, Township of Brock
Mayor T. Taylor, Town of Newmarket
Councillor D. Wheeler, Chair, Town of Georgina
L. Burt, Resident, Township of Scugog, DEAC Representative
M. Evans, Resident, Township of Brock
I. Gray, Resident, Town of Newmarket
J. McGinnis, Resident, City of Pickering, Durham Conservation Centre
B. Mersey, Resident, Town of Markham, Markham Conservation Committee
S. Perrella, Resident, City of Vaughan

Also Present: Mayor C. Herrington, Town of Brighton
Bill Pyatt, County of Northumberland

Absent: Councillor N. Pidwerbecki, City of Oshawa
Councillor R. Johnson, City of Pickering
L. Bigioni, Director of Government Relations & EA to the Regional Chair & C.E.O., York Region
C. Bradley, Public Works Director, County of Peterborough
G. Rye, Director of Utility Services, City of Peterborough

Staff

Present: B. Boffey, Project Co-ordinator, MacViro Consultants Inc.
A. Campbell, Director, Solid Waste Management Branch, York Region
C. Curtis, Commissioner of Works, Durham Region
M. Januszkiewicz, Director of Waste Management Services, Durham Region
J. McKay, Jacques Whitford
D. Merriman, MacViro Consultants Inc.

B. Karczmarzyk, , MacViro Consultants Inc.
L. Riviere, Planner, Planning Department, Durham Region
K. Spitzig, Policy and Planning Coordinator, York Region
K. Price, Committee Co-ordinator, York Region

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Mayor Taylor, in reviewing the Group's Terms of Reference, inquired as to whether the JWVG would be discussing alternative plans in the event that Michigan is closed. Staff from both York and Durham advised that alternative plans for the short term, were in place for both Regions.

Mayor Brunelle clarified that it was not part of this Group's mandate to consider alternatives to the Michigan situation in the short term and that if the Group wished to include it as part of their mandate, authority to do so would be required from the respective Councils. The only mandate of the JWVG at this time is to follow the EA process and look for a long term solution.

MOVED by Councillor Crawford,
THAT the minutes of the Joint Waste Management Group (JWVG)
meeting held on September 27, 2005, be adopted.

CARRIED

2. PROPOSED EA TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Review of EA Process and Progress to Date

D. Merriman presented a review of the EA process to date. The Draft EA Terms of Reference were issued for review October 4, 2005 to approximately 450 agencies and stakeholders. The deadline for receipt of comments was November 9, 2005.

2. Presentation of Proposed EA Terms of Reference (Comments received and changes from draft)

A total of 32 sets of comments were received. Approximately 75 follow-up phone calls were placed to key agencies to request comments.

The following agencies provided comments: 5 Ministry of the Environment Branches; 16 Government Review Team Agencies; 2 First Nations and First Nations Representatives; 2 Non-Government Review Team Agencies and 7 Members of the Public.

D. Merriman highlighted the following changes to the EA Terms of Reference:

- Revised waste quantity projections

- Streamlined facility siting approach
 - Announce one short list of sites including any offered by acceptable vendors
 - Evaluate sites in parallel with Request for Proposal process to select preferred vendor
- Commitment to undertake a coordinated Federal/Provincial EA if required.

Discussion ensued regarding population projections and waste quantities. It was determined that projections for waste quantities and population were not fixed and there would be opportunities to refine these estimates once the technology has been determined and further research is conducted. It was also clarified that the type of technology was to be selected first, then the siting would be considered.

Questions concerning the time frame were raised. J. McKay explained that if the EA Terms of Reference are approved by the Ministry of the Environment the EA Study will be initiated in spring 2006.

The process from the evaluation and selection of the preferred technology and site to the final approval by the Minister is estimated to take until 2009. The implementation of the undertaking would be mid 2009 to 2010. (Details of the estimated timeframe can be found on page 25 of the Proposed EA Terms of Reference.)

Councillor Heath inquired about Federal agencies being involved now rather than later to save time and duplication. J. McKay advised that the Federal agencies have been provided with the information as required by legislation. The Federal agencies advised that it was not necessary to comment at this time but that comments will be provided in detail as required if “triggers” are identified. A coordinated Federal/Provincial EA would commence at that time.

A copy of the Proposed Terms of Reference and a CD containing the Background Documentation was provided to all members of the Group.

3. Next steps and schedule

D. Merriman proposed the following next steps:

- Submit the Proposed EA Terms of Reference to Durham and York Region Waste Management Committees for approval and subsequent Council approval in December 2005.
- File Proposed EA Terms of Reference and supporting documents and resolutions from the Regions with the Minister of the Environment by December 31, 2005.

The mandatory review and public consultation period would result in MOE comments by February or March of 2006.

MOVED by Mayor Taylor,

THAT the Durham/York Residual Waste Study Joint Waste Management Group support the Proposed EA Terms of Reference and forward it, including any minor additions required to address any additional comments from review agencies, to the respective Committees and Councils for their consideration and approval.

CARRIED

3. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION INCLUDING USE OF POLLING TO ESTABLISH PRIORITIES

D. Merriman indicated that a memorandum had been circulated with today's agenda raising the following questions regarding public consultation:

- How can we conduct more meaningful public consultation throughout the upcoming EA process?
- In the future, how can we avoid the criticism when we make decisions that we failed to consult with/listen to those who do not like the decision?
- Should input on issues, such as the relative priorities of criteria, where a broader community consensus is required, be obtained via polling?

J. McGinnis circulated a memorandum dated November 22, 2005, with his comments regarding public consultation. He suggested that a greater effort should be made to inform and involve the public earlier in the process. One way of doing this is by community-based social marketing (CBSM). Mr. McGinnis offered to make a more detailed presentation on this topic at the next meeting.

Discussion continued regarding the types of advertising currently used and the costs involved using various types of media. It was suggested that the information communicated to the public is too vague and if we want public feedback the ads need to be more meaningful. The wording should promote interest and public awareness. It is also important to raise the awareness of the media by providing frequent press releases to the local papers.

It was also suggested that local councils could do more to involve their constituents by raising awareness at local meetings. It was noted that having

large numbers of the public involved throughout the process would have a positive impact on the MOE decision.

S. Perrella suggested that flyers could be included in tax bill mail outs by the local municipalities. This would ensure that every household is notified of upcoming events and receives the same message, at no extra cost to the project.

Staff noted that York Region currently employs a qualified polling firm to conduct polls on a regular basis and questions on this topic could be included at a minimal cost.

Staff indicated that radio advertisements were frequently used in Durham Region for getting information out to the public and found to be effective.

It was agreed that if both Councils go forward with the Proposed EA Terms of Reference, then a decision should be made as to the efforts involved in public communications.

MOVED by Mayor Taylor

That staff report to the meeting in January 2006 with recommendations for communication efforts with the public.

CARRIED

4. REVISED PROTOCOL FOR MEETINGS WITH VENDORS AND POLICY FOR DEALING WITH UNSOLICITED PROPOSALS

D. Merriman circulated a memorandum dated November 17, 2005 regarding the revised procedure for and response to submissions from potential vendors as discussed at the September 27, 2005 meeting.

It was agreed that the procedure set out in the memorandum was acceptable.

C. Clark inquired as to whether there was an opportunity for certain types of industry to benefit from the type of technology selected and whether this could be considered in parallel with this EA. Discussion ensued around the secondary benefits of processing and how site selection would be affected. It was noted that this was beyond the scope of this EA and that there would be an opportunity to discuss this further as part of the criteria for site selection once a technology had been selected.

MOVED by Councillor Heath

That the revised protocol be endorsed and that Durham Council and York Region Council be requested to use this process for any unsolicited proposals.

CARRIED

5. JWVG MEETING DATES FOR 2006

The following JWVG meeting dates were agreed on for 2006: January 17; April 18; June 20; and September 19; with locations to alternate between Durham Region and York Region.

Following the meeting the January date was changed to the 24th due to a conflict in schedules.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Joint Waste Management Group is scheduled for January 24, 2006, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at the Durham Region offices.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Clarke,
"THAT the meeting be adjourned."

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

D. Wheeler, Chair
Joint Waste Management Group