

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

ENERGY-FROM-WASTE SITE LIAISON COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

A meeting of the energy-from-waste Site Liaison Committee was held on Wednesday, April 8, 2009, in the lower level boardroom (LL-C), Regional headquarters building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, ON, at 7:00 p.m.

Present: R. Walli, Chair
M. Clayton
G. James
T. Ali
K. Coupland
C. Wedge
M. Ashcroft
J. Vinson
Councillor C. Trim
Councillor M. Novak
Councillor A. Foster
N. MacDonald, Manager, Waste Management, Region of York
F. Langmaid, Manager, Special Projects, Municipality of Clarington

Absent: R. Yates, with regrets
C. Curtis, Commissioner of Works, Region of Durham, with regrets
M. Januszkiewicz, Director, Waste Management, Region of Durham, with regrets
G. Borchuk, Project Manager, Waste Management, Region of Durham, with regrets

Staff

Present: G. Anello, Manager, Waste Planning and Technical Services, Region of Durham
S. Munns-Audet, Director, Corporate Communications, Region of Durham
T. Lavery, Communications Officer, Region of Durham
M. Smart, Administrative Assistant, Works Department (Recording Secretary)

Also

Present: J. McKay, Jacques Whitford Limited
D. Payne, Jacques Whitford Limited

ENERGY-FROM-WASTE SITE LIAISON COMMITTEE

Richard Walli, Chair of the Site Liaison Committee (SLC), welcomed everyone and advised that the same procedures would be followed as at the last meeting whereby public questions would be addressed at the end of the meeting.

MINUTES

Moved by Kathy Coupland that the minutes of April 8 be accepted, seconded by Geoff James and carried.

Margaret Clayton advised that the minutes did not note the approval that her presentation to the Municipality of Clarington be made available.

The above noted omission was noted and carried.

DELEGATIONS

Louis Bertrand, 124 Liberty Street North, Bowmanville

Mr. Bertrand spoke with concerns about the schedule of upcoming meetings, the role of the energy-from-waste (EFW) SLC and the responsibility to whom each committee reports. Mr. Bertrand also discussed his concerns with regard to the schedule and advertising for the upcoming public information centre (PIC) being held at the Garnett B. Rickard Recreation Complex in Bowmanville. Further concern was mentioned about the timing of the release of the documents to the members of the public. Mr. Bertrand responded to questions from SLC members.

Ashley Bridgeman

Ms. Bridgeman spoke with concern about the availability of information provided to the members of the public across the Regional Municipality of Durham (Region). Ms. Bridgeman requested that the EFW SLC consider that even though an additional PIC is being held on May 19 that the next EFW SLC meeting scheduled for May 20 not be cancelled. Also, that the SLC consider holding another public session in west Durham to allow members of the public the ability to attend. Ms. Bridgeman responded to questions from SLC members.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence from Linda Gasser, copy of her delegation presented to Durham Regional Council on April 22, 2009 and an unsigned letter from Durham Region Labour Council President, Jim Freeman. Moved by Kathy Coupland that the correspondence from Linda Gasser be received for information, seconded by Geoff James and carried.

Discussion ensued with regard to the proposed revision to emission guidelines.

Moved by Margaret Clayton that the following four pieces of correspondence be received for information, seconded by Margaret Clayton:

- From Louis Bertrand – email dated April 20, 2009 addressed to the Regional Chair and Members of Durham Region Council with concern to the release date of the Interim Report on the Environmental Assessment Study for the EFW.
- From Louis Bertrand – copy of his delegation presented to the EFW SLC on April 8, 2009 and a copy of an article entitled “Enrichment of PCDDs/PCDFs in the cooling system of municipal solid waste incineration plants” as included in his delegation presentation.
- From Louis Bertrand – email dated March 5, 2009 addressed to the Chair of the EFW SLC and a copy of his delegation presented to the EFW SLC on March 5, 2009.
- From Ashley Bridgeman – email dated April 9, 2009 concerning the EFW SLC meeting held April 8, 2009.

PRESENTATION ON UPCOMING RELEASE OF SITE SPECIFIC REPORTS BY JIM MCKAY, JACQUES WHITFORD LIMITED

Jim McKay advised that upon release, all documents will be made accessible on the project website (www.durhamyorkwaste.ca) and that all comments can be forwarded to the project team (info@durhamyorkwaste.ca).

The presentation of the draft site-specific assessment studies to be released on May 8 include Acoustic, Traffic, Visual, Economic, Social, Surface and Groundwater and Energy. The draft site-specific air quality and human health and ecological risk assessment studies will be released May 15. Jim McKay also reviewed the timing of the release of upcoming reports for the Environmental Assessment (EA).

Discussion ensued with regard to the Acoustic Assessment and Jim McKay clarified that the assessment is based on proximity and criteria of an acceptable level of noise must be met. The closest noise receptor was found to be below the required level however mitigated measures have been established as the results are based on the model.

It was advised that the Traffic Assessment has been updated. It was also discussed that the existing conditions only were modeled. Future conditions have been provided by the Municipality of Clarington.

The Visual Assessment incorporated pictures to assist in modeling, topography, etc. as there is no comprehensive data base to include existing buildings. It was confirmed that the measurement of the stack was 87.6 meters.

A large portion of the Economic Assessment was completed. A description was requested as to the definition of possible minimal disruption that could occur. Jim McKay advised that there is limited disruption as there is limited agricultural use (cash crops) and few businesses.

It was advised that the Social Assessment takes into account factors from other assessment reports. It was confirmed that maximum basis in the design of the containment basin was based on the 100-year storm (flood). It was questioned if smog and the start up of the proposed facility were considered in the Energy Assessment. It was also questioned if consideration was being made to factor in carbon credits. Gioseph Anello advised that these were deliberately being kept out as they were under negotiation at this time.

Councillor Foster commented on the inclusion of the Municipality of Clarington Peer Reviews and that they could be reviewed in the interim ahead of the record of consultation being provided. It was requested by members of the SLC that a copy be provided to them on CD.

Further discussion ensued concerning the commenting period prior to and following the submission of the EA if approved. Jim McKay advised of the timeline breakdown once received by the Ministry of the Environment. Moved by Tracey Ali that the SLC endorse the same extension that was received for information at the JWMG on behalf of Municipality of Clarington Council that the review period be extended for commenting from a 30-day time frame to a 90-day time frame for regulated time review following submission to the MOE, seconded by Margaret Clayton and carried.

Members of the SLC decided that in addition to hosting the PIC on May 19 in Bowmanville, the scheduled meeting of May 20 will still be held at Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters. It was also confirmed that the SLC Chair will also continue with reporting to the JWMG and Municipality of Clarington Council per the committee's Terms of Reference. Moved by Geoff James that another open meeting be held in west Durham, seconded by Kathy Coupland and carried.

Members of the public were invited to ask questions at the end of the meeting.

Alice in Newcastle discussed emissions and requested that the diagram presented by the consultant in their presentation display what is going up the stack and emitted.

Libbi Recanski requested that at the PICs, a table be set up to allow environmental groups to speak and display their materials to members of the public. It was confirmed that this was not for consideration at the SLC.

Kerry Meydam questioned if members of the public could also get a copy of the peer reviews that would be provided to members of the SLC. Ms. Meydam also inquired into the destination of the ash.

Councillor Hooper spoke to the traffic assessment and if considerations had been made to the Ontario Power Generation employees leaving work and asked what was considered “peak period” in this assessment.

Paul Andre Larose questioned the height of the stack and its possible increase adding that he believes that solution by dilution is not a viable reason to why the stack has increased in height. Mr. Larose also questioned values concerning compliance and the possibility of the system failing.

Brenda Cross inquired about timing of meetings, consideration made to execute peer reviews and the finalization of the EA process.

Louis Bertrand spoke to noise concerns, the new business case, review period for the economic assessment, GHG emissions, and request for proposals concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.