

# **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

## **MINUTES**

### **ENERGY-FROM-WASTE SITE LIAISON COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, January 14, 2009**

A meeting of the energy-from-waste Site Liaison Committee was held on Wednesday, January 14, 2009, in the lower level boardroom (LL-C), at The Regional Municipality of Durham, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, ON, at 7:00 p.m.

Present: R. Walli  
M. Clayton  
G. James  
M. Ashcroft  
J. Vinson  
T. Ali  
K. Coupland  
Councillor M. Novak  
Councillor A. Foster  
C. Curtis, Commissioner of Works, Region of Durham  
N. MacDonald, Manager, Manager, Solid Waste, Region of York  
F. Langmaid, Manager, Special Projects, Municipality of Clarington

Absent: R. Yates, with regrets (will call in via teleconference)  
C. Wedge, with regrets

Also

Present: Councillor C. Trim, Works Committee Chair  
J. McKay, Jacques Whitford Ltd.  
D. Payne, Jacques Whitford Ltd.

Staff

Present: M. Januszkiewicz, Director, Waste Management  
G. Anello, Manager, Waste Planning and Technical Services  
T. Lavery, Communications Officer, Corporate Communications  
M. Smart, Administrative Assistant, Works Department (Recording Secretary)

**ENERGY-FROM-WASTE SITE LIAISON COMMITTEE**

Richard Walli, Chair of the SLC, welcomed everyone and requested to speak to articles and comments made in the local area newspapers concerning the energy-from-waste (EFW) Site Liaison Committee (SLC) and its mandate. Clarifying that the EFW SLC is not a forum to discuss zero waste or landfills, Richard Walli reiterated that this is a committee to liaise with the public specifically about the proposed site for the EFW facility.

Richard Walli read the process of how to request to delegate before the committee and advised that what he was reading could be found as the last page of the package that was distributed (Attachment No. 1).

Also, Mr. Walli requested that there was not to be any interruptions by any media staff present during the EFW SLC meetings.

**ELECTIONS**

Margaret Clayton was nominated by Jim Vinson for the position of Vice-chair, seconded by Kathy Coupland and carried.

Clarence Wedge was nominated by Margaret Clayton for the position of Secretary/Treasurer, seconded by Kathy Coupland and carried.

**MINUTES**

Moved that the minutes be accepted by Geoff James, seconded by Kathy Coupland and carried by all voting members present.

Jim McKay of Jacques Whitford Limited advised that the Draft Timeline for Environmental Assessment (EA) Completion submission schedule (Attachment No. 2) has been updated and includes minor changes. He explained that the overall work proceeding to date and that both the top and bottom of the RFP and EA Timelines remain the same, and that only a few dates within the body of the schedule have been altered due to the RFP closing extension to February 19, 2009.

Mary Novak requested clarification concerning the availability of public information and whether any other venue will be arranged for public open houses at which EFW information will be provided to the public. Jim McKay confirmed that providing information to the public will be done through the SLC. Mary Novak requested confirmation that the site specific studies will be released via the SLC for the first time then and Jim McKay confirmed that they would. Mary Novak also inquired if due to the nature of the next venue, it would be held at a larger location, to which Cliff Curtis replied, it would.

Richard Walli inquired about the SLC Proposed Meetings, Agendas and Deliverables for Consideration single page included in hand out package (Attachment No. 4). Jim McKay requested to speak to this item after his presentation.

**PRESENTATION ON SITE SPECIFIC STUDIES BY JIM MCKAY, JACQUES WHITFORD LIMITED (Attachment No. 3)**

Jim McKay explained that Site Specific Studies have been done to complete the EA, and reminded everyone that background information is available on the project website ([www.durhamyorkwaste.ca](http://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca)).

Richard Walli inquired into the timeline of the modeling of air emissions from the preferred vendor's facility based on the extension of the closing date to February 19. Jim McKay confirmed that the data would not be available for a minimum of six (6) weeks following the closing date. Richard Walli commented that this information would therefore not be available for the next SLC meeting being held on March 4.

Jim McKay confirmed that the final Site Specific Risk Assessment Baseline Monitoring Report is being prepared and will be brought back to the SLC. Also, discussions are underway with Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ministry of Transportation to find out how current available information is concerning the Natural Environment Impact Assessment.

Jim McKay noted a correction to the first bullet point on Slide 11, Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, What needs to be done. He confirmed that the baseline ambient noise data collection was complete. Richard Walli questioned if the levels are being left up to the vendor to decide. Jim McKay advised that it is a component based on vendor specifications and that a model would be created from that information while adhering to all relevant by-laws. Mary Novak inquired if the information provided to the vendors specified what levels of noise and vibrations were allowed. Mirka Januszkiewicz confirmed that the specification information is included in the Requests for Proposals and that the EPA permitting program will confirm adherence to guidelines.

Tracey Ali questioned if air quality would be considered in the Traffic Impact Assessment with concern to trucks (haulage). Jim McKay confirmed that every possible impact will be taken into account. Charlie Trim commented on the noise factor and inquired about related studies. Jim McKay confirmed that background noise was being collected and that all cumulative effects in the area were being considered, including air and noise. Kathy Coupland questioned what air model was being used and if it was based on Regional or Site Specific standards. Jim McKay confirmed that COWPUFF was being used and would reply with regard to the second part of her comment. Further, Kathy Coupland suggested an anticipated need for alternative standards and questioned to what The Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) is committed – A7 or lower.

Jim McKay explained that vendor information is required to update the model for ground, surface and storm water management. Richard Walli asked what the plan was for storage of the water (i.e. stored outside) as leaching, ponding and treatment is of concern. Jim McKay confirmed that there would be zero (0) discharge. Kathy Coupland inquired as to where it would be directed and Jim McKay confirmed an on-site storm water pond. Margaret Clayton questioned if the water passing through the

building would be considered a process of being recycled and treated to which Jim McKay agreed.

Jim McKay confirmed that one of the reports being brought forward to the SLC would be the Archaeological and Built Heritage Assessment.

Upon presentation of the Energy Impact Assessment slide, Adrian Foster questioned if there were any recent changes to the provincial regulation of landfill and methane gas capture. Cliff Curtis confirmed that modern landfills are required to include methane gas capture in accordance with current regulations.

Margaret Clayton questioned the ability to differentiate between emissions being tested from the preferred site and other sites within the area (i.e. St. Mary's Cement) and if stack data would be the most reliable means of acquiring this information. Jim McKay confirmed that they have access to collected ambient air data. Richard Walli inquired further about periphery monitoring of the site. Jim McKay replied it had not yet been decided. Richard Walli suggested that such monitoring occur in the best interest of the facility and the Region's protection. Mirka Januszkiewicz confirmed that the requirement for ambient air monitoring could be evaluated as part of the monitoring program. Adrian Foster mentioned his concern of the possible inability to differentiate between the cumulative impacts from the facilities on general air quality within the community. Jim McKay confirmed that the report, Review of International Best Practices of Environmental Surveillance for Energy-From-Waste Facilities, would outline what baseline should be considered and the scientifically supported level of environmental monitoring. Richard Walli asked if the outcome of the report would be considered as a recommendation to the Region. Jim McKay explained that the report will include programs and options including the Consultant's recommendations showing advantages and disadvantages and will follow Regional procedures through committees to make the information available to Regional Council. Adrian Foster questioned the relevance of the SLC without the ability to provide input and asked if the SLC is dealing with site specific concerns. Jim McKay clarified that this report is not a requirement of the EA and from Regional Council direction of May 28, 2008 it would follow the process of going directly back to Regional Council. Richard Walli commented that he was not comfortable with this avenue and as the SLC is site oriented and needs to be assured that the public interests are being considered. Cliff Curtis clarified that Regional Council requested the report, Review of International Best Practices of Environmental Surveillance for Energy-From-Waste Facilities, and this report is therefore obligated to be brought back directly to Regional Council.

Jim McKay spoke to the SLC Proposed Meetings, Agendas and Deliverables for Consideration single page included in hand out package (Attachment No. 4). The proposed dates coincide with the overall EA timeline and an additional two (2) meetings on March 4 and May 20 are suggested alongside cancellation of the meeting that was to be held on June 10. Due to the amount of information to review and in order to provide members of the SLC the material, documents are to be received by the members two (2) weeks prior to the SLC meeting. On June 23, the SLC meeting will be held in the morning. Further details are to be confirmed. The SLC agreed upon the two (2)

additional meeting dates, March 4 and May 20, and cancellation of the meeting previously scheduled for June 10.

Jim McKay inquired as to how the SLC would like to receive the material. He suggested that due to the size, the recommended distribution would be via CD with a hard copy be available for reference at the respective Clerk's Departments at the Region and at The Municipality of Clarington (Clarington). Members of the SLC agreed with this method of distribution and document availability.

Mark Ashcroft inquired when the Joint Waste Management Group (JWVG) would see the report and the means by which it would be presented to them, commenting of the Chair's responsibility to present to the JWVG. The EFW SLC Terms of Reference were read by Gioseph Anello to confirm the Chair's responsibility to report to the JWVG and Clarington Council. Mark Ashcroft requested that Richard Walli formally request that the Review of International Best Practices of Environmental Surveillance for Energy-From-Waste Facilities report be formally presented by the consultant to the EFW SLC.

## **PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

Resident Julian Glowacki inquired as to what considerations were being made about the potential traffic and noise, and if the new reactors for Darlington Nuclear were also being considered. Jim McKay confirmed that the timelines for these developments are being tracked and their possible implications including the effects of Highways 401 and 407 traffic over the next five to ten years. Mary Novak commented that Clarington is being kept updated and that they are also involved in the process.

Kerry Meydam, Courtice resident, requested that the public be provided a copy of the reports prior to the next EFW SLC. Cliff Curtis had no objection to the release of the documents to the public. Richard Walli requested that all reports be posted on the project website ([www.durhamyorkwaste.ca](http://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca)) in order that the residents be provided an opportunity to review and provide comment to the SLC. Tracey Ali agreed. Cliff Curtis suggested that the reports be made available on CD for the public. Mary Novak requested a delay in posting the reports on the project site and the provision of the CDs for public review to allow the Councillors an opportunity to review the material first. Cliff Curtis suggested that a delay of 48 hours be given before the material gets posted on the project website in order that the Councillors (and SLC) receive their copies of the documents. He also advised that should any member of the public request a copy, CDs will be available at the Clarington and Region's respective Clerk's Departments and a hard copy for review at each respective location would be made available. It was decided by the SLC that from the time that SLC members receive their materials, there would be a delay of two business days prior to the release of any materials to the public.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.