

1. Introduction to the EA Terms of Reference Consultation Record

The Regions of Durham and York have agreed to undertake a joint Residual Waste Planning Study (Durham/York Residual Waste Study). Both municipalities are in need of a solution to manage the remaining solid waste after diversion (residual or post-diversion waste). The Regions are working to address the social, economic, and environmental concerns of residents through an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study process to examine potential waste management alternatives. The first step in an Individual Environmental Assessment is to develop a Terms of Reference, which is a “road map” on how the Environmental Assessment Study, including public consultation, will be conducted.

Public Consultation is an integral component of the EA process. As the first step in meeting the consultation requirements for this initiative, the Regional Municipality of Durham and the Regional Municipality of York have consulted with the public and stakeholders on the Terms of Reference for the Durham/York Residual Waste Study. This is the first point of public contact in an ongoing plan for involving the public during the key phases of the Environmental Assessment Process.

This Consultation Record is a document supplementing the Environmental Assessment (EA) Terms of Reference for the Durham/York Residual Waste Study. Public consultation on the Terms of Reference was conducted in accordance with the EA Act requirements (Section 5.1) that “such persons as may be interested” be consulted during the preparation of the Terms of reference.

This Consultation Record:

- 1) Describes the consultation activities undertaken during preparation of the EA Terms of Reference;
- 2) Identifies the stakeholders consulted;
- 3) States the issues and concerns raised by the public and stakeholders;
- 4) Documents the public consultation process undertaken during preparation of the EA Terms of Reference; and
- 5) Demonstrates how issues and concerns raised in the development of the EA Terms of Reference were addressed by the Regional Municipality of Durham and the Regional Municipality of York.

2. Objectives

2.1 Public Consultation

The objectives of public consultation during the preparation of the EA Terms of Reference were to:

- 1) Introduce Residents to the Study;
- 2) Present the alternative approaches to managing waste and discuss and obtain input on how a preferred approach would be chosen;
- 3) Discuss and obtain input on how a site for a facility (ies) to manage the waste remaining after diversion (i.e. through recycling and composting) would be chosen;
- 4) Discuss and obtain input on how the public and stakeholders are to be consulted during the EA study; and
- 5) Discuss and obtain input on the Draft EA Terms of Reference.

2.2 Stakeholder/Agency Consultation¹

The objectives of stakeholder consultation during the preparation of the EA Terms of Reference were to:

- 1) Involve key stakeholders from the commencement of the EA Terms of Reference preparation;
- 2) Engage other known stakeholders during the preparation of the EA Terms of Reference
- 3) Identify other stakeholders to be involved in the EA Study.

3. Consultation Methodology

It is an expectation of all regulatory agencies that proponents undertake public and agency consultation early in the planning process and continue it throughout to ensure the success of the Study. Since the initiation of this Study a large number of public consultation activities were undertaken.

¹ In this Study, the term “Stakeholders” refers to agencies, companies, other government or formal organizations that have an interest in this Study. The term “Stakeholders” does not refer to the First Nations and Aboriginal Peoples. The term “Public” refers to the general public or other interested informal bodies such as environmental groups or local/neighbourhood associations.

The consultation methods used during the preparation of the EA Terms of Reference included: notices in the print and electronic media; posting study information on the Durham and York websites, as well as a Study website; Public Information Sessions; Workshops sessions; and other presentations to the public. The key consultation events were the public information sessions and workshops.

These methods are described in detail in the individual Summary Reports and Record sections of this Consultation Record.

Public consultation for the preparation of the EA Terms of Reference, Durham/York Residual Waste Study was initiated in the Fall 2004 by the Regional Municipality of Durham, and continued to the present. During the consultation process various agencies, stakeholders, organizations, interest groups, general public and First Nations were provided opportunities to express issues, concerns and questions regarding this Study. The EA process will subsequently address these concerns for this Study.

3.1 Public Information Sessions

The first round of eight (8) Public Information Sessions were held between October 6th, 2004 and November 23rd, 2004. The purpose of these sessions was to: (1) introduce the Study, and (2) to communicate the need for finding a Durham solution and present the requirements of Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act. This series of introductory events also laid out opportunities for future consultation and input during development of the EA Terms of Reference.

These Public Information Session events held throughout the Region of Durham - one in each area municipality: Municipality of Clarington, City of Oshawa, City of Pickering, Town of Ajax, Town of Whitby, Township of Brock, Township of Scugog and Township of Uxbridge.

The second round of six (6) concurrent Public Information Sessions were held on October 18th, 19th and 20th, 2005, in Durham and York Regions to present and receive comments on the Draft EA Terms of Reference.

These Public Information Session events held throughout the Region of Durham in: the Township of Brock, Town of Ajax and Municipality of Clarington; and throughout the York Region in: the Town of Newmarket, Town of Markham and the City of Vaughan.

3.2 Workshop Sessions

The three sets of Workshop Sessions were held during the months of February, March, April May, June and September, 2005 in both Regions (Durham and York). The following provides an overview of the dates, locations and intent of these Workshops Sessions:

- A series of Public Workshops Sessions were held in each Region regarding the ‘Alternatives To’ the undertaking. These sessions were held in Durham on February 15th, 16th and 17th, 2005 and in York on May 31st, June 1st, 2nd and 23rd, 2005. The intent of these sessions was to discuss and obtain public input on: (1) alternatives reasonably available to manage Durham’s residual waste, and (2) the methodology for evaluating these alternatives during the EA study to select a preferred alternative;
- A series of Public Workshop Sessions were held in each Region regarding the identification of ‘Alternative Methods’. These sessions were held in Durham on March 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 2005 and in York on June 21st, 22nd, and 27th, 2005. The intent of these sessions was to discuss and obtain public input on the site selection methodology and preliminary criteria for their evaluation (i.e. proposed site identification and site selection process);
- A series of Public Workshop Sessions were held in each Region on ‘Consultation’. These sessions were held in Durham on April 19th, 20th and 21st, 2005 and in York on September 13th, 14th and 15th, 2005. The intent of these sessions was to discuss and obtain public input on how the public and stakeholders are to be consulted during the EA study.

3.3 Additional Public Consultation Events

The following additional public consultation events were conducted for the Durham/York Residual Waste Study:

- A session for Durham College engineering technology students was held on March 16th, 2005 at the Durham College campus. The intent of this session was to introduce the students to the planning process of the Study and the technologies being considered as part of the Study;
- A session for Grade 12, Earth and Space Science Class At the St. Stephen’s Secondary School was held on May 26th, 2005. The intent of this session was to introduce the students to: (1) the history of waste management in the Province of Ontario; (2) the existing waste diversion programs and the long term waste management planning options in Durham; (3) the technologies being considered

in the Durham Region Residual Waste Disposal Planning Study, and; (4) the purpose of the undertaking as well as the planning process for the Study.

4. Consideration of Issues and Concerns in the EA Terms of Reference

As noted, an extensive amount of public consultation has been carried out since Fall 2004 related to the development of the Durham/York Residual Waste Study EA Terms of Reference.

Comments provided at the above-noted consultation events and responses developed in direct response to these comments are documented in a series of summary tables included in the consultation record. This includes:

- Comments on the Draft EA Terms of Reference and Responses
- Comments on the “Alternatives to” and Responses
- Comments on the “Alternative Methods” and Responses
- Comments on “Public Consultation” during the EA and Responses

These summary tables document how comments were considered in the development of the EA Terms of Reference.