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## 17. Closure

This Environmental Assessment document represents the culmination of approximately three years of work (since the approval of the EA Terms of Reference in March 2006). The document outlines the process followed to arrive at a preferred alternative of managing the post-diversion residual waste generated by the two Regions. Implementation of the proposed undertaking will provide Durham and York Regions, a long-term, local, and sustainable waste management alternative that will ensure the protection of human health and the environment, while taking advantage of waste as a resource and generating energy for the local community.

This Environmental Assessment has been prepared in accordance with the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*, the Approved EA Terms of Reference (March 2006) for the Durham/York Residual Waste Study and the Ministry of the Environment Code of Practice for Preparing and Reviewing Environmental Assessments in Ontario.

Overall, it is concluded that the Facility can be constructed, operated and closed in an environmentally safe and acceptable manner.

### ***Commitment to Continuous Improvement***

This EA has assessed the potential effects of the Undertaking during the construction, operation, and post-closure period considering appropriate and feasible mitigation, monitoring, and management plans to minimize any associated potential effects. However, over the course of the construction and operation periods there may be possible improvements that could be considered as a result of new technology or processes. The Regions understand the importance of minimizing any potential adverse effects and enhancing potential opportunities that would also benefit the environment and potentially affected stakeholders and will investigate the opportunities afforded by new technologies as they become available.

Any comments, questions or inquires on this Draft Environmental Assessment Study Document should be forwarded to the EA Study Team at:

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**All documentation related to the Durham/York Residual Waste Study can be viewed on our website at [www.durhamyorkwaste.ca](http://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca)**