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2. Identification of the Proponents

The Proponents for the Environmental Assessment Study are **'The Regional Municipality of Durham'** (Durham) and **'The Regional Municipality of York'** (York). Collectively, they will be referred to as "the Regions" in the EA Study.

On June 30, 2005, the Regions reached an agreement to jointly pursue a residual waste management Environmental Assessment Study. Specifically, the agreement outlined the scope of the EA Study, how it would be managed, financial commitments, and other general matters. The Regions agreed to share the responsibility for implementing the project including sharing the majority of the costs evenly. The agreement is to be terminated upon completion of the Environmental Assessment.

The Regions made a number of commitments in the agreement including ensuring that the study satisfies all requirements under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* and that only technologies that meet or exceed regulatory requirements would be considered during the study.

A joint management group (now referred to as the Joint Waste Management Group (JWMG)) was set up by the Regions to manage and oversee all aspects of the Study. The JWMG is a sub-committee to Durham's Works Committee and York's Waste Management Committee. The Group consists of elected officials, residents from Durham and York, and an external observer. All major decisions during this Environmental Assessment were voted on by the JWMG and carried if the majority of voters supported the decision.

Upon approval of the Environmental Assessment, the Proponents will work closely with the Preferred Technology Vendor to obtain all additional necessary approvals, in particular approvals under the Ontario *Environmental Protection Act*. The agreement between the Proponents, and with the Preferred Technology Vendor, is currently being finalized and will be established following the approval of the EA and prior to the construction and operation of the facility.

The Proponents commit that if approval to proceed with the Undertaking is given, it will be the Proponents who are legally responsible for carrying out the Undertaking as approved.