

September 17, 2024

Dr. Rachael Fletcher
Director, Central Region
Environment, Conservation and Parks
Place Nouveau
5775 Yonge Street, 8th Floor
Toronto, ON M2M 4J1

Ms. Kathleen O'Neill
Director, Environmental Assessment Branch
Environment, Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Avenue West, 7th Floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5

Dear Dr. Fletcher and Ms. O'Neill:

**Re: Durham York Energy Centre Facility
Submission of the Regional Municipality of York Waste Diversion Program
Monitoring Plan (Environmental Assessment Condition 10)
MOE File No.: EA-08-02**

The attached *York Region 2023 Annual Waste Management Report* is being submitted to satisfy the Durham York Energy Centre Environmental Assessment condition for diversion reporting. It has been submitted to the Energy-from-Waste Advisory Committee and posted on the [York Region website](#).

The report summarizes York Region's Integrated Waste Management Master Plan (the SM4RT Living Plan) progress including waste reduction and diversion initiatives; diversion rate, generation rate, and total tonnages of material collected and processed. The SM4RT Living Plan establishes a vision and long-term targets to move towards a world without waste. It guides waste policy and programming and advances the circular economy to support economic, environmental and social benefits.

York Region and its local municipalities continue to make progress on all objectives in the Annual Waste Management Report including:

- Awarding procurement of long-term organics processing
- Continued advocacy on single-use plastics and extended producer responsibility
- Expanding reuse and repair efforts
- Supporting transition to a Circular Economy

The SM4RT Living Plan Review and Update is scheduled every five years to review and evaluate waste policies and progress towards long-term targets. The last Review and Update was approved by Council in [April 2020](#), and plans for the next Review and Update, scheduled for 2025, were initiated in late 2023. Part of the review will examine infrastructure and waste servicing contracts to accommodate future demand. This includes evaluating current services and processing contracts and considering long-term solutions such as additional processing capacity through energy-from-waste facilities within proximity to the Region and analyzing the waste transfer station network and

depot operations. The Review and Update is underway and will continue throughout 2024 and finalized in 2025 with plans to present to Council in late 2025.

Since 2012, the Region has ranked first in the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority's annual Datacall for waste diversion for large urban municipality category. In the most recent Datacall, York Region scored a 65.9% diversion rating, the highest rating of all programs in Ontario! Durham Region scored the second highest diversion in the Province at 61.5%. These results demonstrate that maximizing waste reduction, reuse and recycling can be accomplished while leveraging energy-from-waste technologies to manage residuals and divert waste from landfill sites.

We trust that the attached report satisfies Environmental Condition 10 in the Durham York Energy Centre approval for annual diversion reporting. If you require additional information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Lindsay Milne
Director, Waste Management and Forestry Operations, Operations and Services, Public Works

LM/kb

Attachment (1): York Region 2023 Annual Waste Management Report

Copy to:

- C. Dugas, York Durham District Office, Environment, Conservation and Parks
- A. Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, The Regional Municipality of Durham
- C. Raynor, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of York
- A. Harras, Director of Legislative Services/Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of Durham
- L. Saha, Manager, Waste Planning and Technical Services, The Regional Municipality of Durham
- N. Williams, Project Manager, Waste Planning and Technical Services, The Regional Municipality of Durham
- Energy-from-Waste Advisory Committee

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