

Project Description

The Regional Municipality of Durham and The Regional Municipality of York (Regions) along with Reworld Durham York Limited Partnership (Reworld) are proposing an amendment to the existing Environmental Compliance Approval #7306-8FDKNX (ECA) to increase the annual waste processing capacity from 140,000 tonnes per year to 160,000 tonnes per year of municipal solid waste at the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) located at 1835 Energy Drive, in Courtice, Ontario.

The amendment seeks to update the current ECA to reflect the proposed increase in the annual tonnage processing limit. This initiative will optimize DYEC operations by allowing for full use of the existing equipment, maximizing the use of the facility without requiring any additional construction or building modifications. The proposed increase in DYEC's waste processing capacity to 160,000 tonnes per year does not involve modifications to the existing waste treatment process and incurs no capital cost. This initiative will realize financial savings from reducing bypass waste, resulting in overall greenhouse gas emissions being decreased due to a reduction in transportation and landfilling in conjunction with increasing revenue from additional power generation and materials recovery.

The Regions have prepared this application under the Environmental Protection Act (EPA), Section 27, for an amendment to Environmental Compliance Approval number 7306-8FDKNX, issued on June 28, 2011 and ECA amendment Notices 1, issued August 12, 2014, Notice 2, issued October 24, 2014, Notice 4, issued February 24, 2016, and Notice 5, issued March 14, 2016 to increase the waste processing capacity from 140,000 tonnes to 160,000 tonnes per year.

In support of the amendment application, the Regions and Reworld have provided detailed documentation through the Environmental Assessment Streamlined Screening Process, which included an evaluation of the potential environmental effects of the proposed increase and consultation with the public. The Screening report was carried out under Ontario Regulation 101/07, with a Notice of Completion dated December 20, 2021. Ontario Regulation 101/07 was revoked February 22, 2024, for a more streamlined approach covered by the Environmental Assessment Act.

The Environmental Screening Report noted minor changes to truck traffic and potential impacts to air quality. The increase in waste processing capacity may result in approximately one (1) additional truck delivery per day to the DYEC. Given the facility's location and the permitted hours for waste acceptance, this marginal increase in traffic is not expected to have any impact on noise levels. Impacts to air quality were also investigated and reported in an Air Quality Impact Assessment. The Air Quality Impact report determined that the increase in waste capacity processing would not significantly impact local air quality.

A consultation summary report is included as part of the Environmental Screening Report, detailing a variety of engagement methods to connect with the public and

Indigenous communities in support of the preparation of the ECA Amendment Application.

Several changes to the existing ECA are detailed in the Design and Operations Report Amendment #2 dated September 2025 with respect to waste storage.