

Inquiries – October 2019

#	Date Received	Method Received	Comment Details / Description	Response / Remedial Action	Date Responded	Staff Initials
-	-	-	The Regional Municipalities of Durham and York released a Notice of Commencement on July 3, 2019 for the Environmental Screening Process to increase the waste capacity from 140,000 tonnes of waste to 160,000 tonnes of waste per year at the Durham York Energy Centre.	Inquires received through the Environmental Screening Process will be addressed and reported to the MECP through the Record of Consultation for the Project.	-	-
1	October 2, 2019	DYEC Project Email	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I would like to know if there is any information regarding the percentage of landfill gas that has been captured in the Durham York Energy Center during 2018.</p> <p>Thanks in advance,</p>	<p>Good Morning,</p> <p>This email is in response to your email dated October 2, 2019 regarding landfill gas captured at the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC).</p> <p>The DYEC is a waste management facility that produces energy from the combustion of garbage. The DYEC is not a landfill with landfill gas capture. The DYEC safely processes 140,000 tonnes per year of residential garbage that remains after maximizing waste diversion programs – reducing, reusing, recycling and composting – in Durham and York Regions.</p> <p>Please let us know if you have any additional questions.</p> <p>Regards, DYEC Project Team</p>	October 7, 2019	DL
2	October 7, 2019	DYEC Project Email	<p>Hi,</p> <p>Is it possible to have the price per ton that the cities have to pay to send their waste in your centre?</p>	<p>The Durham York Energy Center was constructed through a partnership between the Regional Municipalities of Durham and York, and operates under a long term (25 year) Design Build Operate and Maintenance Contract between the Region’s and our operator, Covanta. Only waste generated within these two Regions is accepted to be processed at the facility. Processing fees as well as distribution of revenues from the sale of recovered metals and generated electricity are laid out as part of the project agreement.</p> <p>Per the Regions 2019 budget document, program fees for the DYEC represented a net cost of approximately</p>	October 8, 2019	AE

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				<p>6.92 million, and represented the processing of 110,000 tonnes of waste.</p> <p>Regards</p>		
3	October 13, 2019	DYEC Project Email	<p>Hi,</p> <p>I hope this email finds you well</p> <p>I am a master student in banking and finance department of Eastern Mediterranean University. I am currently working on my thesis with the topic of “Cost effectiveness plastic incineration or landfill in Canada”.</p> <p>There are some constraints in getting some data like the annual plastic wasted and total waste in Canada for over a certain period of time, actual cost of incineration plant and capacity needed in particular region, size of land required for installation of the plant and lastly the rate of air pollution due to the plastic incineration and total waste.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Looking forward to hear form you</p>	<p>Good Afternoon,</p> <p>This email is in response to your inquiry sent on October 13, 2019 regarding waste incineration costs.</p> <p>Durham Region Annual Waste Diversion Reports summarize the Region’s integrated waste management system and can be found on the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) project website (https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Documents/FacilityManagementPlans/WasteDiversion.aspx). In addition, a breakdown of municipal waste collection materials can be found on the Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority website through their Datacall reports (https://rpra.ca).</p> <p>Each year the facility also prepares an annual report summarizing the DYEC operations. The annual reports include information on incoming waste and outgoing residual material such as ash and metals, conclusions from environmental monitoring programs, electricity production, equipment malfunctions and corrective actions. These reports can also be found on the DYEC project website (https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Documents/FacilityOperationsReports.aspx),</p> <p>In addition to the above information, I have also included the Region’s report 2009-COW-03, Approvals for the Design, Construction, Operations and Maintenance of a new Durham – York Energy from Waste (EFW) Facility (RFP 604-2008): Project and Related Financing which gives a good overview and cost breakdown of the project.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>DYEC Project Team</p>	October 17, 2019	DL

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4	October 15, 2019	DYEC Project Email	<p>Good morning:</p> <p>For what reason(s) were BOTH boilers shut down over period September 21-30th and where was waste was sent during that period?</p> <p>Also, has the fall regulatory stack test taken place, if not, when will that occur and when so staff expect results would be provided to council and the public.</p> <p>I would appreciate a reply at the earliest opportunity.</p>	<p>Hello</p> <p>Please see the requested information below.</p> <p>an explanation from staff, asking for what reason(s) BOTH boilers were shut down between September 21-30th, and where waste was sent during that period</p> <p>This was the pre-approved fall minor outage for scheduled maintenance.</p> <p>Note: we modelled the waste delivery and estimated that if we took both boilers down at the same time, we would still meet our 110,000 tonnes for the year.</p> <p>Approximately 2,800 tonnes of waste was bypassed to Twin Creeks Landfill during that period.</p> <p>when the fall regulatory stack test will occur?</p> <p>The Fall Source Test was completed the week of September 9th We have not yet received any results.</p>	October 10, 2019	GA/SS
5	October 15, 2019	DYEC Project Email	<p>Good Afternoon:</p> <p>We're a group of students at the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton and are interested in learning more about the Plastic Waste Management practices. It would be wonderful to be connected to someone who could answer a couple of unstructured questions and opinions to help us with project work. We are interested in thoughts about the industry, plastic waste, energy and pyrolysis, the process of breaking down plastic into oil.</p> <p>Questions we've prepared are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much plastic waste does this organization (Durham York Energy Centre and other associate organizations) deal with within a year? 2. What happens to the Non-recyclable component of plastic waste & where does it end up? 3. Is there any new innovation to work on solid waste practices, particularly on non-recyclable plastic? 4. If so, what are these new innovations, or what would you look into in the future? 5. Are there any current industry changes that have been beneficial/straining on Solid Waste? 	<p>Good Afternoon,</p> <p>This email is in response to your inquiry dated October 15, 2019 regarding plastic waste management in the Regional Municipality of Durham.</p> <p>As a Region, we are responsible for managing municipal household residential waste within the Region's eight area municipalities.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much plastic waste does this organization (Durham York Energy Centre and other associate organizations) deal with within a year? <p>The Region of Durham has a two-stream weekly curbside collection program. This means that residents keep paper in one container and other recyclable, such as plastic and metal, in another. A breakdown of municipal waste collection materials can be found on the Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority website through their Datacall reports (https://rpra.ca).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. What happens to the Non-recyclable component of plastic waste & where does it end up? 	October 17, 2019	DL

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			<p>6. What is the major strain that the business has to deal with in regards to plastic waste?</p> <p>7. Are you familiar with the process of Solar-powered pyrolysis cycle, and if so, what are your thoughts on it?</p> <p>Thank you very much</p>	<p>The Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) is Durham Region’s primary long-term disposal option for waste and only processes the household waste remaining after Durham and York Regions’ aggressive composting, recycling and reuse programs. Our Certificate of Approval only permits us to take waste from residential collection programs within Durham and York Regions and delivered via approved waste haulers. Any non-recyclable component of plastic waste will come to the DYEC for disposal. Additional information regarding the DYEC can be found on our project website (www.durhamyorkwaste.ca).</p> <p>3. Is there any new innovation to work on solid waste practices, particularly on non-recyclable plastic?</p> <p>Many new and innovative ideas are being implemented or tested to help manage solid waste world-wide including changes in packing materials, processing and final disposal.</p> <p>4. If so, what are these new innovations, or what would you look into in the future?</p> <p>The DYEC was the first new greenfield Energy from Waste facility built in North American in 25 years which proved to be an innovative solution to manage the Region’s waste within the Region’s boundaries.</p> <p>Durham has also approved the implementation of a project for the mixed waste transfer/pre-sort with Anaerobic Digestion facilities which will further divert up to 30,000 tonnes per year of organics material from the DYEC.</p> <p>Durham Region has commenced work on our new 20 year Long Term Waste Management Strategy Plan. Once completed and endorsed by Durham Region Council, this plan will help determine or priorities and guide our programs into the future.</p> <p>5. Are there any current industry changes that have been beneficial/straining on Solid Waste?</p> <p>One of the most significant change to the Region’s collection programs will likely be the new Waste Free</p>		

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				<p>Ontario Act which commits to shifting Ontario's waste policies fully to extended producer responsibility. This would mean that companies that put products on the market will be responsible for the full life-cycle of those products and packaging. This will have a significant impact on Durham's Blue Box program and we expect to see changes over the next couple of years.</p> <p>6. What is the major strain that the business has to deal with in regards to plastic waste?</p> <p>Beginning in January 2018, China officially closed its borders to many types of solid waste imports including scrap plastics. This new policy, known in China as National Sword, has had significant impacts on the North American recycling industry. In addition, North American consumers continue to depend on convenient single-use plastic items with new products and materials being marketed at a rate higher than municipalities infrastructure and markets can handle. Increased volumes of single-use plastic, unstable markets and price fluctuations are some of the biggest challenges for managing waste in Durham Region.</p> <p>7. Are you familiar with the process of Solar-powered pyrolysis cycle, and if so, what are your thoughts on it?</p> <p>Increased volumes of single-use plastic, unstable markets and price fluctuations has led to many conversations within the recycling, plastics, aluminum and paper industries about how to change global recycling practices to account for the new paradigm. In this new paradigm, processes such as pyrolysis are making advancements and gaining momentum. It will be interesting to see where these emerging technologies will take us in waste management and what opportunities will be available to further reduce our ecological footprint.</p> <p>Regards, DYEC Project Team</p>		

Total Inquiries – October 2019

Inquiry Type	Total by Inquiry Type
Total Project Team Inquiries received this month by project web email / telephone:	5
Total Covanta Inquiries received this month:	0
Total Durham Region Council / Committee Inquiries received this month:	0
Total Durham Region Call Centre Inquiries received this month:	0
Total Inquiries received from York Region this month:	0
Total Inquiries received from previous months in 2019 to-date:	19
Total Inquiries received in 2019 to-date:	24

Complaints – October 2019

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-	-	-	The Regional Municipalities of Durham and York released a Notice of Commencement on July 3, 2019 for the Environmental Screening Process to increase the waste capacity from 140,000 tonnes of waste to 160,000 tonnes of waste per year at the Durham York Energy Centre.	Complaints received through the Environmental Screening Process will be addressed and reported to the MECPC through the Record of Consultation for the Project.	-	-

Total Complaints – October 2019

Complaint Type	Total by Complaint Type
Total Project Team Complaints received this month by project web email / telephone:	0
Total Covanta Complaints received this month:	0
Total Durham Region Council / Committee Complaints received this month:	0
Total Durham Region Call Centre Complaints received this month:	0
Total Complaints received from York Region this month:	0
Total Complaints received from previous months in 2019 to-date:	16
Total Complaints received in 2019 to-date:	16