

Inquiries						
#	Date Received	Method Received	Comment Details/Description:	Response/ Remedial Action	Response Date	Staff
1	December 23, 2015	Project web email	<p>Dear Sir/Madam:</p> <p>Our office the Legislative Research Service at the Ontario Legislature provides non-partisan research and information support to the MPPs and Caucus staff here at Queen's Park. You probably know the IESO (Independent Electricity System Operator) recently posted their Energy-from-Waste (EFW) procurement program.</p> <p>With respect to your Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) I would appreciate the following information:</p> <p>A) Does a chronological table or flow chart exist of the key stages in the planning, approval process, construction and pending commissioning of the DYEC. I am particularly in the land use planning, environmental and energy supply and sales components of this approval process to indicate in general what is currently required to secure the approval of a modern EFW facility in Ontario.</p> <p>B) How will the pending operation of the DYEC still ensure that the two regional municipalities still act to implement and achieve waste reduction and diversion, i.e., recycling, targets for their waste streams?</p> <p>C) In the background analysis for the DYEC project, has any representative and comparative computation been prepared of the greenhouse gas output in general from modern EFW facilities compared to the straight landfill disposal of waste and then without, and with, greenhouse gas capture and reuse from landfill facilities without the initial use of EFW technologies? If so can such representative information be provided?</p> <p>D) In the background analysis for the DYEC project, has any representative and comparative computation been prepared of the greenhouse gas output in general from modern EFW facilities compared to the generation of power from modern natural gas-fired generation and modern coal fired-generation? If so can such representative information be provided?</p> <p>I have also made EFW-related inquiries to the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC).</p> <p>Please call me to clarify or scope any of the above matters. "Off the shelf" information in this regard would suffice.</p>	<p>Dear [REDACTED],</p> <p>Thank you for your interest in the Durham York Energy Centre. We have reviewed your questions and hope we have provided you with helpful responses. Our responses to your questions are in red text below. Please feel free on contact us if you have any further questions or require clarity on the information provided.</p> <p>Best Regards,</p> <p>Project Team</p> <p>A) Does a chronological table or flow chart exist of the key stages in the planning, approval process, construction and pending commissioning of the DYEC. I am particularly in the land use planning, environmental and energy supply and sales components of this approval process to indicate in general what is currently required to secure the approval of a modern EFW facility in Ontario.</p> <p>There were so many different approvals and approval bodies required on this project. There is no process diagram available that can demonstrate getting from A to B. Some processes were done concurrently and some needed to wait until we had approval from another body prior to moving forward. WE needed approval from our Council and the host municipality first and foremost then we proceeded into the environmental regulatory Environmental Assessment and Environmental Compliance Approval Process. The Power Purchase Agreement and getting connected to the grid we a separate process but were done concurrent with the facility design process.</p> <p>The following links on the website should be helpful:</p>	January 13, 2016	LW

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	January 13, 2016	Project Web email	<p>With the pending Holidays I wonder if a response would be possible by January 20.</p> <p>Look forward to your response.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Project Team Members</p> <p>From a quick scan I feel that you have provided an EXCELLENT response to my questions from the perspective of your YDEC.</p> <p>If I need clarification of any matters provided I may be in further contact.</p> <p>With sincere appreciation,</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Facility Land Requirements:  <a href="https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/processing/Annex-E-2-Facility-Land-Requirements.pdf">https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/processing/Annex-E-2-Facility-Land-Requirements.pdf</a></p> <p>Hydro One process for new generators:  <a href="http://www.hydroone.com/Generators/ConnectionProcess/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.hydroone.com/Generators/ConnectionProcess/Pages/default.aspx</a></p> <p>Environmental Approval Process:                      Environmental Planning Process- Environmental Assessment  <a href="https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/studydoc-july31/EA_in_Sections/05-The-Planning-Process.pdf">https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/studydoc-july31/EA_in_Sections/05-The-Planning-Process.pdf</a></p> <p>Other Approvals:  <a href="https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/studydoc-july31/EA_in_Sections/15-Additional-Approval-Requirements.pdf">https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/studydoc-july31/EA_in_Sections/15-Additional-Approval-Requirements.pdf</a></p> <p>B) How will the pending operation of the DYEC still ensure that the two regional municipalities still act to implement and achieve waste reduction and diversion, i.e., recycling, targets for their waste streams?</p> <p>As part of our Environmental Assessment Approval, the Environment Minister of the Day commended the Regions of Durham and York on their waste diversion programs already in place. Durham and York Regions rank among the top 5 in waste diversion according to Waste Diversion Ontario. On an annual basis the Regions submit Waste Diversion reports to the Minister of Environment and Climate for the previous year detailing the waste diversion program successes and challenges and can be used to reconfirm our commitment to waste diversion. These are posted to our website.</p>		

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				<p>Additionally, the DYEC was built “right-sized” at 140,000 tonnes per year processing capacity for the quantity of garbage generated by 100% of Durham residential households (approximately 100,000 tonnes) and 20,000 tonnes for York Region, with 20,000 tonnes shared capacity. There is little room to account for tonnage due to population growth without first considering other diversion opportunities. Facility expansion is expensive and diversion opportunities may be more economical and environmentally responsible.</p> <p>C) In the background analysis for the DYEC project, has any representative and comparative computation been prepared of the greenhouse gas output in general from modern EFW facilities compared to the straight landfill disposal of waste and then without, and with, greenhouse gas capture and reuse from landfill facilities without the initial use of EFW technologies? If so can such representative information be provided?</p> <p>During the Environmental Assessment process we were required to do an evaluation of alternatives, including the “do nothing” type scenario, which was continuing to send waste to landfill. The following reports will have summaries on this topic:</p> <p>Comparative Analysis of Thermal Treatment and Remote Landfill on a Lifecycle Basis  <a href="https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/processing/Annex-E-5-Supplemental_Report.pdf">https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/processing/Annex-E-5-Supplemental_Report.pdf</a></p> <p>Facility Energy and Life Cycle Assessment – Technical Study Report  <a href="https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/studydoc-july31/Appendix-C-3-Facility-Energy-and-LCA-Technical-Study-Report.pdf">https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/studydoc-july31/Appendix-C-3-Facility-Energy-and-LCA-Technical-Study-Report.pdf</a></p>		

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				<p>Consideration of "Alternatives To" the Undertaking  <a href="https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/Background_Document_2-2_Consideration_of_Alternatives_to_The_Undertaking.pdf">https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/Background_Document_2-2_Consideration_of_Alternatives_to_The_Undertaking.pdf</a></p> <p>A detailed business case was undertaken by Deloitte to provide a comprehensive risk and cost evaluation of the EFW and Other Ontario Landfill options and makes a final recommendation. In this assessment, both options were evaluated using an evaluation framework guided by principles that the selected option should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a local solution that is realistic, long-term and not a local landfill;</li> <li>• Protect and promote environmental sustainability and environmentally sensitive behaviour;</li> <li>• Foster multi-government partnership and cooperation;</li> <li>• Achieve value for money;</li> <li>• Advance the productive reuse of waste materials;</li> <li>• Promote the public interest through transparency and evidence-based decision-making;</li> <li>• Ensure appropriate public ownership/control.</li> </ul> <p>The link to the business case which also includes a comparative evaluation:  <a href="https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/businesscase/EFWReport.pdf">https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/businesscase/EFWReport.pdf</a></p> <p>D) In the background analysis for the DYEC project, has any representative and comparative computation been prepared of the greenhouse gas output in general from modern EFW facilities compared to the generation of power from modern natural gas-fired generation and modern coal fired-generation? If so can such representative information be provided?</p>		

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				<p>I have attached a paper by the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) on this topic. Hopefully it will be of use to you.</p> <p>Note: An email correction was sent to the inquirer on March 9, 2016 revising the tonnage allocation in Item 1B (above) to 110,000 tonnes per year for Durham Region and 30,000 tonnes per year for York.</p>	March 9, 2016	

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				Best regards,  Project Team		
2	January 6, 2016	Email	<p>I am concerned that the trucks transporting waste from York Region to this facility have the lowest emissions possible.</p> <p>Thus, I would like to ensure that these trucks have their speed limiters set at 90 kph. This will help to keep the levels of nitrogen oxides, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons from these trucks as low as possible.</p> <p>Thanks,</p>	<p>Good Afternoon M [REDACTED]</p> <p>Thank you for your email regarding the transportation of waste from York Region to the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC).</p> <p>The transportation of York Region waste to the DYEC is managed through an external contract, which adheres to all Ministry of Transportation (MTO) regulations. The MTO regulates the use of speed limiters in Ontario and all vehicles are required to comply with the MTO commercial vehicle safety requirements.</p> <p>Regards,</p>	January 14, 2016	AH
3	January 12, 2016	Email forwarded by York Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong (Markham)	Request for information about the Durham York Energy Centre public consultation process, the names of the individuals who submitted comments, and the names of York Region's project team.	<p>Dea [REDACTED]</p> <p>Your request for information to the City of Markham was forwarded to me for a response. In your request, you asked for information about the public consultation process for the Durham York Energy Centre, including a list of individuals and organizations that submitted comments.</p> <p>A report on the public consultation process was included in the Environmental Assessment Study Document that was submitted by Durham Region and York Region to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. This public consultation report is available on the project website <a href="http://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca">www.durhamyorkwaste.ca</a>. A list of individuals and organizations that submitted comments is also available on the website, together with their questions and the Regions' responses. Links to the applicable documents are provided</p>	January 13, 2016	SD

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				<p>below.</p> <p><b>EA Study Document Section 16: Consultation Summary</b>  <a href="https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/studydoc-july31/EA_in_Sections/16-Consultation-Summary.pdf">https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/studydoc-july31/EA_in_Sections/16-Consultation-Summary.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Comments on the EA Study Document</b>  <b>Public Comment</b>  <a href="https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/DY-Public-Comment-Response-Summary-Table-Nov-27-09-FINAL-Dec-10-09.pdf">https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/DY-Public-Comment-Response-Summary-Table-Nov-27-09-FINAL-Dec-10-09.pdf</a></p> <p><b>First Nations Comment</b>  <a href="https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/First-Nations-Table-Formal-EA-Review-Full-Comments-Responses-Dec-2-09.pdf">https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/First-Nations-Table-Formal-EA-Review-Full-Comments-Responses-Dec-2-09.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Government Review Team Comment</b>  <a href="https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/Master-GRT-Table-Formal-EA-Review-Full-Comments-Responses-Dec-3-09.pdf">https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Archive/pdfs/study/ea-study-docs/Master-GRT-Table-Formal-EA-Review-Full-Comments-Responses-Dec-3-09.pdf</a></p> <p>In your information request, you also asked for the names and titles of the members of York Region’s project team. In keeping with the protocol established for the project under our Environmental Compliance Approval, we respectfully request that you direct all project-related inquiries to the dedicated project mailbox at <a href="mailto:infod@durhamyorkwaste.ca">infod@durhamyorkwaste.ca</a>. This mailbox is monitored continuously by the project team to ensure timely and accurate responses. As York’s representative on the facility operations team you may also direct inquires to me.</p> <p>Best Regards,</p>		

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<b>Total Project Team Inquiries this month (project web email/telephone):</b>				<b>1</b>		
<b>Total Covanta Inquiries this month:</b>				<b>0</b>		
<b>Total Council/ Committee Inquiries this month:</b>				<b>0</b>		
<b>Total Durham Call Centre Inquiries this month (separate attachment):</b>				<b>0</b>		
<b>Total Inquiries from York this month:</b>				<b>2</b>		
<b>Total Inquiries from previous months:</b>				<b>0</b>		
<b>Total Inquiries in 2016:</b>				<b>3</b>		

<b>Complaints</b>						
<b>#</b>	<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Method Received</b>	<b>Comment Details/Description:</b>	<b>Response/ Remedial Action</b>	<b>Response Date</b>	<b>Staff</b>
1	January 13, 2016 & January 27, 2016	Request to appear as a delegation to Work Committee and Regional Council	Delegation concerned with Management Committees decision on the DYEC Acceptance Testing Results.	Committee addressed concerns from delegate. No further action required.	January 13, 2016	N/A
2	January 13, 2016	Request to appear as a delegation to Work Committee	Delegation concerned with DYEC Acceptance testing as well as lack of increase seen in recycling rates, construction delays	Committee addressed concerns from delegate. No further action required.	January 13, 2016	N/A
3	January 27, 2016	Request to appear as delegation to Regional Council	Delegation concerned with additional costs for consulting and legal fees for DYEC due to construction delays. Asked that the Acceptance Report be made publically available and requested Council ask the cost of liquidated damages be reconciled.	Committee addressed concerns from delegate. Acceptance Test Report is available on the DYEC website: <a href="http://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca">www.durhamyorkwaste.ca</a>	January 27, 2016	N/A
4	January 27, 2016	Request to appear as delegation to Regional Council	Delegation asking Council to be cautious facilitating or supporting any approvals that would allow this project to proceed and further ask that Regional Council support Port Hope Municipality resolution opposing all forms of incineration to manage waste.	Committee addressed concerns from delegate. No further action required.	January 27, 2016	N/A

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<b>Total Project Team Complaints this month (project web email/telephone):</b>				<b>0</b>		
<b>Total Covanta Complaints this month:</b>				<b>0</b>		
<b>Total Council/ Committee Complaints this month:</b>				<b>4</b>		
<b>Total Durham Call Centre Complaints this month (separate attachment):</b>				<b>0</b>		
<b>Total Complaints from York this month:</b>				<b>0</b>		
<b>Total Complaints from previous months:</b>				<b>0</b>		
<b>Total Complaints in 2016:</b>				<b>4</b>		