

Inquiries						
#	Date Received	Method Received	Comment Details/Description:	Response/ Remedial Action	Response Date	Staff
1	June 15, 2015	Project web email	<p>Hi,</p> <p>I am writing on behalf of our client [REDACTED] regarding an ongoing project to optimize the waste streams resulting from the operation and maintenance of their facilities.</p> <p>As part of the project, we would like to collect some information regarding radiation monitoring practices used by waste management companies to check the waste material entering their facilities. Your help will be greatly appreciated. Is there anyone in particular that I should be contacting? If it works better a telephone conference can be set up for the discussion, or alternatively I can send the list of questions to the responsible person. Your reply is appreciated.</p> <p>Thank you very much,</p>	<p>Thank your for your interest in the Durham York Energy Centre. Please forward your questions via this method and a project team member will ensure the appropriate persons respond. If further discussion is required after we can certainly entertain this as well.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>Project Team Durham York Energy Centre</p> <p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>Thank you for your interest in the Durham York Energy Centre. You will see our responses to your questions in red below.</p> <p>1. Do you monitor for radioactivity on any or all material entering your facility?</p> <p>Yes. The Durham York Energy Centre is equipped with radiation detection equipment located on the inbound scales and monitored at the Scale house. This is to ensure that no radioactive material is tipped into the Refuse Pit. If the answer is positive please provide the following details to the extent possible:</p> <p>a. What types of radiation monitors are used? (Portal monitors, vehicle monitors etc.) Vehicle b. If alarming features are used, what are the alarm set points on these radiation monitors?</p> <p>The LFM-3 displays the count rate received from radioactive materials that pass by the detectors in counts per second (CPS). Using pulse height</p>	<p>June 15, 2015</p> <p>June 19, 2015</p>	LW

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				<p>techniques radioactive material can be categorized by measuring its energy. To assist in classification of detected radioactive material, the LFM-3 divides the energy spectrum into three distinct energy bands: Low, Medium and High.</p> <p><b>Low Energy:</b> The LFM-3 system will signal a low energy alarm (Alarm 1) if it detects ionizing radiation in the 20 to 99 keV energy range. Some of the sources found in this low energy range include: I125, I129 , Am241, Ti 201, Ba133, Cd108 and Ga67</p> <p><b>Medium Energy:</b> The LFM-3 system will signal a medium energy alarm (Alarm 1 and Alarm 2) if it detects ionizing radiation in the 100 to 400 keV energy range. Some of the sources found in this low energy range include: Mo99, TC99m, I123, Yt90, Ir192,Ti201, Cr51, I131, Ba133, and Co57.</p> <p><b>High Energy:</b> LFM-3 system will signal a high energy alarm (Alarm 2) if it detects ionizing isotopes above 400 keV. Some of the sources found in this low energy range include: PET nuclides, Co60 and Cs137.</p> <p>c. What is the basis to select the alarm set points? I believe these are preprogrammed as the equipment is specific to low level detection such as waste transfer facilities.</p> <p>d. What are the follow up actions taken if the monitor's alarm is set off? Any truck detected to contain radioactive material will be isolated on site for proper investigation and handling by Facility personnel. If a truck contains radioactive</p>		

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				<p>material, the entire load will be rejected. The majority of the loads will be returned to the generator or hauler. However, for approved circumstances a truck may be allowed, to be isolated in the tipping area to allow for natural decay of the radioactive isotope, or the generator/hauler will be allowed to hire an outside contractor to sort through the load to remove and isolate the radioactive material. All instances of radiation alarms will be documented and reported. All radiation detection equipment and procedures will be followed in accordance with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission document titled: Alarm Response Guidelines for Radiation Portal Monitoring Systems.</p> <p>2. Do you currently process waste from facilities that are licensed to handle radioactive materials? These facilities hold licenses issued by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).</p> <p>No, we do not process radioactive waste. Our Environmental Compliance Approval allows us to accept only non-hazardous municipal solid waste which is collected curbside or via transfer station in the Regions of Durham and York.</p> <p>3. What is public perception of risk in the local community? what is the relationship with the public and surrounding community if the site is accepting radioactive waste? What is the response from the public, perception of risk to the community, acceptance of practice, etc.?</p> <p>We are not aware of what the public perception would be specifically to accepting radioactive waste, as the public consultation during the Environmental Assessment process did not contemplate receipt of radioactive waste from industry/commercial operations.</p> <p>4. Are you required to inform the community when your</p>		

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				<p>monitors detect material above your setpoint ? If so what is the basis for this notification?</p> <p>No.</p> <p>5. What is your willingness to accept waste material that may contain small quantities of man-made radioactivity? This will be strictly within the allowable limits set by the regulations and all approvals/notifications as required by the regulations will be observed.</p> <p>In accordance with the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) issued for The Durham York Energy Centre, any waste other than non-hazardous municipal solid waste collected curbside or via transfer station in Durham and York is not allowed. Any change in types, quantity or processes at this facility would require us to submit an application to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change to have our ECA amended.</p> <p>If you have any further questions please contact us.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>Project Team</p>		
2	June 17, 2015	Project web email	Curious, I still don't see any smoke from the EFW facility stack....is the incinerator not running right now? Problems? Should we be concerned? Thanks for taking time to answer my questions.	<p>Thank you for your interest in the Durham York Energy Centre. Similar to your enquiry on May 6, 2015, related to lack of visible smoke and the relationship between facility operations we offer much the same response.</p> <p>The lack of visible 'smoke' from the Durham York Energy Centre is not an indication that the facility is not operating or in shut down. A visible plume is noticeable when ambient temperatures are much cooler than the flue gas exiting the stack. This is the same phenomenon that occurs when a</p>	June 18, 2015	LW

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				<p>person exhales on a cold day – you can see your breath. On a warm day this is not noticeable. The ‘smoke’ from a complete combustion process, which occurs at the Durham York Energy Centre, is primarily composed of carbon dioxide, nitrogen and water vapour. A plume is visible when the warm water vapour exiting the stack meets colder ambient air. Since February 13th the plant has been continuously combusting waste with the exception of approximately 15 days where the plant was offline for maintenance.</p> <p>The DYEC continues to work through the start-up/commissioning phase of operations as contemplated in Section 13.2 of the Notice of Approval to Proceed with the Undertaking.</p> <p>Thank you for your interest.</p> <p>Project Team</p>		
3	June 19, 2015	Project web email	When will the commissioning phase be complete? Will heavy metals in ash be reported?	<p>Thank you for your interest in the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC).</p> <p>The current timelines would suggest that commissioning will be complete and commercial operations will commence the last quarter of 2015. Details of the ash sampling and testing, including quality, quantity, characterization and shipping, will be included in the annual report due March 30th each year.</p> <p>Please let us know if you have any questions.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>Project Team</p>	June 22, 2015	LW

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<b>Total Project Team Inquiries this month (project web email/telephone):</b>				<b>3</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>0</b>		
<b>Total Inquiries from previous months:</b>				<b>48</b>		
<b>Total Inquiries in 2015:</b>				<b>51</b>		

Complaints						
#	Date Received	Method Received	Comment Details/Description:	Response/ Remedial Action	Response Date	Staff
1	June 10, 2015	Project web email	<p>Hello,</p> <p>For your information, on Monday June 8th when we had a huge rain, You could smell burning/melting plastic all over town. Not sure if this is part of the new incinerator, but it might be something to look into.</p> <p>Hello,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Harmony and Olive, BUT i went as far as Simco and Taunton, and still could smell it.</li> <li>2. [REDACTED]</li> <li>3. As soon as I went out my front door I could smell it, 9;30 ish. Smelled it most the day.</li> <li>4. All day.</li> <li>5. the Smell was similar to when the tire factory south of harmony and bloor area caught on fire. I was looking around town for a factory fire, couldn't find any.</li> <li>6. I have a very good sense of smell, I do notice changes in the air.</li> <li>7. I've also noticed my 2 kids lately have been coughing more. Not sure if there is any connection there. and I am watching them carefully and they visit the doctor when ever there is an issue. but lately I've noticed they have a new random cough.they are 1.5 and 3 years old.</li> </ol> <p>Thanks</p>	<p>Thank you for your interest in the Durham York Energy Centre. We have noted your complaint and are looking into the matter. To assist us in formalizing your complaint would you kindly respond with the following details:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. your address or nearest intersection</li> <li>2. your telephone number to contact you regarding the results of our investigation or let us know if you would rather an email response</li> <li>3. time of day you detected the odour</li> <li>4. duration of the odour</li> <li>5. any other details that may assist us in our investigation</li> </ol> <p>Thanks,</p> <p>Project Team</p> <p>Good morning [REDACTED],</p> <p>Thank you for your response. The Regions and Covanta have investigated your complaint. On Monday June 8th, when you stated you could detect the odour, the Durham York Energy Centre was not receiving waste and the boilers were both down as of 3:30 AM. Therefore were no activities on this site during June 8 which could have resulted in the odour you detected. Additionally, the wind direction on June 8, 2015 was from the North-Northeast and the facility is Southeast of your closest intersection and approximately 8 kilometers to your home.</p> <p>Your complaint was formally made to the Ministry of Environment and the results of our investigation were provided. We consider this investigation closed.</p> <p>Please contact us if you have any further concerns.</p>	<p>June 10, 2015</p> <p>June 11, 2015</p>	LW

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2	June 15, 2015	Project web email	<p>Hello,</p> <p>Just thought you should know you can smell the burning plastic smell again today.</p> <p>June 15th, King and Harmony area. I noticed the smell first time I stepped out the door around 9 a.m.</p> <p>Thanks</p> <p>Hey Team,</p> <p>Both times I've smelt the burning plastic was when it was raining. I'm not a scientist</p>	<p>Thank you for your interest in the Durham York Energy Centre. Your complaint has been logged and an investigation will be carried out. We will notify you with our findings.</p> <p>Regards, Project Team</p> <p>Good morning,</p> <p>Durham staff along with Covanta have investigated your complaint from Monday June 15th at 9 AM. At 9AM, June 15 only one of the two boilers were operating and the site was not receiving waste. Additionally, the wind direction, taken from the nearest meteorological tower at the Courtice Water Pollution Control Plant, was from the North-Northeast. The Durham York Energy Centre is Southeast of King and Harmony Road in Oshawa and approximately 8 kilometers away. There is no evidence to suggest that the odours being detected in the area of King and Harmony in Oshawa are due to operations at the Durham York Energy Centre. Your complaint was formally made to the Ministry of Environment and the results of our investigation were provided. We consider this investigation closed.</p> <p>If you have any further questions please contact us.</p> <p>Regards, Project Team</p> <p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>The Durham York Energy Centre has a comprehensive odour</p>	<p>June 15, 2015</p> <p>June 16, 2015</p> <p>June 29, 2015</p>	LW

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			<p>but if you burn over a few days, and the smoke builds up over time in the atmosphere when the rain clouds form, doesn't it make logical sense that what is in the atmosphere comes down in the form of rain, and when the rain hits the ground, the smell that is associated with burning of plastics is released? (Not even thinking of the toxins going into the ground water table)</p> <p>The direct burning of course if the wind is blowing in any direction, but I think if you can on rain days collect the water samples and test for those chemicals we might be surprised that the build up is longer term.</p> <p>I'll let you know the next time it rains if I smell the burning plastic again. maybe even I'll start to collect some rain those days and fire it over to durham health or my family doctor for testing.</p> <p>Many thanks for looking into this.</p> <p>Cheers</p>	<p>management system in place to manage odours from waste. The primary source of odour is from the garbage being delivered. All delivery trucks are fully covered until they are in the tipping hall with overhead doors closed. This maintains a negative pressure in the tipping building and prevents odour from escaping. Air is drawn into the boilers from the tipping hall and combusted with the waste. In the combustion chambers, unburned gases from garbage combustion would be directed into a high temperature combustion zone to permit the maximum burnout of vapours and elimination of odours. The flue gas would then be routed through the air pollution control system, which further aids in eliminating odours prior to treated flue gases exiting the stack.</p> <p>The Durham York Energy Centre also has a groundwater and surface water monitoring program in place and there is no evidence to suggest toxins are entering the groundwater table. We have been monitoring groundwater and surface water since 2012 and the reports, including the laboratory analysis are available on our website.</p> <p>The Environmental Assessment Air Quality Assessment Technical Study Report noted that the maximum predicted ground level concentration, which is the area to which the contents of the stack will fall to the ground, occurs about 1.5km northeast of the Durham York Energy Centre. Additionally the most frequent wind direction in the vicinity of the Durham York Energy Centre is coming from south or southwesterly winds blowing north-northeast.</p> <p>Based on this information, the wind direction data from both days you suggested odour was resulting from this facility (wind from the north-northeast) and your location being northwest of the Durham York Energy Centre there is no clear evidence to suggest what you smell at your location 8km away can be</p>		

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				<p>attributed to the Durham York Energy Centre. You may consider calling the Ministry of Environment officer for the Oshawa area to discuss your concerns further.</p> <p>We strongly encourage you to read the reports posted on the website about our facility monitoring for ambient air and groundwater and surface water. Please visit <a href="http://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca">www.durhamyorkwaste.ca</a></p> <p>Regards, Project Team</p>		
3	June 15, 2015	Correspondence received through Regional Clerks – to Joint Works Finance Administration Committee	Questions to Committee to be held June 16, 2015 regarding the status of acceptance testing and operations at the EFW facility.	The correspondence was received for information. Committee discussed an EFW update report 2015-J-40. No action deemed necessary by Committee.	June 16, 2015	N/A

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<b>Total Project Team Complaints this month (project web email/telephone):</b>				<b>2</b>		
<b>Total Covanta Complaints this month:</b>				<b>0</b>		
<b>Total Council/ Committee Complaints this month:</b>				<b>1</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>2</b>		
<b>Total Complaints in 2015:</b>				<b>5</b>		