

Inquiries						
#	Date Received	Method Received	Comment Details/Description:	Response/ Remedial Action	Response Date	Staff
1	Forwarded from Mayor Henry to Works Commissioner Cliff Curtis	April 29, 2014	Called to suggest delegates/officials from Mississauga and Oakville be invited to attend any upcoming Incinerator testing/info centres as their populations are very large and they would benefit from an incinerator. Inquirer did not request a call back	No call back requested.	N/A	N/A
2	May 7, 2014	Forwarded from Works.ca email account from reception	Please answer the following. Page one your newsletter Spring/Summer 2014. Item 1. How did you arrive at 17.5 Megawatts energy for 12000-14000 homes. Is this per year, day, hour? Item 2. Are the 17.5 Megawatts gross or net? Net would be output minus input. Item 3. What is the projected tonnage use per year for the first five years. Thank you for your attention	Good afternoon, Your message was forwarded on from reception at Regional Headquarters. We offer the follow answers to your questions: Item 1. How did you arrive at 17.5 Megawatts energy for 12000-14000 homes. Is this per year, day, hour? 17.5 MW is the estimated power output from the steam turbine based on the design steam pressure from the boiler. Based on the facility operating 24/7, 365 days of the year the plant can provide enough energy to run approximately 12,000 - 14,000 homes assuming a typical home uses about 900 - 1000 kWh of energy per month. Item 2. Are the 17.5 Megawatts gross or net? Net would be output minus input. 17.5 MW is the Gross electrical generation value. Internal plant load is estimated at 10% making the Net generation value approximately 16 MW. Since municipal solid waste has a variable energy content, unlike coal or natural gas, the actual value may vary throughout the year as the energy content of the waste fluctuates. Item 3.	May 26, 2014 & June 2, 2014	LW

				<p>What is the projected tonnage use per year for the first five years?</p> <p>The anticipated tonnage delivery per year is estimated to be 140,000 tonnes. This is split at 110,000 tonnes from Durham Region and 30,000 from York Region.</p> <p>If you have any further questions please feel free to ask. Also, please see our website at www.durhamyorkwaste.ca. The website also has a contact form so any questions will come directly to the project team.</p> <p>Thanks,</p> <p>Project Team</p>		
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Total Project Team Inquiries this month (project web email/telephone):	2
Total Council/ Committee Inquiries this month:	0
Total Durham Call Centre Inquiries this month (separate attachment):	0
Total Inquiries from York this month:	0
Total Inquiries from previous months:	18
Total Inquiries in 2014:	20

Complaints						
#	Date Received	Method Received	Comment Details/Description:	Response/ Remedial Action	Response Date	Staff
1	April 28, 2014	Correspondence to Works Committee	<p>Complainant emailing Corporate Services – Legislative Services, attaching newspaper articles about biomedical waste from British Columbia facilities, including aborted babies being incinerated in a waste-to-energy plant in Oregon. Complainant asks if the Durham York Energy Centre will be accepting aborted babies to generate electricity. (2014-WRC-1)</p> <p>To Durham Region and Clarington Councillors, I am sure by now you have heard or read about " Canadian aborted babies incinerated in Oregon waste-to-energy facility to provide electricity". This story has been reported world-wide, including national networks (CBC, CTV, BBC, CBS, NBC, ABC), cable and major newspapers. Also Reuters and Associated Press articles. The reason it has made world news is because this practice is so offensive to so many people. This is not a Pro-Choice or Pro-Life debate. This is about it being a disrespectful way of disposing of human remains. And apparently Covanta had no problem with it until it made national news. At first they said it was not their responsibility, even though they operate the incinerator (EFW) in a "partnership" with Marion County. Next they said they didn't know what was being burned...</p>	<p>Correspondence was received for information at Work Committee. A memo was prepared to address the correspondence by Works Commissioner Cliff Curtis to Department Heads and Regional Council to advise that Biomedical waste cannot be received at the DYEC. Both the EA approval (Section 21) and the C of A (Section 2 (2)), which is available on line at http://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/pdfs/project/certApprovai/CofA.pdf restrict the DYEC to only receive/dispose of solid non-hazardous waste, collected by the Regional Municipality of Durham and York. Pathological waste (human tissue or fluids) is defined as hazardous waste under Ontario regulation and therefore cannot be disposed of at the DYEC. In addition, all waste disposed of at the DYEC must be generated from within either the Regional Municipalities of Durham or York (Regions). Since the DYEC disposal capacity is controlled by the Regions, staff will ensure that only' waste approved under the EA and CofA will be disposed of at the DYEC. As a demonstration of</p>	May 9, 2014	CC

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			<p>The fact that a month ago a similar story broke in England shows that this is not a one-off. Perhaps this is why the story about BC sending 'medical waste' to Oregon for incineration in an EFW facility, along with household garbage came to light - people were horrified, as am I.</p> <p>I am also offended by Durham Region's promotion of Covanta and 'partnership' that is promoted at Waste Conventions, events and at seemingly every opportunity. Durham was advised of other problems with Covanta prior to contracts being signed - including documented emission exceedences and failure to report them. A web search of Covanta Energy quickly reveals a history of complaints and fines for unsafe labour practices such as violating federal labour law at more than 50 locations across the US, and toxic emissions exceedences. And these are just the recent violations. There was another host of violations which occurred prior to 2002 when the company filed for bankruptcy protection, from which they emerged in 2004. And now this - burning fetal tissue from British Columbia along with household garbage, ostensibly to power Oregon homes but mainly to dispose of household waste. Whatever the reasons, the Region of Durham entered into a long-term contract with a company that has a history of poor environmental and labour records.</p> <p>Durham Region has already lost the trust of the public due to promises made while working to gain approval of the incinerator, and then when Provincial approval came through, dropping that "best of the best" promise of air monitoring for the facility, claiming it would be too expensive (which would not be the case if it was investigated properly). So we are left now with the minimum required by Moe, not the best as we were promised.</p> <p>The contract with Covanta has been read in full by members of the public, except for the substantially redacted portions. I believe it was signed prior to it being reviewed by Council, which was one of the complaints we made at the time. So could this happen (medical waste or other unsuitable items) at the Durham-York incinerator? How would we know, without the secondary screening asked for by the public and rejected by Durham Region?</p> <p>I sincerely hope Regional Council will refrain from further promoting this company and from publicizing and heralding Durham's "partnership" with Covanta, and will instruct staff to also refrain from such promotion. Covanta has been hired to design, build and operate the incinerator facility in Courtice - does that mean they are our 'partners'? Does that mean the Region must do free marketing and promotion for them? Is that</p>	<p>further control at the DYEC, the Regions will operate the scale house with our own staff and therefore govern which vehicles are given access to the facility.</p>		

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			<p>somewhere in the contract? For Durham Region to not only support Covanta but to actively promote Covanta's "Energy From Waste" facility, build a visitor's centre and plan to host delegations from other Provinces and countries for marketing purposes - this is unacceptable and shameful. The same goes for CLOCA if they continue to partner with or accept sponsorships from Covanta in the future as they did for the children's film last year. I hope all of you are as horrified by all of this as I am, and as so many others are. Nothing should be taken for granted and oversight needs to be taken seriously by the owners of the facility. Reading all the articles (many of which have come through my "Google Alerts") made me sick to my stomach and has even brought me to tears. With Covanta's record over the years in the U.S., it is my belief that Durham Region should not be promoting Covanta in any way, shape or form. Thank you for your consideration.</p>			
2			<p>B) Complainant emailing Corporate Services – Legislative Services, attaching newspaper articles about biomedical waste from British Columbia facilities, including aborted babies being incinerated in a waste-to-energy plant in Oregon. Complainant asks if the Durham York Energy Centre will be accepting aborted babies to generate electricity. (2014-WRC-2)</p>	<p>Correspondence was received for information at Work Committee. A memo was prepared to address the correspondence by Works Commissioner Cliff Curtis to Department Heads and Regional Council to advise that Biomedical waste cannot be received at the DYEC. Both the EA approval (Section 21) and the C of A (Section 2 (2)), which is available on line at http://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/pdfs/project/certApprovai/CofA.pdf restrict the DYEC to only receive/dispose of solid non-hazardous waste, collected by the Regional Municipality of Durham and York. Pathological waste (human tissue or fluids) is defined as hazardous waste under Ontario regulation and therefore cannot be disposed of at the DYEC. In addition, all waste disposed of at the DYEC must be generated from within either the Regional Municipalities of Durham or York (Regions). Since the DYEC disposal capacity is controlled by the Regions, staff will ensure that only' waste approved under the EA and CofA will be disposed of at the DYEC. As a demonstration of further control at the DYEC, the Regions will operate the scale house with our own staff and therefore govern which vehicles are</p>	May 9, 2014	CC

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				given access to the facility.		
3						
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Total Project Team Complaints this month (project web email/telephone):				2		
Total Council/ Committee Complaints this month:				0		
Total Durham Call Centre Complaints this month (separate attachment):				0		
Total Complaints from York this month:				0		
Total Complaints from previous months:				6		
Total Complaints in 2014:				8		