



NEWS RELEASE

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Certificate of approval applications submitted to Ministry

WHITBY, ON – The Regional Municipalities of Durham and York would like to advise residents that the Certificate of Approval (C of A) applications have been submitted to the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) for the Durham/York Energy Centre and the Regions are now seeking approval under the Environmental Protection Act. As part of the authorized Early Works Agreement, Covanta Energy and their associated consultants completed the C of A applications for Air & Noise, Waste and Stormwater. These applications reflect the technical specifications of the Project Agreement, Environmental Assessment conditions of approval and the Regions' integrated waste management system.

"We are now at the implementation phase in this project—the energy-from-waste facility (EFW) Environmental Assessment has been approved and I'm happy to move towards project completion," said Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer Roger Anderson. "Covanta has completed the C of A applications for submission to the MOE. Once approved, Covanta will start construction of the EFW facility."

"The energy-from-waste facility has been in the planning stages for the past six years and we are looking forward to the start of construction," said York Region Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Bill Fisch. "This project is environmentally sound and will position both York and Durham Regions as leaders in the waste management industry."

"Since the province approved the study, Durham Region has undertaken a number of initiatives to ensure the public continues to be kept well-informed," said Cliff Curtis, Commissioner of Works. "One of these initiatives involved redoing the website dedicated to the project to archive old documents and make room for new ones, including the C of A applications. The public can view the C of A applications and send in comments at www.durhamyorkwaste.ca. However, this is not the only opportunity for residents to provide comments; we're also hosting a Waste Fair in March."

On Saturday, March 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the public and members of Regional and local council are invited to learn more about Regional waste management programs at the Waste Fair. Information will also be available on the energy-from-waste project. Covanta Energy Corporation will be in attendance; this will be an opportunity to discuss the C of A submission, view architectural drawings of the new facility and make inquiries or comments to Covanta and the EFW project team.

The EFW facility will be capable of processing post-diversion residual waste—the waste that remains after composting and recycling—recovering materials and energy, and will be sized to meet the Regions' residual waste processing needs. The EFW will use thermal mass burn technology, which means that municipal solid waste is fed into a furnace where it is burned at very high temperatures. The remaining ash is then shipped to landfill or reused in product manufacturing.

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The EFW process also includes production of high-pressure steam, which is fed through a turbine generator that produces electricity and/or hot water energy that can be used for district heating in the future. In broad terms, the electricity produced by the facility, when operating at design capacity of 140,000 tonnes per year, is sufficient to power about 10,000 homes, while the district heating produced could heat the equivalent of 2,200 homes.

The MOE issued a Notice of Approval to Proceed with the Undertaking, under the Environmental Assessment Act, on Nov. 19, 2010. Once the Certificate of Approval from the MOE has been obtained, Covanta Energy Corporation will start construction of the EFW facility.

It is anticipated construction will begin in 2011, with a target operation date of 2014. The EFW facility will be located in the Municipality of Clarington on a 12-hectare property, north of the Courtice Water Pollution Control Plant, in The Regional Municipality of Durham.

The facility operator, Covanta Energy Corporation, was chosen as the preferred vendor in spring 2009, through the Regions' request for proposals process. Covanta Energy Corporation is an experienced operator in the energy from waste field and is the largest provider of EFW services in North America.

For more information on the Durham/York Residual Waste Study, visit the website at www.durhamyorkwaste.ca, call toll-free at 1-800-667-5671, or email info@durhamyorkwaste.ca

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