

From: Phil Capone
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2005 6:14 PM
Subject: Solid Waste Management

March 2, 2005.

Dear Members of York Regional Council,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, with no pecuniary or related interest in York Region's final decision regarding the strategies and technologies to be employed with respect to solid waste management.

My only interest is in seeing the Region adopt the strategies and technologies that are most environmentally-responsible, and most cost-effective.

A short time ago, I came across an article in a Vaughan local paper regarding the issue of solid waste management, and the fact that Vaughan Council was supportive of a technology called 'pelletization'.

This causes me some concern, as it is my understanding that 'pelletization' is essentially the same as 'incineration', a technology that has been widely rejected as environmentally unsound.

The only difference is that in the 'pelletization' process, the waste is dried and compacted into small pellets before being introduced as a fuel feedstock.

Though the pelletization process allows for the easier and more sanitary shipment of the solid waste, and facilitates the establishment of a market for its feedstock product, the ecological consequences of using this approach are no different than those of incineration.

I do not know what studies the region has conducted for the purpose of determining the best technology for solid waste management, but I do know that the City of Toronto has studied this matter quite extensively.

Now, I realize that it is quite likely that the Region is already consulting with the City of Toronto in this regard; but, in the event that it proves helpful, I would like to forward a link to the City of Toronto's October 2003 report on 'New and Emerging Waste Management Technologies':

<http://www.solidwastemag.com/postedddocuments/PDFs/FinalTechRevDec03.pdf>

In addition, in the event that it might be helpful, I am also forwarding a link to the City of Toronto's 2005 'Solid Waste Management Business Plan'.

http://www.toronto.ca/wes/techservices/involved/swm/net/pdf/solid_waste_management_services_business_plan.pdf

Trusting that this proves useful, and it that will be accept in the spirit in which it is intended.

Sincerely,
Phil Capone