



Town of East Gwillimbury

B. W. Hunt, P.Eng.

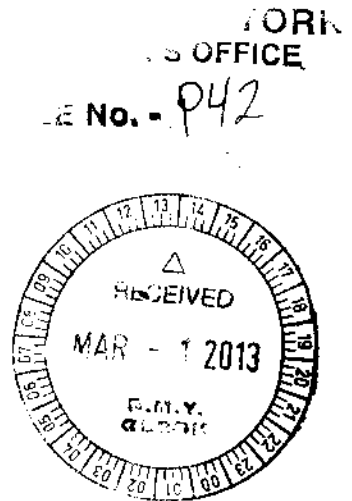
General Manager
Community Programs & Infrastructure
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February 20, 2013

Mr. Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk
Corporate Services Department
Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Re: By-law 2011-56 – Regional Sewer Use By-law



In 2009, local municipal staff began working collaboratively with Regional staff as updates to the Regional Sewer Use By-law progressed, with the by-law being enacted on November 17, 2011. As a result of collaborative efforts on the Regional and local municipal sewer use programs and consultation on the Regional By-law, York Region and local municipalities are in a better position to standardize by-law requirements and provide sewer use servicing in a more sustainable manner. The new Regional Sewer Use By-law helps ensure alignment of practices and protection of local and Regional infrastructure and included a prohibition on food waste grinders. The implementation of the food waste grinder prohibition has been deferred until further consideration by Environmental Services Committee in March 2013.

The use of food waste grinders has the potential to adversely impact our local collection system with such issues as accumulation of fats, oil and grease, settling or blockages from an increase of suspended solids, and gas and odour as a result of decomposition. Local municipal staff, at East Gwillimbury, together with York Region, has developed a successful Green Bin program to manage food waste. We have strong participation in source separation and diversion of food waste from landfill via the Green Bin program. It is for these reasons we continue to support the Green Bin as the principal route for food waste management.

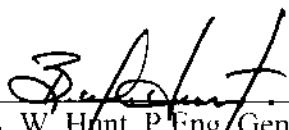
We continue to work with York Region to explore options to support diversion programs in existing and future multi-residential dwellings through the Integrated Waste Management Master Plan. While we support the continued diversion of food waste through the Green Bin program and composting, we recognize the Master Plan may identify future innovative applications for servicing these dwellings. As the Master Plan process progresses, we look forward to working with York Region in considering the suitability of applications in existing and future multi-residential dwellings identified by the Master Plan.

"Our town, Our future"

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Our Municipal By-law will in turn support a ban on food waste grinders as it references the Region's By-law (as amended). Staff do not support the broad use of food waste grinders directly discharging to local and Regional wastewater infrastructure.

Sincerely,



B. W. Hunt, P.Eng General Manager
Community Programs & Infrastructure

Copy to: L. McDowell, Director, Environmental Promotion & Protection, York Region
M. Samuels, Manager, Regulatory Compliance and Policy, York Region
T. Webster, CAO, Town of East Gwillimbury
C. Kalimootoo, Director, Engineering & Environmental Services, Town of East Gwillimbury
L. Hollert, Manager of Water/Wastewater Systems, Town of East Gwillimbury