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DURHAM/YORK RESIDUAL WASTE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY RECOMMENDATION OF PREFERRED LOCATION DURHAM/YORK ENERGY FROM WASTE FACILITY

The Solid Waste Management Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendation contained in the following report, December 19, 2007, from the Director, Solid Waste and Administration:

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approve the consultant team's recommendation, Clarington 01, as the preferred site of the location of the Durham/York energy from waste facility for submission to the Ministry of the Environment as part of the Individual Environmental Assessment.

2. PURPOSE

This report presents the consultant team's recommendation of the preferred site location for the Durham/York energy from waste facility for inclusion in the Individual Environmental Assessment submission to the Ministry of the Environment.

3. BACKGROUND

On April 21, 2005, Regional Council adopted Clause 1 of Report No. 3 of the Solid Waste Management Committee to initiate a partnership with Durham to jointly undertake a Residual Waste Environmental Assessment Study.

On June 23, 2005, Regional Council adopted Report No. 4 of the Commissioner of Transportation and Works to enter into an agreement with Durham for the Durham/York Residual Waste Environmental Assessment Study.

On March 29, 2007, Council adopted Clause 1 of Report No. 4 of the Solid Waste Management Committee which identified a short list of potential sites for an energy from waste plant as part of the Durham/York Residual Waste Environmental Assessment Study.

On September 25, 2007, the consultant team's report entitled "Thermal Treatment Facility Site Selection Process Results of Step 7: Evaluation of Short-List of Sites and Identification of Consultants Recommended Preferred Site", appended as *Council Attachment 1*, was presented to the Joint Waste Management Group, which initiated the

public and government agencies consultation process on the selection of the preferred site for the Durham/York energy from waste facility.

On October 18, 2007, Council adopted Clause 1 of Report No. 9 of the Solid Waste Management Committee, approving that subsequent to the public and government agency consultation period for the consultant team's report entitled, "Thermal Treatment Facility Site Selection Process Results of Step 7: Evaluation of Short-List of Sites and Identification of Consultants Recommended Preferred Site", Regional staff submit a report to the Solid Waste Management Committee outlining the results of the consultation and identifying a preferred site for the location of the Durham/York energy from waste facility.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

4.1 The Consultant Team's Recommendation of the Preferred Site

A short list of potential sites for the location of the energy from waste facility was compiled by the consultant team as part of the Durham/York Residual Waste Study and following public and agency consultation on the short-list of potential sites, a detailed comparative evaluation of the sites was initiated by the consultant team. This assessment considered the sites as well as the haul routes, transfer requirements and requirements for additional infrastructure to develop the sites.

The conclusion of the consultant team was that site Clarington 01 has the highest ranking and was therefore recommended as the site for further consultation. Consequently, the consultant team's report was issued for public and agency consultation prior to both Regional Councils making a decision with respect to the recommended preferred site. This site is undeveloped land owned by the Region of Durham, south of Highway 401 on Osbourne Road in Clarington (see Figure 5-1 on page 5-1 of *Attachment 1*). The recommendation of the preferred site is based on the consultant team's consideration of each site's relative advantages and disadvantages and environmental priorities established by the communities of Durham and York (see *Attachment 1*).

4.2 The Public and Agency Consultation

On September 25, 2007, the Joint Waste Management Group received the consultant team's recommendation on the preferred site and consequently the public and agency consultation period began and was completed as follows:

- The consultant team's report was released to the public and government review agencies for a period beginning on September 26, 2007 and ending on December 10, 2007.

- Notification was issued of the availability of the report by way of direct contact with the established public and government review agency list and by way of the website and local media for the general public.
- Copies of the documentation were forwarded to the public and government agencies in the established contact lists and copies were placed in the local libraries, municipal offices and on the study website for public review.
- Public Information Sessions were held on October 3 and 9, 2007 in Durham and on October 23, 2007 in York. These sessions were held to give the public an opportunity to ask questions of the consultants and Regional staff and were attended by a total of 379 people.
- Comments received during the report review period have been documented in the report entitled “Final Consultants Recommendation and Record of Consultation on the Thermal Facility Site Identification and Evaluation” that has been appended as Attachment 2. These comments will be incorporated into the draft EA document to be submitted to the Minister of the Environment in late 2008 for review.
- Peer review consultants, working on behalf of the Municipality of Clarington, have provided extensive comments on the consultant team’s report and their comments have been addressed in the Attachment 2 report. These comments will be incorporated into the draft EA document to be submitted to the Minister of the Environment in late 2008 for review.

As a result of the consultation with the public, one hundred and sixty six (166) comments were received on the following issues:

- Environment - twenty (20) comments
- Health – twenty eight (28) comments
- Diversion of waste - twenty (20) comments
- Siting – eighteen (18) comments
- Public consultation and the Environmental Assessment process – twenty-nine (29) comments
- Other general – fifty one (51) comments

The net effect of considering and addressing the comments received will be to enhance the detail, readability and traceability of the EA final document; however, based on the consideration of the comments received, the overall result of the evaluation process continues to be, the identification of Clarington 01 as the consultant team’s recommended preferred site. Regional staff support the consultant team’s recommendation of the preferred site.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

The Town of Clarington has been active in its review of the Durham/York Environmental Assessment study and has submitted formal comments. These comments have been addressed by the consultant in its final report. Durham and Clarington have also entered into discussion on community host principles.

On December 10, 2007 the Municipality of Clarington considered Report PSD-141-07 dealing with its comments on the siting processes. Clarington Council passed a resolution (*see Attachment 3*) requesting that York and Durham address the issues brought forward by their peer review consultants and that maximum achievable control technology for air emission standards be met.

7. CONCLUSION

The consultant team is recommending that the preferred site for the location of the Durham/York energy from waste facility is in the Municipality of Clarington, as identified in the consultant team's report and supporting report on public consultation. Regional staff supports the consultant team's recommendation of the preferred site and is recommending that the consultant team's recommended preferred site is endorsed by Council.

For more information on this report contact Angelos Bacopoulos, Senior Project Manager of the Solid Waste and Administration Branch at 905-260-9457 in the Environmental Services Department.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The three attachments referred to in this clause are attached to this report.)