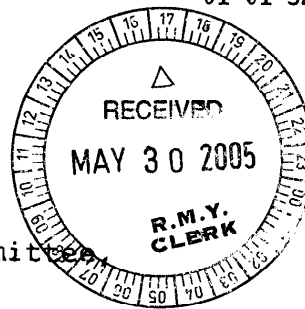


REGION OF YORK  
CLERK'S OFFICE

FILE No. - *P27*



Chair and Members,  
of the Solid Waste Management Committee  
The Region of York,  
Administrative Center,  
17250 Yonge Street,  
Newmarket, Ontario  
L3Y 6Z1

May 30, 2005

*W.S. PACE  
FOR AGENDA  
NEXT WMT MTL  
PLSC TUNJA  
ACD*

TRUE "RESIDUAL" WASTE IS LESS THAN 10%  
NOT 40%!!

Dear Mesdames and Monsieurs;

The purpose of this letter, is to share with you a frustration I have surrounding the issue of incineration, (one of several).

Time and again the question gets asked - "and the 40% we're planning to burn has no recyclables or organics, right"?

And time and again the answer comes back - "no all the recyclables and organics will have been captured at the curb"

This is simply not true.

Attached you will find a chart taken from a report, by the New & Emerging Technologies Advisory Group, of the City of Toronto.

The chart shows the composition of Toronto's so-called residual waste stream - coincidentally 40% of the total.

As you can clearly see 42.8% of so-called residual is recyclable paper fibers, or metal, glass and plastic containers we fail to capture.

As an aside, in total across the Province, we dispose(!) of over 750,000 tons of this material worth in excess of \$100,000,000

To continue, of the so-called 40% of residual, another 41.8% is organics which we have, again, failed to capture.

A further 15% is "other" which, if you remove the furniture and mattresses (and capture the metal fraction) the carpets, wood and wooden items and scrap metal, just to name a few, you could easily reduce another 5 percentage points.

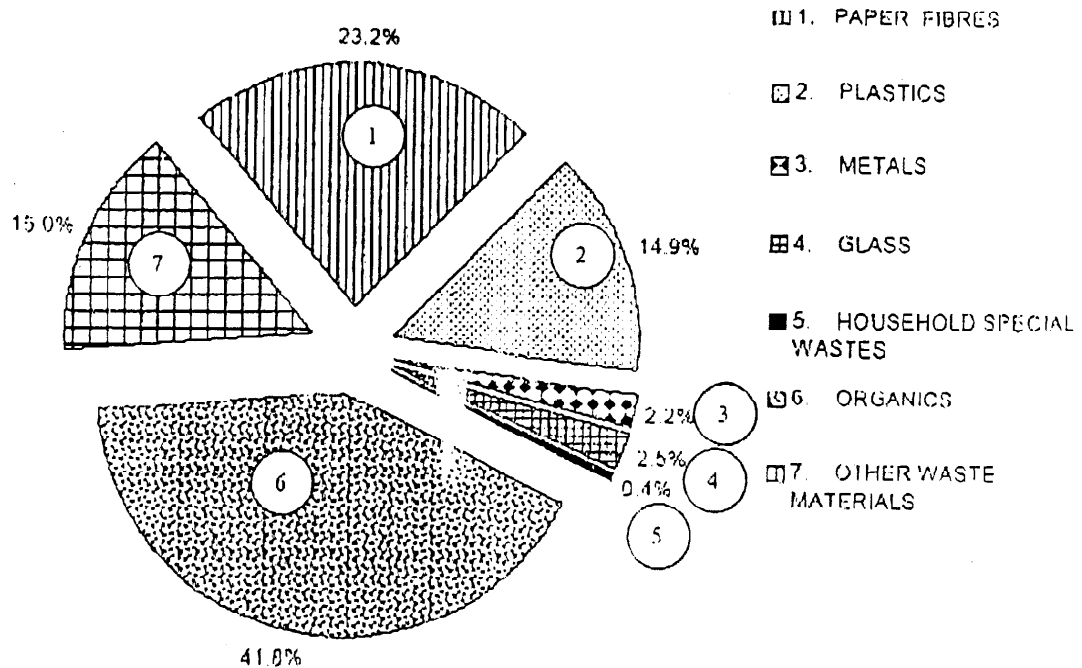
Leaving true residual waste of less than 10%

York Region is spending several years, millions of dollars not to mention staff time, to prepare to burn all of this material. Where is the time, money and effort, to divert these materials, similar to that which is being expended to pursue your refuse derived fuel/incinerator initiative?

Respectfully,

Rod Muir,  
Founder,  
Waste Diversion Toronto  
and  
Waste Diversion Campaigner  
Sierra Club of Canada

Figure 5: Forecasted Composition of the Combined Curbside Residual Waste Stream in 2010.



Source: "Is 100% Diversion from Landfill an Achievable Goal?"  
 Sub-Committee on 100% Diversion, New & Emerging Technologies  
 Advisory Group, City of Toronto, December 15, 2004  
[www.city.toronto.on.ca/wes/techservices/involved/swm/net/pdf/2004-12-15\\_report/final\\_report\\_100\\_diversion.pdf](http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/wes/techservices/involved/swm/net/pdf/2004-12-15_report/final_report_100_diversion.pdf) (PAGE 13)

## RECYCLABLES

|          |       |
|----------|-------|
| PAPER    | 23.2% |
| PLASTICS | 14.9  |
| METALS   | 2.2   |
| GLASS    | 2.5   |

SUBTOTAL 42.8

ORGANICS 41.8

OTHER 15.0!!

THINK

FURNITURE AND MATTRESS, CARPETS  
 WOOD AND WOODEN ITEM AND SCRAP METAL

TRUE RESIDUAL <10.0%?

2.