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02/04/2003
Renee Sandelowski
10:06 AM
treatment plant

To: David Ohashi
cc: "Paul F. DeCarlo"
Elgar
<kflynn@town.oakville.on.ca>,
<rsandelowsky@cogeco.ca>
Subject: Proposed sewage
expansion in Oakville

Dear Mr Ohashi,

As a resident of the Bronte region of Oaville and a payer of municipal taxes, I have some concerns about the proposed expansion to the sewage treatment plant, namely:

1. Location & Odour

Why was an area that is mostly residential with some commercial selected for this site? There is bound to be concomitant odour from the operation; I understand that odour is an "adverse effect" as defined by the Ontario Environmental Protection Act. Has the question of odour been raised in your application for a Certificate of Approval (Air) under Ontario Regulation 346? If you have not yet applied for a CoA, are you intending to include odour considerations in your application? As you know, before a CoA can be issued it must be subject to public review under the terms of the Environmental Bill of Rights. It would be a serious embarrassment if a CoA were turned down after the fact on this point.

2. Project financing

As I understand it, the project will be financed by the Region, and not by developers. A good deal of the sewage destined for this site will be originating in Milton. If the Region were to be truly acting on behalf of the local taxpayers, then Public Works should have carried out a detailed feasibility study of alternate sewage disposal methods, that do not involve the scale of engineering proposed in this instance. Small, local disposal units, could, in principal be installed at the subdivision level and their

financing could be one of the conditions required to receive a development permit. Instead you are proposing to install a large pipeline to bring Milton's sewage to Oakville, and all at Regional taxpayers' expense. What is the rationale for such thinking?

3. Deferment

I know there is considerable concern about this project, which is being rushed through the approval process with unseemly haste. I believe a 12 - 24 month deferment of the project would create far less objections than what is being proposed here. This deferment would allow for a more thorough assessment of alternative technologies, and would also permit the Region to enact the necessary by-laws so that future sewage disposal facilities (along with other amenities) would be paid for up front by the developers. The onus would be on the developers to select the most cost efficient treatment system for a given location (obviously the choice would be from systems approved by the Ministry of the Environment).

I understand that your role is to answer queries regarding this project, accordingly I look forward to receiving your timely responses.

Yours truly,

Ron Bobker