

It is totally undesirable to locate an odoriferous, high traffic industrial plant as close to a large population base as is this one – the original site location is now and was originally flawed.

All expansion should be abandoned permanently

If Council insists on proceeding in the teeth of opposition from the residents of Glen Abbey, Oakville and environs the following safeguards should be in place

- 1 A liaison committee should be set up funded by council to ensure citizens concerns are researched, attended to and followed up – this should cover run up to the project, overseeing of the project and 5-10 years follow-up. Council representatives and owners are not there long enough to ensure continuity (staff are). Costs could easily be \$1m to \$2m in the first years. It is not fair that a hostile populace be faced with publicly funded regional managers and professionals and have no resource base on which to depend.
- 2 The plant expansion size should be limited in capacity to take the flow of waste from the area bounded by 12 mile creek/16 mile creek and Dundas. I can see no compelling reason why Oakville should receive the sewage of Milton – if it is more expensive to process waste in Milton that should be reflected in their wastewater charges.
- 3 In my opinion – if council votes on this issue – should all the Oakville Councillors vote against it and the Town be opposed –the issue should not be voted on by non - Oakville Councillors – It is clearly not in their interests to vote against it.
- 4 Plant odours emissions should comply precisely with Provincial regulation and be detectable no closer than 30 metres from the offending plant – not the plant boundary – but the outlet/s producing the odours.
- 5 Region should be held accountable for exceeding the emissions contracted for and payments be made to all residents for nuisance on a pro rata basis \$/day in non – compliance – permanent payments also should form part of the package see item 6 below.
- 6 An agency should be created to monitor odours in Oakville - Independent of the province and region and would administer non compliance costs as in 5 above – regional managers and councillors feet must be kept to the fire over the next 50 years to ensure they live by their undertakings – **“Oakville Sewage Commission”**
- 7 No expansion should be permitted until the final technology is ascertained for the plant – It is hard to object to a plant using Zenon technology – but very easy to object to the current technology currently short –listed. The processing technology should be finalised before final permission is given for construction.
- 8 The region is clearly wedded to the location (as are its managers) to justify decisions made years ago.

- 9 The traffic of bio-solids and chlorine should be limited to the amount required to dispose of the amount of wastewater produced in the area bounded by item number 2 above.
- 10 Truck traffic should be limited to – access from QEW then Bronte Highway 25, then North Service Road.
- 11 Some more acceptable way of dealing with Bio-solids is required – again permission to be withheld until final disposal is decided.
- 12 Any variation from final agreed plans to be voted on by Citizen oversight body “Oakville Sewage Commission” see item 6 and if unacceptable to that body be voted on by Referendum in Oakville
- 13 Residents of Oakville should be permitted a referendum on this topic – this stuff goes to the heart of Oakville as a desirable community.
- 14 Consideration for other technologies - like expanding existing plants and using Zenon technology should be used in smaller plants north of Oakville should be used to cope with expanded wastewater in North Halton.

Basically the concerns are:

- Odour
- Visual blight
- Poor technology choices
- Traffic
- Chemicals, bio-solids and spills
- Disposing of other communities’ waste – what is in it for us?
- Process research, monitoring and control – by citizens – paid and elected officials are not up to it.
- After decision monitoring and control – to ensure safeguards are adhered to and violations are monitored, compensated and remedied.

Since there now appears to be deep concern with the collection of comments and objections by the Region – Mr Ohashi is specifically requested to confirm receipt of this email – it actually has a confirmation attached but systems like the regions strip it out before receipt.

All he has to acknowledge is received to myself at

COMMENT SHEET

Mid-Halton Sewage Treatment Plant 29 January 2003

Using the 16 PowerPoint elements as reference:

#5. The policy of Five Year revisions to plans is not consistent with improvements in technologies today. The development scenario is set – annual reviews with ACCOUNTABILITY is the criteria in addressing ALL impacts.

#6 Technology: ALL considered techniques must be identified, listed and with world-wide operating reference i.e. NO re-inventing the wheel. Chlorine is hazardous (Quantities in daily use not identified), Incineration is currently suspect, Alkaline stabilization of sludge highly suspect – no market – no research facts. “REVIEWING” is NOT acceptable – they must be detailed and costed. The Municipal “Lowest Bidder” concept is NOT acceptable (frequently the most expensive long term). Performance vs cost & impact must be basic criteria.

#9 The fact that the HUSP lacked a TOTAL understanding of the areas considered confounds ALL future planning.

#10 “Better Than” should be the MINIMUM competitive target at all times. “No Odor Complaints” is no justification for complacency. Measurements submitted are highly suspect. SCADA may be acceptable today but what next?? Architectural maybe, but no landscape improvements.

#11 FOURTEEN Mile Creek- slip of the tongue! Perhaps a dated photo, no attempt to create a living barrier of trees?? Impact of a chlorine spill--Where is 1.5km radius?

#12 Strange – why would we go to the possible expense of a creek crossing to serve much of North East Oakville, if it were to be developed?? Why could the Eastern unit not bear some of the load and benefit from upgrading in the process??

#13 “A Fools Paradise” we always have to do better!

#14 Buffer can be improved. Gravity- plausible, but what risks?? Lowest Capital Cost may not always be the best option. EXPANSION: Initial Costs to meet development must be borne by developers ONLY. Operational costs must be shared proportionately by source. PERHAPS part of expansion needs could be met by upgrading of existing plants (for their benefit?). MAXIMUM IMPACT: The scenario of a Chlorine spill could be interesting – paralyse the Region HQ (would we notice??), Two Hotels, QEW and Ontario’s economy at a standstill. Evacuation plans are they written and re-enacted for such an event?? Could it eliminate Police HQ?? What charming thoughts!!

Mid Halton WWTP ctd.

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#15 Personally satisfied for the most part. ODOUR studies should additionally be at random times – smog alert days for example.

Without more understanding of the Algae issue, the project should NOT proceed

#16 Public Consultation – mandatory, with full visualisation of the plant, studies done and alternatives considered available for OUR examination.

THE ALGAE ISSUE: Appreciate the update. It is very evident that we must acquire far more understanding of this issue and the impacts of land drainage/run-off. This problem will only be compounded by more development and is reason in itself to halt any more activity.

THE EXPERIENCE OF OTHERS: Frightening. A sharp lesson to us all. WE must proceed with caution and TOTAL knowledge. Staff must be encouraged to be inquisitive. How is this problem handled throughout the world, what can we do to ensure we do not continue making mistakes??

My thanks to Councillors Elgar and Flynn for hosting a very learned group of speakers. It behoves us all to be firmly aware of the impact of this project on our health and lives.