

February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Mr. David Ohashi  
Manager of Special Projects  
Halton Region  
1151 Bronte Rd.  
Oakville, On. L6M 3L1

Dear Sir,

This letter is sent to you to outline GARA's position on the Halton Region's plans for the for the waste treatment facility on the North Service Road in Oakville.

While we do understand that there are many things to be taken into account with respect to the Region's plans we question why a facility of this size needs to be so close to a major residential population area. At the start of the Mid Halton facility there were no residents of Glen Abbey. As we now have over seven thousand homes it is of paramount importance to us that the facility is operated properly and that expansion will not adversely affect the quality of life in Glen Abbey.

Our specific concerns cover two main topics. First is the odour problem and second is the type of waste (industrial and toxic specifically) that will be handled.

Both of these items could be dealt with by not expanding the current facility and providing services elsewhere ie: Milton where a lot of the new waste will be generated. You could also open a new facility close to the Biosolids treatment area and save transportation of sludge costs. We would like to see what alternative waste plans that you have considered and the reasoning behind their rejection if any. Under no circumstances would it be acceptable to permit incineration of sludge at the Mid Halton facility.

At your recent public meeting you showed the updated odour study for the next expansion of Mid Halton. Your maps show that odour is going to be noticed by more and more people on an increasing basis. We find this totally unacceptable and refer you back to the last expansion of the facility.

At that time we were assured that odour would not become an issue to the residents. During the last few weeks the sewage smell has increased from the plant and we respectfully ask that you make immediate plans to deal with this by at least covering the tanks and cleaning the air that is expelled.

We have also been told that the technology related to this facility is out of date and there are alternative methods available to be used. Does the public need more time and an external review of the engineering to determine if we are using the correct process?

We understand that you are under monetary constraints but that is not reason enough to affect the quality of life in our world-class community. If we can be of any help in this process please contact us and we will do what we can.

Sincerely

Brad Thomson  
President  
Glen Abbey Residents Association