

Brown says no to ethanol plant

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I have spoken with members of the community who are concerned about the negative environmental consequences that the proposed ethanol plant could have on our city.

These concerns include noxious emissions, truck and rail traffic to and from the site, water use and safety issues in the event of an accident.

As this issue falls within provincial jurisdiction, I have written to the Minister of Environment for Ontario regarding these significant concerns. I have advised that a plant of this nature would be best suited outside of dense residential and commercial areas; that means outside the Barrie area.

I understand the importance of developing alternative energy as well as the positive effects that the use of ethanol has on the reduction of greenhouse gases. However, I do not support the establishment of an ethanol plant within, or near, the borders of our beautiful city.