Metroland Letters to Editor

No place for incineration anywhere

Mon Jan 21, 2008

To the editor:

Although not entirely surprised, I am extremely worried and insulted that this Durham incinerator proposal has even made it this far in approval proceedings. I hold two diplomas in natural environment science from Fleming College, however these credentials are not needed to see clearly that an energy-from-waste facility is not sustainable and does not solve the real waste-management issues. I know it sounds great. It sounds like hitting two birds with one stone; creating energy from stuff we don't want anymore. But please trust your gut folks. This is too good to be true.

The energy gained from these EFW facilities is minuscule in comparison to that saved from reduction, reuse and recycling.

There are many questions that need to be addressed. For instance, air quality data available in the National Pollutant Release Inventory from Environment Canada show that the levels of pollutants like sulphur dioxide, volatile organic compounds and other green-house gases in Clarington are already hundreds of times higher than in East Gwillimbury. Yet the recommended location for this incinerator is Courtice Road

I know the political system ensures public consultation in proposals like this, however I also know that most young people are not aware of these rights and opportunities. Therefore, on behalf of the many young people who will inherit this decision, do not let the energy-from-waste facility to proceed any further in Courtice or anywhere in Ontario.

Kevin Church

Oshawa