

Orono Weekly Times – Letters to Editor
January 30, 2008

"Anderson incinerator"

Dear Editor

Claringtonians woke up on January 24th knowing that if an incinerator was built, it would be in Courtice. Clarington's three regional representatives (Abernethy, Novak and Trim) deserve special mention for their devoted worship at the altar that is the 'Anderson Incinerator'.

At a 13-hour Regional Council meeting, hard facts and impassioned pleas fell on deaf ears, or maybe went over some heads. At least York politicians and residents can rest easy knowing Durham politicians were on the job making sure the burner would be in Clarington.

Spectators who hung in for the duration were treated to some extraordinary political theatre. Council-appointed Regional Chairman Roger Anderson ruled out of order a motion by Health and Social Services Committee. This body of elected representatives recommended deferral so that Council would have information about facility capacity, technology and pollution controls, waste composition and source, landfill location for bottom ash with toxic residues, and oh yes - the business case before choosing a site.

Though Chair Anderson's ruling was challenged and proven to be factually incorrect, 17 of the 26 councillors present voted to accept it. It appears that what we have in Durham is a puppeteer who yanks the strings of those elected representatives who allow him to do so.

Linda Gasser

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