

Metroland Letter to Editor

Let's look at alternatives to incineration

Wed Apr 23, 2008

To the editor:

On Apr. 19, just one day after Clarington This Week published the proposed emissions limits for incineration, Clarington residents were struggling under a smog advisory.

Tucked neatly in the corner next to the emissions article was an ad for air conditioning, which is exactly what we'll be needing more of if this incineration project goes forward. With our air quality already this bad why do we need to spend more money on environmental studies to determine whether or not we can tolerate the added emissions from an incinerator?

Before we spend any more money on the incineration option we should take a look at what our neighbours in Port Hope are up to. They are working with Sunbay Energy Corporation on the feasibility of a state-of-the-art plasma gasification plant, which is cleaner than incineration and can provide power for up to 25,000 homes using the existing power grid.

It could be up and running by 2010. Mayor Jim Abernethy says information speakers on waste management strategies are hard to find. Maybe a speaker from Sunbay Energy could speak to council on the benefits of plasma gasification. According to northumberlandnews.com, the company plans to open a storefront office on May 15, at 35 Walton St. Port Hope, where the public can walk in and get information on the technology.

Sharon Thompson

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