

Metroland Letter to the Editor

What can be done about dioxins?

Fri Jun 20, 2008

To the editor:

Re: Incineration is our best option, Hugh Holland column, June 1.

I would like to state what I believe to be the facts:

1. The extremely small particles, mainly dioxins, are actually made in the incineration process.
2. They cannot be destroyed by further incineration.
3. The various processes in modern incinerators can reduce the amount of dioxins released into our air though even small amounts will cause some disease and the rest remain in a light ash known as fly ash.
- 4, This fly ash is disposed of as landfill while the deadly dioxins remain a menace for over a hundred years. If they should leak into our water supply they would produce a major public health problem.

I have no wish to intrude into Mr. Holland's field of expertise but if he is aware of a process that can destroy dioxins I am sure community leaders and the rest of us would be most grateful to hear about it.

Dr. Gerald Baker

Whitby