

Tonight you have heard that...

- Courtice air quality is already poor.
- There are health risks associated with the additional burden of incinerator emissions.
- Incineration is NOT a “local” solution. Durham proposes to export bottom ash and fly ash to New York State-impacting *other* communities.
- Incineration is the most expensive & financially risky option. Most dollars leave the country.
- There *are* safer and more sustainable options.

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What happened?

- **Public let down by politicians and bureaucrats at all levels**
- **Durham public largely unaware of EA and plans to burn garbage in Clarington**

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Durham and York Regions: Incinerator EA Proponents

- Highly “scoped” EA Terms of Reference
- EA appears to exclude explicit consideration of human health effects from the “Alternatives To” development and evaluation processes
- Durham and York adopted incineration a year *prior to* doing generic HHERA feasibility study.
- Consultants Preferred Site recommendation *prior to* air monitoring of short list sites released.

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Durham & York cont'd.

- Both Councils adopted draft EA documents June 24/25 2009 *prior to* all peer reviewer findings being available.
- Durham Council voted 16-12 to delegate authority to **unelected** Chair Roger Anderson and staff, to negotiate and execute a long-term contract with Covanta, **without also ensuring** Council reviews a draft prior to execution. Most expensive project, most complex contract in Durham's history

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Durham Medical Officer of Health Public health watchdog?

Report 2007-MOH-20 noted limitations of risk assessment and that scientific literature was **inconclusive** - whether or not modern incinerators have associated health effects.

- June 2009, **Dr. Kyle** accepted conclusion that incinerator: “**should not pose unacceptable risks** to persons living in vicinity of the site – based on review of SSHHERA at 140,000 tpy but Councils **were then seeking EA approval for 400,000 tpy.**”
- **Dr. Kyle** recommended that stack testing **not** be supplemented by human biomonitoring (Report 2009-COW-01)

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Clarington Council Failed the Public throughout EA

- July 2007 – CAO/Council withheld report and peer reviews, meeting scuttled. “Revised” documents released September 2007.
- May 15, 2009 – **Mayor Abernethy, Novak, Trim and Robinson** voted to become “Willing Host”. Adopted HCA in advance key health and A/Q studies. Delegated authority to CAO to negotiate.
- July 2009 -terminated independent expert EA reviewers who were critical of draft EA.
- Feb 18, 2010 HCA signed. (Clar. CAO may have ignored solicitor’s advice - article CTW 23.2.10)

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What did MoE do?

- Granted 3 extensions to Durham-York Study Team to revise July EA and submit Amended EA
- Granted Government Reviewers 3-week comment period to respond to Amended EA.
- Deprived the public of a similar comment period on Amended EA, though citizens requested one.
- Public now has one final 5-week opportunity to comment on Ministry Review, Amended EA, Addendum and all relevant EA appendices. February 26 – April 2, 2010.

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What is the Ministry Review?

- Ministry Review is an interim MoE staff opinion on the EA study to date.
- Ministry Review does not consider public comments on the **Amended** EA.
- Public comment on the Ministry Review and all EA documents should be considered by MoE staff when developing a recommendation to Minister.
- Minister of the Environment makes decision. Lieutenant Governor in Council must concur.

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Good News: It's NOT a done deal!

- But it is five minutes to midnight.
- Informed and engaged citizens are the most effective tool to stop the incinerator.
- Read an article how an informed public concerns the incinerator industry at:
<http://www.watershedsentinel.ca/print/198>

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Citizens have the power to influence decisions *If they act*

Informed and engaged citizens can scare the heck out of politicians, especially if seeking re-election. This is a really good time to get their attention.

- Municipal elections October 2010
- Provincial election October 2011

In addition to your specific concerns, let politicians know how **their** decisions could affect **your** vote.

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PLEASE DON'T

**EXPECT ANY LEVEL OF
GOVERNMENT TO MAKE THE
"RIGHT DECISIONS" WITHOUT
YOUR INPUT.**

All 3 levels of government directly involved in the EA Study need to hear from **you**.

Copy your MP too

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DO TAKE ACTION

- Submit comment during final public EA inspection by April, 2, 2010.
- Write to the Minister of Environment with concerns about the proposed incinerator and EA process.
- Write to Durham/York Regions expressing concerns about **their** decisions supporting incineration and the Covanta contract
- Let Durham, York & Clarington Councils know that you and your family are concerned about the additional health risks and costs.

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Comments to EA: Ministry Staff

- Provide EA comments by April 2nd to ensure that both Ministry staff evaluating public submissions **and** the Minister consider your concerns before EA decision.
- Request that a copy of response(s) relating to your comments by the Project Team to MoE, be sent to you.

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Write to Minister of the Environment

Minister of the Environment, Hon. J. Gerretsen,
makes decision around EA approval – subject to
approval of Lieutenant Governor in Council

- Minister's EA decision expected by July 2010

Copy your email/letter to

- Premier Dalton McGuinty,
- Minister of Health and Long Term Care
- Environmental Commissioner of Ontario.
- Durham/York Region and Durham Local Councils
- Durham MPPs and MPs

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Write to Durham/York Region Councils

3 reports/votes Durham Council June 24, 2009.

2009-COW-01 - Report of MoH

2009-COW-02 - Report on HCA

2009-COW-03 - Costs, Approvals and delegation of
authority re Covanta contract.

See Reports & councillor addresses at:

<http://www.zerowaste4zeroburning.ca/reportsjune16th>

<http://www.zerowaste4zeroburning.ca/councillor-addresses>

Ministry Review and EA documents at:

www.durhamyorkwaste.ca

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Write to Clarington Council

- Four Clarington Councillors -**Mayor Abernethy, Regional Councillors Novak, Trim and Local Councillor Robinson** – voted to become a willing host, i.e. to welcome an incinerator to Clarington, without also **ensuring** Clarington residents fully protected.
- This affects **all** Durham residents and neighbouring communities with whom we share our airshed.

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What else could you do? (1)

We must get the attention of governments at all levels and the attention of GTA media.

- Write letters to the editor,
- Submit longer “op-ed” articles

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What else could you do? (2)

In addition to writing, would you be willing to:

- help organize/fund/participate in public rallies e.g. to Queen’s Park
- help fundraise to support other public outreach events, a possible hearing if Minister agrees to refer EA to Environmental Review Tribunal or an appeal of EA decision if required?
- What else would you be willing to do?

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Before leaving tonight, please:

- Complete the registration sheet so we could update you and follow up.
- Take copies of handouts (table at back of room).
- Sign sheet if you would be willing to help organize and/or fundraise for future events.
- Please donate what you can tonight to help us defray costs and organize future events – see donation box on table.

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THANK YOU.

Our presentations will be posted at:

www.zerowaste4zeroburning.ca

Note: Monitor the upcoming Oct. 2010 municipal elections at: **<http://durhamelection2010.ca>**

We will now have a Question and Answer period.

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More Information:

- Durham-York Waste Env. Assessment
- & Ministry Review Documents at:
www.durhamyorkwaste.ca

Related Citizens' Websites:

<http://durhamclear.ca/>
www.DurhamEnvironmentWatch.org
www.zerowaste4zeroburning.ca