

Riding larger than most federal & provincial ridings

(Continued from page A1)

It's actually larger than most provincial and federal ridings.

However while Savoline admitted there was a lot of turf to cover, she said it's knowledge of the issues that counts on the campaign trail.

Savoline said she's seen some mayoralty races in Burlington run upwards of \$50,000.

Here in Oakville Mayor Ann Mulvale raised \$26,440 in campaign funds but was acclaimed.

So Mulvale spent her funds to open a campaign office on Morden Road to act as a clearing house for brochures.

The mayor also posted "Thank you" election signs and sponsored a voting day ad to get people out to vote.

Last month, Mulvale told The Beaver she'd been concerned about voter turnout; six Oakville councillors, besides herself, were acclaimed.

Regional councillors for Oakville include: Mulvale, Ward 1 Councillor Kevin Flynn; Ward 2 Councillor Fred Oliver; Ward 3 Councillor Keith Bird; Ward 4 Councillor Allan Elgar; Ward 5 Councillor Jeff Knoll; and Ward 6 Councillor Kurt Franklin.

Flynn, Bird, and Mulvale were acclaimed.

Facility must first pass re-zoning hurdle

(Continued from page A1)

Ontario Environment Minister Elizabeth Witmer is the only person who can grant the EA, but none has been applied to any of 13 private electricity-generating plants built in Ontario in the last decade.

The City of Mississauga and 25 other individuals already failed in the same request and the Town of Oakville recently asked again.

Last month Witmer told The Oakville Beaver that Sithe's plant will have to meet the Province's tough new emissions standards but remained tight-lipped about the EA.

The new standards may seal the fate of the coal-fired Lakeview Generating Station which must cease burning coal by 2005.

They'll also reduce smog-causing nitrogen oxide emissions by 53%; and, acid rain-causing sulphur dioxide by 25% — by 2007.

Witmer noted that Lakeview is the oldest and worst polluter of Ontario's six fossil fuel-burning plants — in the heart of a hugely populated area.

Meanwhile, Sithe, which operates some 50 power plants world-wide, has been criticized for building "cleaner" plants Stateside to meet more stringent emissions codes in Washington and Massachusetts.

Witmer said Ontario's new standards would "ensure the government keeps its promise to match or exceed the tough smog requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency."

Since the proposed Sithe plant is technically in

Meanwhile, Savoline raised most of her campaign funds through corporate contributions though there were numerous individual contributors including former Oakville mayor William Perras (\$250).

Corporate contributors to the tune of \$750 included: 1389506 Ontario Inc.; Hamilton-based Azurix Waste Management North America Inc.; Benefica Construction Ltd.; Blue Circle Aggregates; Canadian Star Aluminum; CDN Construction; Chouinard Bros. Roofing; ConCast Pipe; Con-Ker Construction Corporation; Cosburn Patterson Mather Limited; Crina General Construction; David Schaeffer Engineering; Davids Construction Ltd.; Dranco Construction Limited; Dufferin Aggregates; Erindale Contracting Ltd.; Fred Helson; Galmar Electrical Contracting Inc.; Genstar Development Company; Greenpark International; Halton Forming Ltd.; Interkom Creative Marketing; J.D. Barnes Limited; Joyce Savoline; Kan House of Kagroo Inc.; Lafarge Canada Inc.; Luso Canadian Masonry; Manaman Holdings; Mansteel Limited; Marli Mechanical Limited; Mattamy Homes Limited; Matza Holdings; Montego Group Limited; Nirvan Construction Limited; Ontario Sewer & Watermain Construction; Paletta International Corporation; QEW Bronte Developments; Rady-Pentek & Edward Surveying Ltd.; Robinson Adams Overhead Doors; Star Excavating and Grading Limited; Uma Engineering; Walker, Nott, Dragicevic Associates Ltd.; and, Zenon Environmental Inc.

Mississauga, it's awaiting a Mississauga decision on re-zoning some of its 35-acre site earmarked for heavy industry since the 1950s.

That decision is expected in June.

Sithe's request for a Certificate of Approval (CA) from the Ministry of Environment (MOE), is awaiting the rezoning decision.

As everyone waits, House Speaker Gary Carr tossed the petition on the table — albeit at a distance.

Actually, because Carr is Speaker, Mississauga South MPP Margaret Marland put the petition forward on Carr's behalf.

"More signatures are coming in daily," said Carr, adding, "I undertook this in response to concerns of constituents and others who contacted me to represent their wish that a formal environmental assessment be conducted by the Province to ensure their optimum safety and protection."

Sithe company officials contacted Carr personally to say they'll fully comply with new provincial environmental guidelines.

Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act is being replaced by Ontario's Guideline for the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects and, to its credit, Sithe was already following the new rules.

"Sithe knows it is being scrutinized by a concerned public," said Carr.

"We must continue to monitor the situation and press for full provincial support to ensure the safety and protection of the people of our community," said Carr.

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