

# Dump action delayed

An Ontario Supreme Court hearing that had been scheduled for last week to assess an appeal by the Tremaine-Britannia Citizens Group for an injunction to stop Halton region's plans for a major landfill site has been postponed until January.

Freda McFadden, a member of the citizens group opposing plans for the 296-acre dump, explained Friday the hearing was postponed because no judge was available to conduct the proceedings.

The group's lawyer, David Estrin of Toronto, was to have asked for a court injunction to prevent regional council from proceeding with its application for zoning amendments and ministry of environment approval that would allow the landfill site to be established in rural Milton.

The citizens' request is based on their contention that council must have final approval for the project from the Town of Milton before further government approval can be sought.

The dump proposal was placed before Milton planning board earlier this month, and referred to planners for a technical report. Milton councillors were told that the region has obtained options to purchase the land needed for the dump, presently owned by Magal Properties Ltd. and Kowal, Micallef and Delvigne Developments Ltd.

Although Milton has in the past stood firmly against the project both at regional and local council meetings, Coun. Rick Day advised this month that the town could change its mind about approving the dump location after all existing dumps in the region are closed and garbage begins "piling up in the streets."

The citizens group received some encouragement last week, meanwhile, when environment minister George Kerr promised to extend his office's funding of resource recovery plants to include "back end" plants that require no adjoining landfill sites.

Mr. Kerr made the announcement at the so-called "garbage fest" held in Waterloo and attended by representatives of many provincial and anti-dumping groups. Back end plants, he said, will receive generous funding if a market for steam, a by-product of the incineration process, can be established.

A design for a viable back end plant was one of three plans presented to regional council Sept. 22. Dominion Bridge Co. had authored the suggestion, stressing during its presentation that such a facility would negate the need for landfilling.

Mrs. McFadden commented that Mr. Kerr's announcement suggests the government "is moving in the right direction".

## Jails close

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money to Simpson's for a similar purpose. A ministry official has stated that this was an experimental arrangement with Eaton's because the stores have worked with the Ministry to promote tourism - about 17 Eaton's branches across Ontario have an "Ontario Alive" information booth during peak tourist months, a \$19,500 program undertaken by the government of Ontario this year.

The Government's proposed five-cent tax on soft-drink cans has been scrapped, firmly rejected by Opposition Parties. The Minister has stated that he will not try to introduce a Bill to impose it this session and is considering whether to try again in the next session with a measure acceptable to the Liberals - a deposit on cans instead of a tax.

A Select Committee has now been set up to examine, in detail, Ontario Hydro's current and future operations. Terms of reference for this Committee are broad enough for all committee members to question everything from the current construction of heavy water plants in Bruce County to Ontario's commitment to nuclear power as this has been a matter of considerable behind-the-scenes controversy between the Opposition Parties and the Government. The N.D.P. argued that only brief terms of reference were required since the committee already has a broad mandate from a previous select committee on Hydro (of which Julian Reed was a member) but the Liberals continued to insist that the terms of reference should include the cost of construction of two heavy water plants being built by Ontario Hydro at the Bruce County Nuclear Power Development, and they have succeeded. Julian Reed is also a Member of the newly set up Select Committee to probe Ontario Hydro.

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