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Dufferin landfill proposal

Halton balks at fighting new dump

Regional councillors refused to take a stand last Wednesday on Dufferin Aggregates' proposal to put a landfill in its quarry partly located in Halton Hills - a landfill which would dwarf the proposed Reclamations Systems Incorporated (R.S.I.) landfill at the Acton quarry.

In a close vote that pitted councillors from the north against councillors from the south, the Region's planning and public works committee voted four to three not to outright reject the landfill proposal for the southern part of the quarry.

Rita Landry, a member of local environmental group Protect Our Water Environmental Resources (P.O.W.E.R.), said in an interview last Friday that the councillors were thinking too much of the area

they represent and not enough about the entire Region.

The quarry is bordered on the east by the First Line in Halton Hills and in the west by the Sixth Line in Milton and has a long-term capacity of 30 to 40 million tonnes of garbage. The proposed Acton quarry has an 18-million tonne capacity.

The committee ultimately decided to acknowledge the aggregate company's proposal. The decision will go before Regional council today (Wednesday), where further action could happen.

A vote against the proposal would have killed the idea, said Mike O'Connor, the manager of Dufferin Aggregates, after the committee meeting. Halton Hills council rejected the proposal when

Mr. O'Connor and Bill Townsend, the vice-president of St. Lawrence Cement, Dufferin's parent company, recently appeared before the council. Halton Hills is already in a costly battle with R.S.I. over the Acton dump proposal.

The two men also appeared before Milton council earlier this year and were told Milton's staff would investigate the proposal's feasibility. Halton's landfill is scheduled to open in Milton on Highway 25 near Britannia Road in 1992.

Mr. O'Connor said the quarry company would have liked the support of both town council but the Region's support is "key". Without it, Mr. O'Connor said, the company will drop the idea. The Region's support is most important because

garbage disposal is the Region's responsibility, he said.

The company isn't optimistic Halton Hill's council will change its position or that Milton will eventually support the proposal. "We acknowledge it's hard for municipalities to accept a landfill in their area," said Mr. O'Connor.

The company is unsure what the committee's decision means so it hasn't decided what to do next," said Mr. Townsend.

Mr. Townsend told committee members the initial engineering studies show a safe landfill could be built in the proposed site. "The landfill will help solve the garbage crisis in Halton and the rest of the Greater Toronto area in an environmentally sound manner," Mr. Townsend said.

But Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy said after the meeting the company should interpret the committee's decision as one of non-support. The councillors who voted to file the proposal for information were uncomfortable making a decision when they didn't have all the necessary information on the feasibility of the landfill, he said.

"But I would have preferred if the committee had voted no," said the chairman.

Burlington Regional councillor Barry Quinn said he can't support either motion to support or reject the proposal until (the committee) has more information."

If the aggregate company decides to pursue the proposal it will have to submit it to the comprehensive provincial environmental assessment.

Chairman Pomeroy said only when the company had gone

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Pickup truck crashes

A 23-year-old Georgetown man suffered an epileptic seizure when this 1989 Ford pickup truck went speeding out of control across Guelph Street at 1:05 p.m. April 15. The pickup truck went over the curb and crashed into two Georgetown businesses. The man was rushed to

Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital. He is being treated for major injuries, but is listed in stable condition at press time. The pickup truck was demolished when it crashed into Moxey Concepts and Down-Fit Flooring, police say. (Herald photo by Myles Gilson)

Willow Park move to be challenged at OMB

Halton Region has given several Acton residents tentative permission to try and prevent Halton Hills from permitting 30 permanent mobile homes in the Nor-Halton Trailer Park in Acton.

The Acton park is to be the new home for residents now living in Norval's Willow Park. That park is being expropriated by the Credit Valley Conservation Authority because of dangerous flooding hazards.

The Region's planning and public works committee supported a Regional staff recommendation that Christine Davies and Trevor and Jane Roza be allowed to appeal the town's plan to the Ontario Municipal Board. The recommendation will go before Regional council today (Wednesday).

Despite concerns in the past from several area residents that mobile homes will deplete and contaminate their water supply, the town earlier this year approved the site for the 30 homes.

Mrs. Davies and Mr. Roza echoed earlier concerns and told committee members Wednesday the 30 new homes would indirectly contaminate their water supply.

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