

RSI pleased by court decision

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Michael Jeffery, lawyer for RSI, says the court's decision is good news, and they want to get back before a consolidated board as soon as they can, but at this point he is not certain which steps to take yet to get there.

"One avenue would be to get a judicial review of the RSI situation," said Jeffery. "There is some research that has to be done."

Jeffery says that the court's decision "confirmed our position from the outset."

"RSI felt from day one that it had proceeded properly in terms of bringing in its application to the joint board."

Walt Graziani, president of RSI, was pleased with the court's decision.

"It clearly vindicates our position at the hearing," said Graziani. "We were within our rights to be there."

Graziani says while he is pleased with the decision, if they had been able to continue with the joint board hearing process "the hearings would likely be over now and we would be waiting for a decision."

Graziani says that since last fall he has been continuing to work on his application and he plans to meet with his lawyer in the near future to determine what the next step will be.

Town solicitor Roger Beaman, says in the Ontario Hydro case, the court decided that they have a right to proceed to a joint board hearing. There were aspects of the Hydro case, such as environmental assess-



WALTER GRAZIANI



RITA LANDRY

ment, was similar to RSI's situation.

"It is good that we have an area that we now have a little more clarity on," said Beaman. "We understand now how to get in the door (for a consolidated board hearing)."

"The decision provided an endorsement of the board's power, and that they can control that whole process."

Beaman says Tuesday's decision does "remove an impediment that RSI had but there are several others."

He says one obstacle facing RSI is the fact that an appeal of the joint board decision last fall wasn't filed, so he says RSI just can't pick up where it left off and continue on with the hearing process.

Acton councillor Norm Elliott says he is extremely disappointed about the outcome of the hydro case.

"But I never felt the situation was all that secure anyway," said Elliott. "I felt it (the consolidated board's hearing decision last fall) was a temporary reprieve at best."

Elliott says he suspects that the RSI time since last fall working on all the documentation required for a solid application.

He is concerned about the amount of money the town may need to fight the RSI, more than \$500,000 has been spent so far, and that the \$70,000 budgeted for 1993 may not be enough to cover the town's costs.

"The province has to get off its backside and make some decision on intervenor funding."

The town has applied for the funding, but hasn't received any yet.

"Council is going to have to take a strong stance with the premier and somehow convince him that a community like ours should not be held ransom by a private company."

Rita Landry, a member of Furiously Opposed to Acton Dumping (FOAD), says the premier or the minister of the Environment has the right to turn down the RSI application without referral to hearing, as she says was stated clearly in the consolidated board's decision regarding RSI last fall. She adds that the court's decision doesn't overrule the RSI case.

"We are insisting that the minister in power, and the premier, has the authority to reject this site," said Landry. "In the past one of Rae's concerns was that the matter was tied up in court, but now it isn't."

Landry says FOAD members plan to continue to pursue Rae to get him to throw out the RSI application.

"We have a different strategy planned than what we've been using, but there is always the strong possibility we will have to use the tactics that we have been."

Barbara Halsall of Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources (POWER) says their group always knew that RSI would be back, but didn't think it could be this soon.

She didn't want to comment extensively on the decision until she had a chance to meet with POWER's lawyer.

Firefighters rescue trapped youth

Halton Hills firefighters rescued a 10-year-old local boy who was trapped under a culvert (sewer pipe) on 5 Sideroad in Halton Hills Thursday evening.

At approximately 6:45 p.m., local firefighters responded to a call and discovered the boy's legs trapped under the frozen sewer pipe stuck in the ground. Firefighters removed the pipe from the ground and were able to free the boy's legs.

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MARCH 17

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2:00 till 4:00

MARCH 18

Lincoln Leapers
2:00 & 3:30
(Skip Rope All Ages)

MARCH 19

Dafe Page & his Calliope
2:00 till 4:00

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During March Break the merchants of Georgetown Marketplace will be giving away Fanny Bags to the first 500 customers with proof of purchase receipts, excluding major departments stores. Pick up your Fanny Bag at the Management Office between 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. while quantities last.

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