

Incineration backer jeered by local environmental group

By BRAD REAUME

Special to The Independent/Free Press

Despite the current provincial government's refusal to issue licences for Energy From Waste (EFW) plants, Alan Prince is convinced they will eventually be built.

The Cambridge man was recently invited to a public meeting just north of Milton to present his sprawling \$2.5 billion EFW proposal which incorporates recycling, landfill, incineration and research facilities.

Prince was unwittingly invited to speak to ICE (Incineration Counteracts the Environment), a group which is diametrically opposed to his plans.

"We thought they were genuine in their interest in our process," Prince said. "They told us that they were opponents of landfills and were looking at incineration as an alternative."

ICE spokesperson Rita Landry said her group heard about the EFW proposal through a presentation made to the City of Guelph and invited Prince to a meeting to obtain more information about the process by seeming interested.

At the end of the presentation

members of ICE shed their cover and chanted environmental slogans until Prince and his associates left the building, according to Rita Landry.

Landry leads an environmental group which has campaigned against using mined-out quarries in the Actor area as landfills. She said her group wanted to make it clear that people in Halton are not interested in any of Prince's ideas about incineration.

Prince was surprised by that attitude.

"Everything we're proposing is pro-public," he said, adding that an environmental research hospital and library are part of the development plans.

Prince outlined his EFW proposal, saying the ash produced in the incineration process has been deemed usable as clean fill under the Environmental Protection Act. The ash can also be used in concrete work or paving.

The north Halton area, along with other municipalities with good highway access, is being considered for the proposed plant, though many obstacles stand in the way. Government and environmental approvals would be necessary

before such a project could proceed.

"The only way landfill material can be dealt with is by reducing it to carbon through incineration," Prince said in an interview. "Carbon gives off no gases and has no leachate."

Present landfills produce methane and other gases as material in them decays. Landfills, especially those without a protective liner, have been known to contaminate groundwater through leaching chemicals.

Prince said EFW plants are more prevalent in Europe, so it is with European banks he has lined up funding for the project, contingent on getting various government and environmental approvals.

"In one German town there is an EFW plant in the centre core right beside an open air market," said Prince, convinced of the safety of an EFW operation.

Prince said there are more than 2,200 landfills in Canada and that each one acts like a sponge for toxic liquid material. In addition he spoke of the horrors of using abandoned mines for landfills.

"It's going to take a calamity before anything happens to convince people about EFW," he said.

Residents raise condo concerns

By LISA TALLYN

Staff writer

Several area residents were at the Civic Centre Monday night to voice their concerns about a condominium-apartment building proposed for the Mountainview Rd. and River Dr. area.

The condo, proposed by Al Pilutti, is to be a two-storey 22 unit affordable housing project with 52 parking spaces on the 1.1 acre site.

Increased traffic topped area residents' lists of concerns. Many said there is already a significant amount of traffic in that location and the addition of any more vehicles turning off or onto Mountainview Rd. at the bottom of the hill could be dangerous. They

questioned the validity of a traffic survey done in 1989, and requested town staff consider traffic at current peak times.

Rick and Alice Adams, whose property abuts the proposed condo site, wanted to know if the town would assume liability if their property flooded.

"Our septic system will not work if the property floods," said Rick Adams. Town planner Alan Binks said he would look into the liability issue and report back.

Jurgen Kandziora, another area resident said he was opposed to the proposal.

"I don't think it should go through," said Kandziora. "We have an increasing number of townhouses already in place and there

doesn't seem to be a plan for where any open space should go."

He also said area residents didn't want their neighborhood to be ghettoized with low cost housing.

Pilutti said the charges about a lack of open space in the area were unfair.

"There is park land within walking distance," said Pilutti. He added not many areas in town have access to one-and-a-half acres of parkland across the street.

Pilutti said he could have proposed a higher density building on the property, up to 43 acres, but didn't because he wants to build something that is compatible with the area.

Town staff are expected to report back in about two weeks.

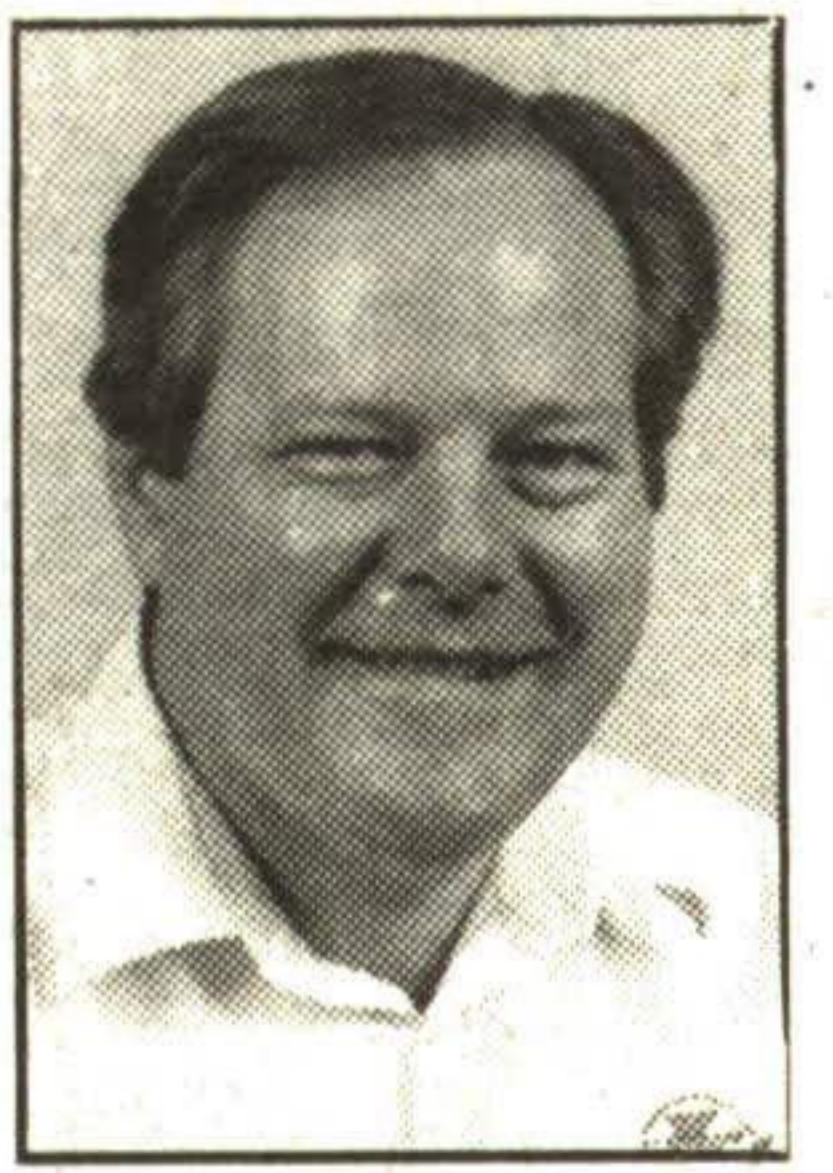
Creasy on Venture

Local businessman Bob Creasy is scheduled to be on CBC's Venture program tonight (Sunday).

Creasy, the owner of Knechtel's in Georgetown, will be on the show sometime between 10:25 and 10:55 p.m. discussing Thermco refrigeration equipment. A camera crew from Venture filmed the segment in Creasy's store last week.

Creasy was selected by Thermco to participate in the feature focusing on the company's new refrigeration technology which increases the energy efficiency of commercial refrigeration units.

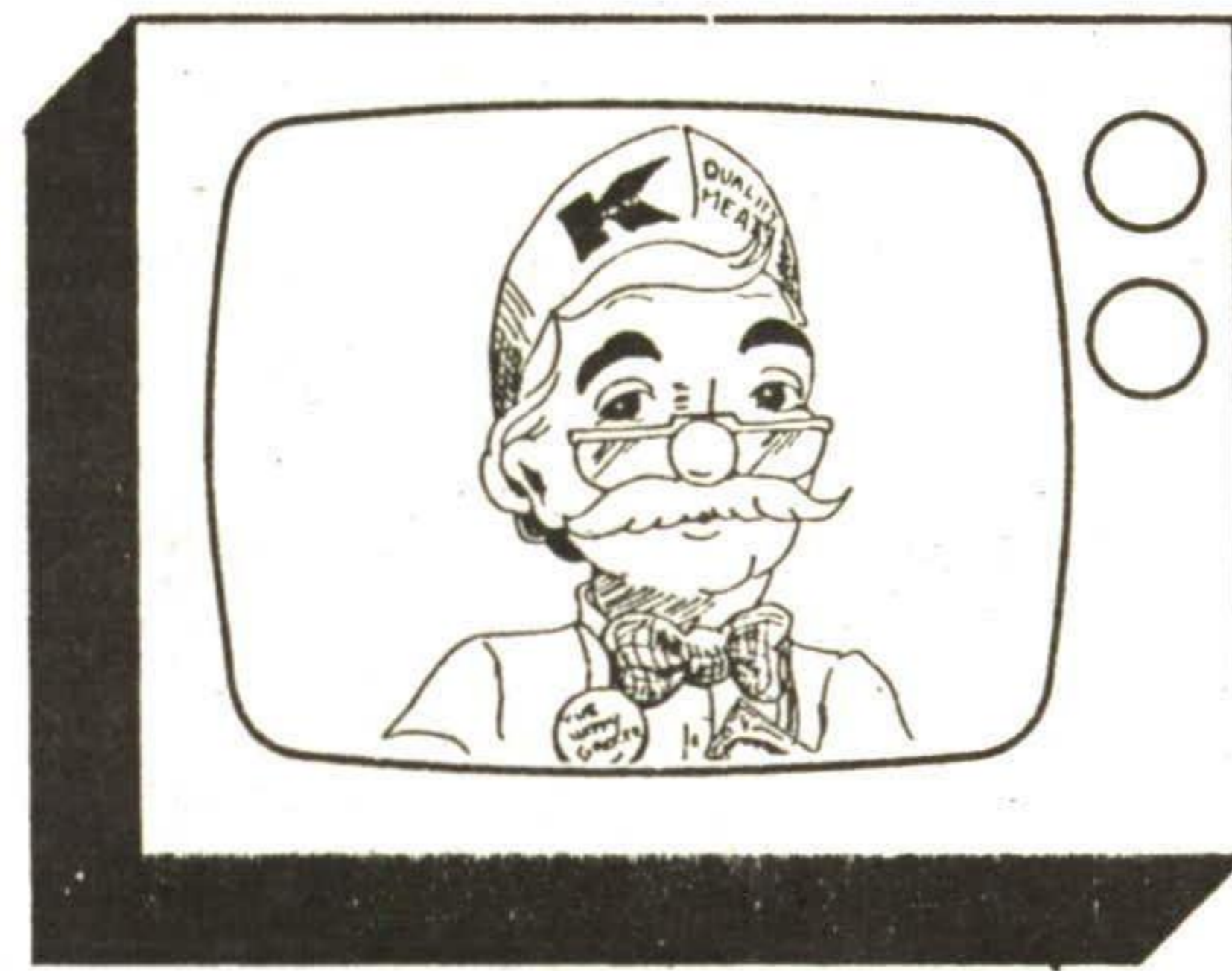
Creasy is participating in a test of Thermco's product "The Terminator" which is inserted into existing refrigeration units. Along with energy savings The Terminator is also supposed to reduce the amount of freon required.



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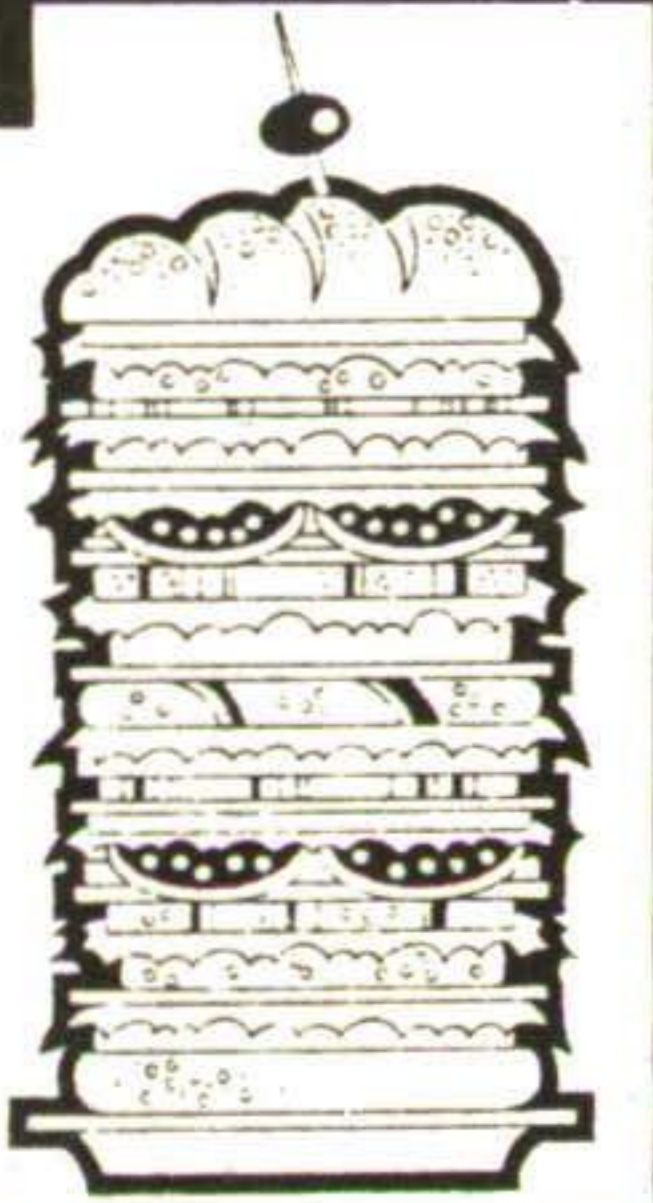
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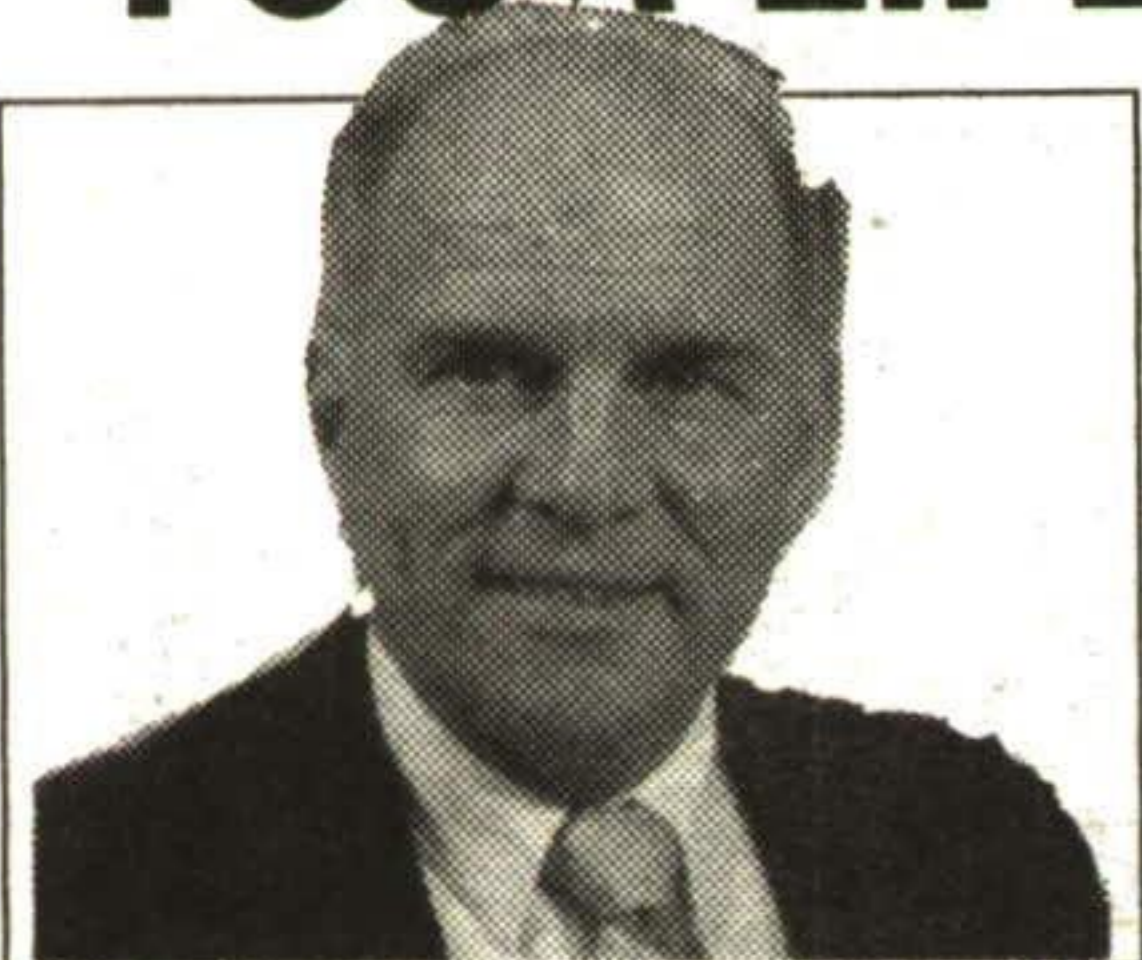
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