

Where to put Toronto's garbage?

RSI fails to win Metro approval

By JANET BAINE
Staff writer

Metro Toronto council decided not to send their garbage to the proposed Acton quarry landfill at a long meeting Wednesday night, Dec. 20.

"(Reclamation Systems Inc.'s proposal) was rejected because it didn't meet three of the criteria," said Shaun Hewitt, senior budget and operations analyst with Metro Toronto.

First, the Acton site has not made it through the province's approval process to become an approved site. Second, the joint RSI and Harkow Recycling Inc. proposal only considered the Acton quarry as a short-term site, while another location was going to be the long-term landfill site. Hewitt said he didn't know why the Acton quarry was only being considered in the short term.

Third, Metro council didn't know if the company had the experience and capability to manage a landfill site, since details of their experience in this area weren't provided, he said.

Instead, Metro council endorsed the short-list of four of the nine proposals it received in response to a request for private sector proposals. The short-listed proposals came from City Management Corporation, Waste Management of Canada Inc., Laidlaw Waste Systems Ltd. and Rail Cycle North.

As far as this process is concerned the RSI proposal is

history, Hewitt said.

RSI president Walter Graziani said that while Metro has rejected the proposal, he is still hopeful the Acton quarry will be used as a landfill site. Right now RSI is waiting for a judge's decision on a lawsuit against the provincial government and former Ontario premier Bob Rae. The company contends in the lawsuit the government was negligent. Graziani doesn't know when the decision will be made.

"We were told it would be a month and it's been four, so I don't know," he said.

Graziani said he didn't want to discuss any other plans his company has for the Acton quarry.

"We think Metro made a very wise decision because it was a totally inappropriate site," said Barbara Halsall of Protect Our Water and Environmental

Resources (POWER), a Halton Hills environmental group. She said her group is delighted, but doesn't consider the issue dead yet.

"Until the paper work is out of the system, until we get rehabilitation of the site, (the possibility of a landfill site at the Acton quarry) is always there. Walter Graziani is not saying they're throwing in the towel," she said.

Rita Landry said her group, Furiously Opposed to All Dumping (FOAD) was prepared to protest at the Metro Toronto committee meeting on Dec. 13 over the issue, but because FOAD was told RSI didn't make a presentation during their allotted time Dec. 7, the protest was called off.

"I don't mind protesting if I think it can accomplish something, but I don't want to protest for nothing," Landry said. She called the outcome wonderful.

UNICEF donations up 20 %

Funds collect for UNICEF by going down generally, but children at Halloween are up 20 per cent over last year. Georgetown has held its own.

Local UNICEF organizer Lesley Anne Banks said a total of \$3,416 was collected in Georgetown. George Kennedy School children brought in over \$1,200, a 25 per cent increase over the previous year.



There were a lot more day cares participating this year," she said. The money is sent directly to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and is used for items like immunization, water purification and food.

"The money collected has been

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Effective January 2, 1996 the Regional Municipality of Halton will assume responsibility for Garbage Collection, Christmas Tree Collection, Yard Waste Collection in the Spring and Fall (4times - Spring, 4 times - Fall), and Special Collections.

Christmas Tree Collection (one time collection) Georgetown and Acton will take place on **Monday January 8th, 1996**. Trees must be placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m. with no bags or ornaments on them.

Watch for your Waste Management calendar outlining all program dates and instructions. If you have not received your calendar, please contact the Region at (905) 878-8113 extension 6034 (Georgetown residents) or (519) 853-0501 extension 6034 (Acton residents).

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