

Region delays decision on whether to accept Peel's bottom ash

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Special to The IFP

Regional council has put off making a decision on whether the municipality's landfill should accept bottom ash from Peel's energy-from-waste facility.

At a recent meeting, council voted to defer the item at the request of the Peel Region chairman so that Peel staff can come to Halton to speak to the issue.

Halton's planning and public works committee endorsed a motion that said no to taking the bottom ash—an inert byproduct from the incineration process that's collected from the bottom of the furnace.

Region staff had recommended the bot-

tom ash be trucked to the Halton Waste Management Site to use as a daily cover, which is a material placed over the garbage in the landfill each day to control things like blowing litter.

Accepting the material would generate anywhere from \$700,000 to \$1 million per year in revenues for Halton's waste management program.

Currently the Region uses a combination of tarps and on-site clay as a daily cover. But, staff has found there are a few disadvantages to using clay, such as the fact it doesn't spread uniformly when it's wet or cold.

Before deferring the matter, council heard from Oakvillegreen, which once again stated its opposition to taking the bottom ash

because of the potential threat the group feels it poses to the environment and human health.

A staff report on the topic said the bottom ash is "tested regularly and is consistently deemed non-hazardous."

Oakville Councillor Allan Elgar, who put forward the motion last week to not accept the bottom ash, pointed out that the Region previously said Halton's landfill is for Halton residents, meaning it doesn't accept waste from other municipalities. He asked staff if this statement is still true today.

"Generally no, we do not accept waste from other municipalities," said Halton Commissioner of Planning and Public Works Peter Crockett. "Bottom ash, in the

way we're proposing to use it, is not waste."

He explained the ash wouldn't take any more capacity out of the landfill because daily cover is already being put on in the same or greater quantities.

"It's a beneficial reuse of the bottom ash product," he said.

Burlington Councillor John Taylor noted that Halton does export some of its waste to other municipalities, such as garbage from the industrial-commercial-institutional sector that's trucked to the United States.

The issue is slated to go before the planning and public works committee today (Wednesday) and then on to regional council Wednesday, March 26.



The Regional Municipality of Halton

www.halton.ca

More Blue & Green for a Better Planet



Halton Region's waste collection services

are changing beginning April 7, 2008

- Weekly GreenCart collection to recycle kitchen waste begins April 7
- Weekly Blue Box collection – now there is no need to separate papers from containers
- Garbage collection every other week with a six bag/can limit.

Check your Waste Management Calendar for your scheduled collection day.

Visit www.halton.ca/greencart for more information.

GreenCart Open Houses

Want to learn more about Halton Region's new waste collection changes including the GreenCart?

Attend an open house to learn more about the GreenCart program that begins April 7, 2008. Learn about acceptable materials, easy ways to keep the GreenCart clean, where materials go, and why this program is important to a sustainable Halton.



Date	Location
Tuesday, March 25 5 to 8 p.m.	Halton Hills Public Library – Acton Branch 17 River Street, Acton
Thursday, March 27 5 to 8 p.m.	Burlington Seniors' Centre 2285 New Street, Burlington
Saturday, March 29 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.	YMCA of Oakville 410 Rebecca Street, Oakville
Monday, March 31 5 to 8 p.m.	Gellert Community Centre 10241 8th Line, Georgetown
Wednesday, April 2 5 to 8 p.m.	E. J. James Public School 338 Cairncroft Road, Oakville
Thursday, April 3 5 to 8 p.m.	Milton Leisure Centre 1100 Main Street East, Milton
Saturday, April 5 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Tansley Woods Community Centre 1996 Itabashi Way, Burlington
Tuesday, April 8 5 to 8 p.m.	Brookville Public School 11325 Guelph Line, Campbellville
Thursday, April 10 5 to 8 p.m.	Conservation Halton Administrative Office 2596 Britannia Road West, Burlington
Saturday, April 12 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Milton Sports Centre 605 Santa Maria Boulevard, Milton
Tuesday, April 15 5 to 8 p.m.	Pineview Public School 13074 No. 5 Side Road, Georgetown
Thursday, April 17 5 to 8 p.m.	Glen Abbey Community Centre 1415 Third Line, Oakville

Did you know?

Approximately 45 per cent of the average garbage bag is actually made up of food and compostable papers. The GreenCart will take all that food (fruits, vegetables, meat, bones, pasta, dairy, fats, oils, and candies) and compostable paper (coffee filters, flour bags, and paper coffee cups) away once a week to be composted instead of going in the landfill.

GreenCarts, Kitchen Catchers and an information package will be delivered to all households that currently receive curbside waste collection. Distribution will take place over a two week period, from March 24 to April 5, 2008.

Visit www.halton.ca/greencart for more information or to watch the GreenCart video.