

The Regional Municipality of Durham

Minutes

Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

A regular meeting of the Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:02 PM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: G. Rocoski, Oshawa, Chair
W. Basztyk, Brock
W. Bracken, Clarington
S. Elhajjeh, Clarington, Vice-Chair attended the meeting at 7:10 PM
T. Farrell, Brock
K. Meydam, Clarington
***all members of the committee except G. Rocoski participated electronically**

Absent: A. Burrows, Ajax
C. McLean, Ajax
H. Sukhu, Clarington

Non-Voting Members

Present: A. Burke, Senior Planner, Special Projects, Municipality of Clarington
Councillor Janice Jones, Local Councillor, Municipality of Clarington
M. Neild, Facility Manager, Covanta

Staff

Present: G. Anello, Director, Waste Management Services
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist – Information Technology
S. Penak, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
C. Tennisco, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by W. Baszyk, Seconded by T. Farrell,
That the minutes of the regular EFW-WMAC meeting held
on Thursday, February 22, 2020, be adopted.
CARRIED

Moved by W. Bracken, Seconded by K. Meydam,
That the minutes of the special EFW-WMAC meeting held
on Wednesday, July 15, 2020, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Announcements

There were no announcements made.

5. Presentations

A) Gio Anello, Director, Waste Management Services, re: Durham
Region's 2019 Annual Waste Management Report

Gio Anello, Director, Waste Management Services, provided a
PowerPoint presentation regarding Durham Region's 2019 Annual
Waste Management Report. A copy of the presentation was emailed
to the Committee prior to the meeting.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Background
- 2019 Highlights
 - Diversion rate is 63%
 - Tonnages for all Waste Diversion Programs
 - Community Outreach
 - Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Depot in Bowmanville
 - Landfill Perpetual Care
 - Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC)
- Transition to Extended Producer Responsibility

G. Anello advised that on October 17, 2020 a Regional event will be held at Regional Headquarters where residents of Durham can exchange their blue boxes for new ones from their car.

G. Anello responded to questions from the Committee regarding how the leaf and yard waste tonnage is calculated and whether the Region encourages grass-cycling and lawn mulching; how the Region calculates the diversion rate; whether Durham correlates how much is spent on education and promotion and the gross tonnage per year; why the gross waste tonnage was much less in 2016; and

whether the consultation on Extended Producer Responsibility that was expected to occur in the summer was cancelled.

G. Anello advised that the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) is the agency that calculates the diversion rate. He also advised that through RPRA, all the information on the data call and the methodology is online. He further advised that a link to the website can be sent to the Committee after the meeting.

W. Bracken questioned whether RPRA looks at the incinerator ash in any way and whether they count the ash as diversion if its going to the landfill. G. Anello advised that the ash is being used as daily cover which is the reasoning for the discrepancy in the waste tonnage amounts. He added that he would confirm this with staff and get back to W. Bracken directly.

In response to a question, G. Anello stated that he previously provided the per capita numbers through a trend analysis to the Committee, but he would send them again after the meeting.

6. Delegations

There were no delegations to be heard.

7. Correspondence

- A) Email correspondence and two references from Linda Gasser, dated September 21, 2020, regarding 'Correspondence to September 22, 2020 EFW-WMAC – further to July 15, 2020 EFW-WMAC discussion re: LTWMP Guiding Principles (GP)'

Detailed discussion ensued regarding whether the guiding principles stated in Report #2020-COW-2: Solid Waste Management: 2020 Strategic Issues and Financial Forecast, were endorsed by council or just received for information. Concerns were raised that the stated guiding principles did not mention reducing and reusing waste, and mainly focused on treating waste as a resource. Further concerns were raised that the EFW-WMAC has not been able to provide input into the Long-Term Waste Management Plan.

G. Anello advised that the four guiding principles stated in Section 4.2 of Report #2020-COW-2 were approved by Council and also gave direction to staff which guided the development of the Long-Term Waste Management Plan. He advised that staff have continued to work with the EFW-WMAC and welcomed public comments.

Moved by W. Bracken, Seconded by B. Basztyk,
That the email correspondence and two references from
Linda Gasser, dated September 21, 2020, regarding
Correspondence to September 22, 2020 EFW-WMAC –
further to July 15, 2020 EFW-WMAC discussion re: LTWMP
Guiding Principles (GP), be received for information.
REFERRED BACK TO STAFF (See
Following Motion)

Moved by W. Bracken, Seconded by K. Meydem,
That the email correspondence and two references from
Linda Gasser, dated September 21, 2020, regarding
Correspondence to September 22, 2020 EFW-WMAC –
further to July 15, 2020 EFW-WMAC discussion re: LTWMP
Guiding Principles (GP) correspondence be referred to
Works staff for comment and for staff to answer the question
of where the evidence is that shows Regional Council
approved the guiding principles and report back to the
Committee.

CARRIED

8. Administrative Matters

There were no administrative matters to be considered.

9. Other Business

- A) Update by Gioseph Anello, Director, Waste Management Services,
The Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding the Region's Long-
Term Waste Management Plan (2021 to 2040)

G. Anello provided an update regarding the Region's Long-Term
Waste Management Plan.

G. Anello advised that the Long-Term Waste Management Plan
(LTWMP) survey was posted to the Regional website for public
comment on August 19, 2020 and will conclude on September 30,
2020. He advised that over 400 responses have already been
received, with over 500 responses being forecasted.

Concerns were raised regarding the potential lack of focus on the
reduce and reuse components of waste, and there being too much
focus on resource recovery. Further concern was raised regarding
potentially misleading information on the Regional Waste website;
and that there is not enough public input and understanding.

Moved by W. Bracken, Seconded by K. Meydam,
That the EFW recommend to the Works Committee,

That the public comment period for the Long-Term Waste Management Plan be extended from September 30, 2020 until October 31, 2020.

CARRIED

In response to the Committee's concerns, G. Anello advised that staff work within the parameters they are given, along with legislative and Council direction. He advised that the Region is not neglecting the hierarchy of waste and indicated that staff would like to move forward with developing the outline of the LTWMP with further public consultation to take place in 2021.

Discussion ensued regarding what happens to the ash produced by the incinerator, and whether there are studies that show that the fly ash sent to landfills will not leach into the ground surrounding the landfill. G. Anello clarified that the bottom ash is kept separate from the fly ash. He advised that the bottom ash is currently being reviewed for its potential beneficial uses and is used as a daily landfill cover. He further advised that the fly ash is encapsulated at the site, a Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) is performed to demonstrate that it is not hazardous. The encapsulated fly ash is sent to the Thorold Landfill which is an engineered landfill with the appropriate containment and leachate collection.

In response to a question, A. Porteous advised that a summary of the comments received on the LTWMP can be shared with the EFW-WMAC, once the Record of Consultation has been completed.

Further discussion ensued regarding the guiding principles, and how they can be revised or modified.

The Committee recommended that a special EFW-WMAC meeting be called once a response from staff is received regarding more detail on the guiding principles.

G. Anello advised that M. Smart could suggest dates once a response from staff is drafted.

B) Update by Gioseph Anello, Director, Waste Management Services, The Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding the Durham York Energy Centre

G. Anello provided an update regarding the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC).

G. Anello advised that the DYEC is currently operating at 100% Maximum Continuous Rating (MCR) and has processed 97,000 tonnes of waste to date. He advised that the end of the year projection is 150,000 tonnes of waste processed.

G. Anello advised that the Fall shutdown will occur September 26, 2020 – October 5, 2020 for scheduled maintenance, and that both boilers will be down. He also advised that staff will be looking to launch a revitalized DYEC webpage on October 17, 2020.

G. Anello updated the Committee regarding the streamlined Environmental Assessment (EA) process. He advised that staff are working with the Ministry to update the emissions distribution summary model, along with updates to the meteorological data. Staff would then run the emissions distribution summary model and start finalizing the report so it can go to the Ministry for comment and further consultation. He advised that it should be available by the end of this year for comment.

G. Anello advised that the Spring Stack Test was completed and finalized, and that an information report will be completed within the next two weeks. He further advised that the Fall Source Test will occur the week of November 9, 2020.

C) Update by Gioseph Anello, Director, Waste Management Services, The Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

G. Anello provided an update regarding Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR).

G. Anello advised that the Province was set to release draft regulation in the summer of 2020 but has been delayed until the Fall.

In response to a question, G. Anello advised that it is anticipated that the next EFW-WMAC meeting November 24, 2020 should align with the draft regulations being released and the Committee could provide comments on the regulations at that time.

Discussion ensued regarding calling a special EFW-WMAC meeting if needed so that the EFW-WMAC could provide comments on the draft regulations. The Committee requested that staff notify the Committee once the draft regulations are released and advise of how long the comment period is in order to determine whether a special meeting would be required.

D) Update by Gioseph Anello, Director, Waste Management Services, The Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding the Region's Organics Management Project

G. Anello provided an update regarding the Region's Organics Management Project.

G. Anello advised that the Request for Qualification is out and will close November 3, 2020. He advised that there has been a very good uptake of the document and quite a bit of interest.

G. Anello advised that Report #2020-COW-25: Report on the Organics Management Solution – Joint Venture/Co-ownership with EPCOR Power Development Corporation was presented to the Committee of the Whole on September 16, 2020 and will subsequently be going to Regional Council September 30, 2020 for approval. He advised that staff's attempt to negotiate a partnership with EPCOR were not successful and the Region will be moving forward without a partner for the mixed waste pre-sort and anaerobic digestion facility.

G. Anello responded to questions from the Committee regarding what EPCOR's role would have been in the project; the financial implications and risks of not having a financial partner; an estimate of the capital cost of the project; whether changes will be made going forward as staff develop the Request for Proposal; and the Municipality of Clarington declaring itself an unwilling host to a mixed waste pre-sort and anaerobic digestion facility.

E) Update by George Rocoski, EFW-WMAC Chair, regarding preparation of the EFW-WMAC Annual Report for presentation on December 2, 2020, to the Region's Works Committee, and on December 14, 2020, to the Municipality of Clarington's Council

G. Rocoski provided an update regarding the preparation of the EFW-WMAC Annual Report which will be presented to the Works Committee on December 2, 2020 and to Clarington Council on December 14, 2020.

G. Rocoski advised that he plans to have a draft of the presentation submitted with the EFW-WMAC agenda package for the November 24, 2020 Committee meeting for comment by the Committee.

10. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EFW-WMAC will be held on Tuesday, November 24, 2020 in Council Chambers, at 7:00 PM, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

11. Adjournment

Moved by K. Meydam, Seconded by T. Farrell,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 PM.

G. Rocoski, Chair, Energy from Waste –
Waste Management Advisory Committee

S. Penak, Committee Clerk