

Long-Term Sampling System Update for Dioxins and Furans at DYEC

April 6, 2021

Kerry Meydam

AMESA

- Long term sampling of dioxins and furans
- Why is this important?
 - Clarington residents must know the sampling results to be able to understand and assess the potential impacts of the incinerator on our health and natural environment.

Health Risks

- Dioxins are highly toxic
 - can cause cancer, reproductive and developmental problems, damage to the immune system, and can interfere with hormones.
 - Children are especially susceptible, as toddlers but especially in the womb.
- Human exposure
 - Is mainly through foods we eat. Dioxins travel long distances, are found in the in the soil, and bioaccumulate there.
 - Food animals eat vegetation and it is stored in their fatty tissue. We eat the meat, fruits and vegetables, eggs, whole milk, cheese and other dairy products.
 - Dioxins are persistent in the environment and in the human body.

Health and Dioxins

- Dioxins are a “Group 1 carcinogen”
 - Meaning it is a known human carcinogen, according to The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) -- part of the World Health Organization
 - The IARC reaffirmed that there is no known "safe dose" or "threshold" below which dioxin will not cause cancer.
 - EFW incinerators are a known source of dioxins, and levels can change depending on what is being burned on any particular day.
 - Dioxins are persistent in the environment and in the human body.

We need more information, not less

- with the AMESA Long Term Sampling, we are still not getting sampling results on a monthly/28 days basis
- We have not had any results since the Fall of 2015, when AMESA was installed. The public is paying for this and we should have all the information (lab results) that come from it.
- Clarington Council/Staff and residents **MUST** have the opportunity to review all the AMESA sampling data after the lab analyses becomes available, monthly, as should Regional Council and **these results should be posted to DYEC website routinely after sampling cartridge data available.**

Motion request

- We ask that Clarington Councillors advocate clearly on our behalf to Durham Region, demanding transparency and to deliver on monitoring commitments made to Clarington Council and residents since before EA approval.
- **Please pass a motion tonight requesting AMESA sampling results taken monthly/28 days, from incinerator start up in 2015, to the present and that these be posted on the DYEC website.**