



Councillor's Office

Tel. 905-683-4550

Fax. 905-683-8207

EX28.13.71

TOWN OF AJAX

65 Harwood Avenue South

Ajax, ON L1S 2H9

www.ajax.ca

October 19, 2017

Re: EX 28.13 - Emergency Management Annual Report and Program Update

Dear Executive Committee Members,

I am writing to encourage the City of Toronto to join Durham Region, the Town of Ajax and other municipalities in calling on the provincial government to strengthen Ontario's offsite nuclear emergency response plans.

As discussed in the Office of Emergency Management's Annual Report, the provincial government held a consultation this summer on proposed changes to its Provincial Nuclear Emergency Response Plan (PNERP). Considering our close proximity to the Pickering and Darlington nuclear stations, the robustness of the PNERP is an undeniable public safety concern for both Durham Region and Toronto.

The timing of this long-awaited public consultation just before the summer break made it challenging for municipalities to participate. Unfortunately, the province was unresponsive to motions passed by both Durham Region and Toronto Council asking the province to extend the consultation period until the fall.

In light of the shared importance to our communities, I encourage Executive Committee to formally echo Durham Region's request for more robust and transparent nuclear emergency response plans.

The Durham Emergency Management Office (DEMO) did manage to submit recommendations for Regional Council's endorsement before the summer break. Our staff's recommendations were strengthened with the unanimous support of Regional Council.

Durham Region has asked the province to include the following in a revised nuclear emergency plan:

- Recognition of the public's expectations for world-class safety, including meeting or exceeding international best practices wherever feasible.
- Increased protection and planning for the protection of vulnerable communities in the event of a reactor accident.
- A study on the potential impacts of a major nuclear accident on the Great Lakes and drinking water, including what contingency planning may be necessary.
- Expanded pre-distribution of potassium iodide (KI) pills beyond the current 10 km Primary Zone.

- Additional funding for designated municipalities like Toronto and Durham Region for all planning, implementation and evaluation costs incurred from new requirements not included in the 2009 PNERP.
- Require regular updates to impacted municipal councils on revisions to nuclear emergency response plans.

As the co-signer of the additional amendments to DEMO's recommendations, I encourage Executive Committee to echo our positions and recommend staff communicate Toronto's expectations to the province.

Other municipalities, such as the Town of Amherstburg, the City of Windsor, Essex County, the Municipality of Brockton and the Town of Ajax, have also passed motions calling for more robust nuclear emergency response during the summer consultation period.

That said, the window of opportunity for the City of Toronto to advocate for more robust nuclear emergency response plans is closing. The provincial government has stated that it wishes to update and approve a revised nuclear emergency response plan before the end of 2017.

I thus encourage you to join other municipalities in calling for higher levels of public safety and directing staff to communicate the City's expectations as soon as possible.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colleen Jordan".

Colleen Jordan
Regional Councillor Wards 3 & 4