



June 19th, 2018

Executive Committee
City of Toronto
Toronto City Hall
M5H 2N2

Re: Dufferin Renewable Natural Gas Facility Grant Funding and Related Lease Agreement with Enbridge at 35 Vanley Crescent (EX35.24)

Dear Executive Committee Members:


The Atmospheric Fund (TAF) is a public agency established in 1991 by the City of Toronto and endowed by the City and the Province of Ontario. TAF works closely with stakeholders across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) to test and advance innovative programs to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and air pollution. However, the views expressed in this submission do not necessarily represent those of the City of Toronto, the Province of Ontario or other GTHA stakeholders.

TAF would like to express support for item EX35.24 as a critical step in the development of a renewable natural gas facility at 35 Vanley Crescent. The development of renewable natural gas production infrastructure is an important element in achieving our GHG emissions reductions target of 80% by 2050. Initial estimates from the City are promising, calculating that the project will result in displacing 7,976 tonnes of carbon annually, totalling 119,000 tonnes over the project's lifetime.¹ Furthermore, developing facilities to capture and use biogas for energy production is a key step in the TransformTO strategy. In particular TransformTO includes a goal for the production of 1.5 million GJ of energy to be generated from biogas by 2030.² In order to reach this milestone as well as our broader GHG emissions reductions commitments, projects such as this facility will be required.

It is also important to note the co-benefits associated with this project. Most notably, improved air quality. This project is intended to support the transition of the City's organics collection vehicles from diesel to natural gas, which will directly reduce air pollution across the City while also contributing to the development of a circular economy.

¹ <https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2018/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-116686.pdf>

² <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/91c7-TransformTO-2050-Pathway-to-a-Low-Carbon-Toronto-Highlights-Report.pdf>



It is progress on projects such as this one that will ensure Toronto mitigates the impending negative impacts of climate change and continues to promote its image as a municipal leader in innovative urban carbon reduction solutions. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this stage of development of the Dufferin Renewable Natural Gas Facility. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Bryan Purcell
Director, Policy & Programs
The Atmospheric Fund