



February 1, 2021

Dear Mayor and members of Council,

The City of Toronto faces a huge challenge in meeting its Climate Emergency commitment to achieve net zero carbon by 2050 the best-crafted and best funded initiatives of cities like Toronto will falter if the Province goes ahead with its plans to meet electricity demand with gas-fired generating plants.

A key component to reducing our emissions is shifting off carbon-based sources of energy for transportation and home heating and switching to electricity. There is a push to electric cars and buses and such new technologies as heat pumps. If the electric grid is re-carbonized the City cannot achieve its targets

Currently, Ontario's electricity planners are forecasting a more than 300% increase in gas plant pollution by 2030 and 400% by 2040. This will reverse over 35% of the annual emissions reductions from phasing out coal.

We urge the City of Toronto to join the growing chorus of municipalities in Ontario calling for a phaseout of gas plants in Ontario and for the development of renewable energy and funding for energy conservation measures by passing the motion brought to you this week by Councillors McKelvie and Layton.

Conservation and renewables are now the least expensive sources of electricity (according to the International Energy Agency). Leading utilities around the world are moving quickly into renewables and Ontario is being left behind. Conservation and distributed renewable projects will create many more jobs than gas and increasing renewables in Ontario's electric supply will support development in Ontario of the clean industry of the future.

For a climate-safe future,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lyn", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Lyn Adamson,  
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