



**Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant (ABTP)
Neighbourhood Liaison Committee
Meeting #86**

Mennonite New Life Centre, 1774 Queen St. East
Thursday, March 20, 2008
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Karen Buck	NLC Community Co-Chair
Bob Kortright	Toronto Field Naturalists, Resident
Jim Neff	ICMC, Citizens for a Safe Environment
Michael Rosenberg	Economics of Technology Working Group, ICMC
Karey Shinn	NLC Community Co-Chair
Steven Whyte	ICMC, Resident of South Riverdale

City of Toronto:

Robert Davis	Public Consultation Unit
Shabbir Dato	ABTP Engineer, Toronto Water

Minutes:

Joshua Zucker

1. Welcome and Introductions

Karey Shinn brought the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.

2. Review of Action Items & Motions

Meeting #79: Action item #4

- a) Staff to bring some printed copies of the Wastewater and Biosolids Quality Trends presentation to next meeting.*
- b) The presentation to be made available on-line, along with testing protocols.*

The requested presentations were distributed to meeting attendees.

Shabbir Dato said he would confirm with **Nancy Martins** if it had been posted on-line.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #80: Action Item #1

NLC to inform by letter the Works and Infrastructure Committee members of council and any other appropriate councillors that we have made a firm recommendation by motion that the pellets not be incinerated or raised to any temperature resulting in combustion.

Disposition: Ongoing. See discussion on Meeting #83, Motion #1 below .

Meeting #80: Action Item #5

NLC members to come to next NLC meeting prepared to pass on comments about Coatsworth Cut to Michael Rosenberg.

Bob Kortright noted that this is an ongoing item.

Disposition: Ongoing.

Meeting #81: Action Item #1

Mark Rupke to look into further details on specific customers Veolia may be dealing with as well as their marketing plan.

Shabbir Datto said that Veolia's marketing plan was provided to the NLC co-chairs in the previous meeting, within the Contract documents. He said that he believed this Action Item was addressed in Veolia's presentation, in which Veolia indicated that all pellets produced during commissioning have been applied to agricultural land in Ontario, and that Veolia had indicated their customer lists are confidential. **Karen Buck** said that Veolia said they would give the NLC an idea of which sectors they are selling to.

Karey Shinn asked about pellet storage at the ABTP and **Shabbir Datto** said pellets are not stored at the plant. Once Veolia's truck is full, it goes to their off-site storage facility. He added that there is a silo that is used for truck loading but it is not a storage location. **Karen Buck** asked if there had been a fire within the Pelletizer building and **Shabbir Datto** said there had been a high temperature incident within the facility but that it was dealt with in a timely manner.

Shabbir Datto asked what other information the NLC would like on this item in addition to what had already been provided and **Karen Buck** said that when Veolia obtains customers they would like to know which sectors their customers are active in (e.g. sod farming, blending etc.). **Bob Kortright** said they would like reporting on their sales.

Karen Buck asked how the City tracks sales in terms of tonnage and use. **Shabbir Datto** said the City's position is that when pellets go into Veolia's possession it becomes their responsibility to market them within the confines of their Agreement. He said the Plant prepares monthly reports for key parameters such as biosolids quantities, and **Karen Buck** said they would like to see those. **Shabbir Datto** said he didn't think information such as pellet markets/sectors would be contained in these monthly reports, but that he can look into providing this sort of information to the NLC on a periodic basis

Disposition: Completed.

Action Item #1: Shabbir Datto to investigate the possibility of periodically keeping the NLC informed of Veolia's marketing plans and sales breakdown by sector (e.g. sod farming, blending etc) and providing a summary of tonnage coming out of the Pelletizer

Meeting #81: Action Item #2

Mark Rupke to find out whether Veolia must adhere to the Mediation Agreement.

Shabbir Datto said the MA is not specifically referenced in Veolia's agreement, and there is no initiative underway to make Veolia a signatory to it. He said the agreement is consistent with the spirit of the MA, and that the entire Biosolids programme is administered in the spirit of the MA. **Karen Buck** agreed that they do not need to be a signatory and said that the MA must be adhered to as it is a legal document.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #81: Action Item #3

Mark Rupke to report on efforts to add the Mediation Agreement to the Schedule 9 list.

Shabbir Datto said he wasn't familiar with the contents of Schedule 9 and **Karen Buck** said it contains all agreements and important information that Veolia should have. **Shabbir Datto** said that Veolia has been provided with the MA.

Disposition: Complete, based on response to Mtg#81, Action Item #2 above.

Meeting #81: Action Item #4

Dave Done to take the Motion to Sandra Bussin.

Disposition: Deferred.

Meeting #81: Action Item #5

Mark Rupke to report on details of the new fire suppression systems.

Shabbir Datto said that part of the enhancement package was the installation of a sprinkler system and a nitrogen purging system. He said they are also in the process of installing an automatic valve in the natural gas supply line so they can shut off the gas in the event of emergency. **Karen Buck** asked if they have a nitrogen blanket system and **Shabbir Datto** said that it is a purging system not a blanket system. **Karey Shinn** asked if it operates in the storage silo that feeds the Veolia truck and **Karen Buck** said she believes so as there were originally problems with overheating there. When she visited the plant every silo had hotspots on their walls.

Disposition: Completed.

Action Item #2: Shabbir Datto to confirm whether there is a nitrogen purging system in the pelletizer silo.

Meeting #81: Action Item #6

Mark Rupke to find out when Chicago begins commissioning their Pelletizer.

Shabbir Datto said he believes Veolia indicated in their presentation that Chicago was commissioning. He also said the City had no first-hand information on the Chicago facility, and has no plans to track their progress. **Karen Buck** said she doesn't understand where the checks and balances are as there doesn't seem to be any sharing of information. **Shabbir Datto** said as per Veolia's agreement, there are consequences if Veolia fails to meet certain requirements, so there are checks and balances.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #81: Action Item #7

Mark Rupke to find out from Veolia what the current pellet output is.

Shabbir Datto said the total pellet output between June - December 2007 was approximately 3,550 dry tonnes. He said that may seem low, but they are still in the commissioning stage. **Karey Shinn** asked if they are producing pellets on a daily basis now and **Shabbir Datto** said yes, but they are only running one train.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #81: Action Item #8

Mark Rupke to find out when the London landfill will be able to receive biosolids.

Shabbir Datto said that as of November 2007, they were sending 1 truck/day of biosolids to Green Lane. As of January 2008, that went up to 5 trucks/day.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #81: Action Item #9

Mark Rupke to bring the Ashbridges Bay Odour Complaint Form to the next meeting.

Shabbir Datto said the form was distributed at the last meeting. **Bob Kortright** asked if it is on the website and **Shabbir Datto** said no, as it is filled in by Plant Staff. It was requested that the Odour Complaint Form be attached to the minutes.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting # 82: Action Item #1

Mark Rupke to find out if a representative from Veolia can attend an NLC/ICMC meeting to address the commissioning of the facility and marketing concerns.

Veolia representatives attended NLC Meeting #85.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #83: Action Item #1

Shabbir Datto to find out whether the biosolids being trucked to New York State are being used as a soil amendment or being land filled.

Shabbir Datto said biosolids going to New York State are being landfilled and used as a soil amendment year-round. **Jim Neff** asked about incineration and **Shabbir Datto** said the information he had was that biosolids were being landfilled and used as soil amendment. **Karen Buck** said the NLC is hoping for an equal split between soil amendment and landfill.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #83: Action Item #2

Shabbir Datto to determine the monetary figures referenced in the minutes of Meeting #79.

Shabbir Datto provided three numbers from the specified presentation. Total replacement value: \$26.6 Billion, with \$8.7 Billion for water and \$17.9 Billion for wastewater.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #83 Action Item #3

Karey Shinn to e-mail Joanna Kidd in regards to the Lake Ontario Park Stakeholders meetings.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #83 Motion #1

Michael Rosenberg moved that the NLC request:

- a) That the City not give approval to Veolia to use any thermal process as agreed to in the Mediation Agreement.
- b) If the City intends to ignore our request that the NLC and the community be informed at least 6 months before any permission is given to Veolia to use a thermal process.

Michael Rosenberg said that although it is true that Veolia would need to go to City Council to use a thermal process, theoretically they could still bypass the NLC, so the motion is still valid.

This Motion needs to be tracked (See Action Item #3)

Disposition: Ongoing.

Meeting #83: Action Item #4

Karey Shinn to send Motion #1 to Lou Di Gironimo, CC'ed to the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee (PW & I) members.

Karey Shinn said she would look into this.

Disposition: Deferred.

Meeting #83 Moton #2:

David Hanna moved that:

- a) *The Public Art for Public Spaces Committee and the Public Art Commission make a proper liaison with the NLC in regards to any item on their agenda concerning the Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant Landscape Plan, including advance notification of any meetings where an issue with regards to the Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant is coming up*
- b) *A request for the minutes from the Public Art for Public Spaces Committee's meetings where they discussed the Ashbridges Bay landscaping art and selected an artist.*
- c) *A copy of the standard selection process from the City of Toronto be provided to the NLC*
- d) *Request of an explanation as to why the NLC was not invited to the Public Art for Public Spaces Committee meeting as requested.*

This Motion needs to be tracked (See Action Item #3)

Disposition: Ongoing.

Meeting #83: Action Item #5

Karey Shinn to send Motion #2 to Lou Di Gironimo, PW & I and the Public Art for Public Spaces Committee.

Karey Shinn said she would follow up on this with **Nancy Martins**.

Disposition: Deferred.

Karen Buck said that the NLC has passed numerous motions which are sent to Lou Di Gironimo and then never heard of again. She asked what the process is for passing on motions to the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee (PW & I). **Robert Davis** said he didn't know the specific process but motions sent to Lou or others are responded to based on their contents. **Jim Neff** said the MA states that motions should go to Lou and then PW & I.

Action Item #3: Robert Davis to look into establishing a process for tracking motions.

Meeting #83: Action Item #6

*Shabbir Dattoo to inform Veolia that the NLC requests information regarding issues related to the effects of use of corn to make ethanol, including, the bio-ethical issues, environmental impacts such as aquifer depletion and effects on food prices, in addition to concerns raised by **Connie Demb** in Meeting #82.*

Shabbir Dattoo said he believed Veolia addressed these concerns in their presentation and **Bob Kortright** said Veolia expressed their hope that they would never have to use the pellets for anything as low value as fuel.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #83: Action Item #7

Nancy Martins to make available a copy of the Coatsworth Cut EA at a meeting of NLC Members on December 5th at 1pm at the Urban Affairs Library.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #84: Action Item #1

Shabbir Datto to inquire about getting a copy of the final contract between Veolia and the City of Toronto that went to City Council.

Shabbir Datto said that a copy of the final Agreement was provided to each of the co-chairs at the previous meeting.

Disposition: Completed.

Meeting #84: Action Item #2

Aliss Terpstra to send an amended Motion #1 to Nancy Martins for distribution to ABTPNLC chair and co-chair .

This motion requires tracking.

Disposition: Deferred.

Meeting #84: Action Item #3

Meeting #84, Motion #1 to be sent to Lou Di Gironimo and CC'ed to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee and the Department of Health.

This motion requires tracking.

Disposition: Ongoing.

Meeting #85: Action Item #1

Staff to provide a copy of the Fertilizer Act certification label for pellets.

Shabbir Datto distributed copies of the Fertilizer Act certification label.

Disposition: Completed.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes

Meeting #83, November 20, 2007

Karey Shinn moved that the Meeting #83 minutes be approved.

Jim Neff seconded.
The minutes were approved.

Meeting #84, January 8, 2008

Shabbir Datto noted that he added a clarification to the back page of the minutes regarding the digesters. Also included in the clarification are answers to two questions raised by the NLC from Toronto Hydro.

Karey Shinn moved that the Meeting #84 minutes be approved.
Steven Whyte seconded.
The minutes were approved.

Meeting #85, February 12, 2008

Bob Kortright asked that the following affiliations be included with his name in the attendance: Toronto Field Naturalists, Resident

Karey Shinn said she thought the Veolia product listed in the minutes as “repell health” (page 4) should read “Nutri-Pel”, but was unsure.

Action Item #4: Shabbir Datto to verify Veolia’s product name.

Karey Shinn moved that the Meeting #85 minutes be approved as amended.
Jim Neff seconded.
The minutes were approved as amended.

4. Mini-updates

- **Pelletizer**

Shabbir Datto said he was confident that secondary testing would commence very soon. He said the Pelletizer ran for 29 days in January and 25 in February, for approximately 1150 hours of operation. They are still in single dryer operation or about 50% of total capacity. For 5 days in February they ran both dryers, which is a positive sign. The City did some work on the natural gas line that feeds the pelletizer, putting in a bypass line so they can meter Veolia’s gas usage. There will be a shutdown to install a valve and a meter, most likely after Veolia’s testing period is complete.

- **EA**

Shabbir Datto said the Ministry of Environment has approved the EA. They will now begin developing an approach for moving forward.

Karey Shinn said that at some point it would be good to meet with **Frank Quarisa** perhaps at a joint meeting about the EA.

- **Odour Control Project**

Shabbir Datto said over the past two months they have gone through two major design reviews involving the Consultants and Plant staff for the D and T building complexes, from an operational perspective. Comments from these design reviews will be incorporated into the designs. He said they're hoping to present to the NLC potentially at the April meeting. **Karen Buck** said that would be relevant to both the ICMC and NLC.

- **Landscaping**

Shabbir Datto said he spoke with **Roman Kaszczij** who said they are now in Stage 3 - Detailed Design. They presented three conceptual designs at the public meeting and are now compiling all public comments, following which they will be doing detailed design work on a single design. He added their next public meeting is scheduled for May, 2008. **Karey Shinn** asked if they would be coming to an NLC meeting before meeting with the public and **Shabbir Datto** said he didn't know. **Karey Shinn** asked if the public comments are being publicized and whether they could be attached to the NLC minutes. **Shabbir Datto** said they could be attached but if there were additional comments they should be given directly to the landscaping project team, not relayed through him.

Action Item #5: City Staff to provide the NLC contact information for the landscaping team.
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- **Biosolids**

Shabbir Datto said he spoke with **Emily Zegers** and the final Peer Review Panel report is complete. City Staff are putting together a Staff Report to accompany the Peer Review Report, and are assessing strategies for implementing the report recommendations. Following this, the reports will be presented to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee within the next few months, and then made public. The NLC will be notified prior to presentation to PWC.

Shabbir Datto said there were some outstanding questions regarding biosolids:

As to the question of where biosolids in Quebec were going and were they being stockpiled, he said they are currently going to degraded sites, with no stockpiling.

There was a question about what amounts of biosolids were going where. He said, for 2007, the percentages were as follows:

- 59% landfill
- 16% land application
- 9% pelletizer
- 7% soil amendment
- 5% degraded sites
- 4% compost

Karen Buck asked about actual tonnage amounts.

Action Item #6: Shabbir Dato to find out total biosolids tonnage amounts for 2007.

5. Other Business

Michael Rosenberg said he heard indirectly at a Lake Ontario Parks Meeting that Toronto Water is trying to prevent parts of the Landscaping Plan that involve access to their site, possibly for security and Plant expansion reasons. **Bob Kortright** said that while some parts of the Landscaping Plan are superseded by the Lake Ontario Parks Plan this may be going beyond that. **Karey Shinn** said it would be good to find out what is changing from the preliminary design and why

Action Item #7: Shabbir Dato to get a response from Toronto Water as to what is happening to the Landscaping Plan south of Lakeshore.

6. Next meeting date, agenda topics and adjourn

The next meeting of the NLC will be a joint meeting with the ICMC. It was set for April 30th, 2008 at the Mennonite New Life Centre, 1774 Queen St. East.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.