

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
SECRETARIAT SECTIONJanuary 26, 2012  
2012 FEB -2 A 7:32

Members of Toronto City Council  
c/o Ms. Marilyn Toft  
City Council Secretariat  
12<sup>th</sup> Floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON, M5H 2N2

Dear City Councillors:

**Re: Item 2011.PW9.5, Implementation of Findings from Comparative Analysis of Pipe Materials Study for Large Diameter Transmission Watermains**

As the head of Ontario-based Royal Building Products, I encourage you to vote in favour of permitting the use of alternative materials for large-diameter watermains in Toronto.

The Cole Engineering Group's report and City Staff's recommendations (PW9.5) correctly point out that allowing multiple materials in future large-diameter watermain projects would provide Toronto and its residents with numerous benefits, including:

- Enhanced competition, leading to potentially lower infrastructure costs for Toronto taxpayers
- Access to a product – PVC – that is extremely durable, long-lasting and non-corrosive, and has a lower carbon footprint than alternate materials traditionally used for watermains

I also would stress the economic benefits that the city, the region and even the rest of Canada could reap if the City Council votes to permit the use of alternative materials for large-diameter watermains.

In the Greater Toronto area, Royal Building Products employs nearly 1,000 people, including 300 in our PVC pipe manufacturing operations in Woodbridge. Many of those employees and their families are residents of Toronto.

In 2010, Royal Building Products invested \$15 million to build a new facility in Woodbridge for manufacturing large-diameter PVC pipe. A favourable vote by the City Council could create opportunities for Royal Building Products to expand our pipe operations and hire additional Toronto-area employees.

The leadership shown by the City Council on this matter also would send a positive signal to other municipalities in Canada that are – or soon will be – dealing with this issue. As more and more Canadian municipalities open the door to PVC and competition for water infrastructure projects, they will be strengthening local employment, enhancing tax revenues and reducing infrastructure costs.

It also is worth noting that a significant volume of PVC pipe produced in Canada is exported to the United States; thus, it is conceivable that the expanded use of PVC pipe in Canada could motivate companies to increase production capacity, which could lead to additional exports and an enhanced balance of trade.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. J. Orcutt', with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Mark Orcutt

EVP Building Products

Cc Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua, PC