

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
City of Toronto
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Sent via email: pwic@toronto.ca

February 22, 2016

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

Re: February 29 Meeting - Agenda Item PW11.4 –
Highland Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Biosolids Class Environmental Assessment _

The Highland Creek Community Association continues to serve over 4,000 households (consisting of over 15,000 residents) in Ward 44. We are located in Southeast Scarborough, in close proximity to the Highland Creek Treatment Plant and well within the Environment Assessment (E.A.) study area. We have closely followed the E.A. process and have attended all three of the Public Information meetings. We have kept residents informed of the progress and reported on developments regarding this issue.

We unanimously support Alternative 1, upgrading of the incinerators to the new Fluidize Bed type. Incineration of the sewage eliminates most of the contaminants and provides the option of updating the process as new technologies and methods are developed. The other options (Alternative 2 and 3 proposed the trucking of raw sewage (in different forms as cake or pellets) through the community and spread it on land, as fertilizer or putting it into dumps. We feel daily trucking in these later two alternatives put the Communities at risk and that incineration is the safer, cleaner alternative. Furthermore spreading this raw sewage on land to dissipate over time does not eliminate the toxins or other contaminates, it allows them to re-enter the environment. Whereas, incineration prevents re-entry and preserves the environment.

The City has spent over a million dollars redoing the Environmental Assessment of this plant. The last time, City Councillors voted **not** to follow the recommendation of the previous study and as a result, here we are redoing it and wasting more taxpayer money.

We stand united with our neighbouring Community Associations in supporting Option 1 (incineration upgrade) as the only viable option for the Highland Creek Treatment Plant.

We look forward to sharing our comments with you in person on February 29.

Sincerely,

Stephen Miles
President
Highland Creek Community Association
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