

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee,
City of Toronto
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

PW11.4.25

February 26, 2016

Sent via email:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

**Re: February 29 Meeting - Agenda Item PW 11.4
Highland Creek Sewage Treatment Plant
Biosolids Class Environmental Assessment**

I am submitting this letter on behalf of myself and the ten members of the Highland Creek Treatment Plant Neighbourhood Liaison Committee listed below. We are united in our support of Alternative 1 – New Fluid Bed Incinerators, as the long-term solution to the management of biosolids at the Highland Creek Treatment Plant. This recommendation is clearly supported by the recently presented Environmental Assessment Reports.

Our neighbourhood has worked, and waited, for many years to have our functionally obsolete incinerators replaced with modern equipment. This change to new fluid bed incinerators with advanced air emission controls has been recommended by several scientific and professional reports over the years, but has been blocked by those who have an ideological stance against incineration of any kind. This opposition to incineration, no matter how safe it is to human health and the environment, and with no regard for the local community's preferences, is really an affront to the intelligence of the many qualified people who have made this scientific and evidence-based recommendation.

We are also concerned that the recent blog posts of the Toronto Environmental Alliance focus solely on air emissions, and favour land application with landfilling as a back up. We have concerns about the validity of many of the statements made on their website, as we identified in our recent letter to the City. We are also concerned about other contaminant releases to the soil and watercourses, as a result of the land application of biosolids.


We would like to highlight the following findings from the EA reports, regarding the three alternatives being considered:

- **Health** - all the alternatives provide equally acceptable public health protection, and most importantly the effects on human health from air emissions will be negligible.
- **Environment** - Alternative 1 provides excellent protection of the natural environment, and it will generate the lowest greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Community** - Alternative 1 provides by far and away the least negative impacts on the local communities, and has very strong local support.
- **Cost** - Alternative 1 has significantly lower capital and 25-year life cycle costs.

We should point out that the executive boards of all five local community associations have declared their support for Alternative 1.

We would therefore ask that you also support the Incineration option.

Yours truly,


Frank Moir

Co-Chair Highland Creek Treatment Plant Neighbourhood Liaison Committee

with the support of the following HCTPNLC Committee Members

Barbara McElgunn, Allen Elias, Ron Wootton, Don York, Victoria Schei, Per-Inge Schei,

Jennifer McKelvie, Betty Smith, Bruce Smith, and Jim Wakefield