



March 1, 2021

Ms. Marilyn Toft Clerk,
City of Toronto
100 Queen Street West Toronto
M5H 2N2

Dear Ms. Toft:

Re: Toronto City Council Meeting, February 2 & 3, 2021 MM28.21 Calling on the Province to Phase-Out Gas-Fired Electricity Generation.

I am writing as the Ontario Campaigner for the Wilderness Committee, a national charity with 14,000 supporters in Ontario, in support of Councillor McKelvie's and Layton's motion calling on the Province of Ontario to phase-out all gas-fired electricity generation as soon as possible.

In support of this motion, I re-iterate the facts, put forward by Jack Gibbons from Ontario Clean Air Alliance in his letter dated January 29, 2021. According to the Independent Electricity System Operator's Annual Planning Outlook (December 2020), the greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution from Ontario's electricity generation fleet is expected to rise in the coming years as the province increasingly relies on gas-fired power plants to help meet our electricity demand. Increased reliance on gas-fired power plants to generate electricity will increase GHG pollution from the electricity sector by more than 300% by 2030 and by more than 400% by 2040. This will decrease the benefits achieved by the phase-out of our coal-fired electricity plants. We could lose more than one-third of the emission reductions gained by phasing out coal if we increase use of gas-fired generation in the years ahead.

To ensure that municipalities, including the City of Toronto, are able to meet their GHG reduction targets, Ontario's electricity grid must become carbon-free. There are three cost-effective options to phase-out gas-fired electricity generation. These include: increased focus on energy efficiency activities; increase the amount of clean hydro-electric power imported from Quebec; and increase wind and solar energy.

The Wilderness Committee urges Toronto City Council to pass Councillor McKelvie's and Layton's motion to help ensure that the City of Toronto will be able to meet its net zero GHG goals and to build back better, greener and more resilient.

Yours truly,

Katie Krelove | Ontario Campaigner | [Wilderness Committee](#)

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