



February 2, 2021

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

Dear Ms. Toft:

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

Toronto350, a local climate justice group, supports the motion brought forward by Councillor McKelvie, and Councillor Layton calling on the Province to phase-out gas-fired electricity generation as soon as possible.

The Government of Ontario is planning to ramp up the greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution from Ontario's gas-fired power plants by more than 300% by 2030 and by more than 400% by 2040. This will reverse over 35% of the annual emissions reductions from phasing out coal.

The City of Toronto has a long-standing commitment to climate action as far back as 1988 with the Toronto Conference on the Changing Atmosphere, all the work done in the 2000s and most recently with Live Green, TransformTO, TAF as part of the Low Carbon Cities Canada (LC3) and all the other reports and programs that cross various different departments, agencies and offices. TransformTO (the city's climate action plan) has established ambitious targets reducing GHG emissions by 65% by 2030 and Net-Zero by 2050 or sooner.

The planned increase in GHG pollution associated with gas-generated electricity will impede the effectiveness of the City of Toronto's Environment & Energy Division work. More significantly, it will obstruct and short-circuit GHG-free electrification programs (deep building retrofits, electric vehicle programs) due to increased GHG emissions associated with gas-generated electricity. It will also discourage development of distributed renewable energy initiatives, and delay municipal transition to the clean economy of the future.

The phase-out of Ontario's gas-fired power plants will help the City of Toronto and the Province of Ontario to achieve their greenhouse gas pollution reduction goals.

We urge you to support motion MM28-21 calling for the Ontario government to phase out Ontario's gas-fired generating plants as soon as possible.

Yours truly,

Amelia Rose Khan
For Toronto350