



Federation of
South Toronto
RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATIONS

June 25, 2024

Toronto City Council
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Subject: Item MM19.9 - Requesting Alignment of the Independent Electricity System Operator Integrated Regional Resource Plan with the City's 2040 Target of Net Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Dear Toronto City Council Members,

The Federation of South Toronto Residents' Associations (FoSTRA) is a federation that currently represents 28 residents' associations (RAs) in the five downtown Toronto wards, Wards 4, 9, 10, 11 and 13, encompassing hundreds of thousands of Toronto's residents.

We are reaching out to voice our support for the motion by Councillors Saxe and Fletcher requesting the Alignment of the Independent Electricity System Operator Integrated Regional Resource Plan with the City's 2040 Target of Net Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions

As tens of thousands of our residents live in the waterfront communities, we are particularly concerned by the negative health impacts of increasing toxic emissions from the Portlands Energy Centre. We have been disappointed to see a plant that was positioned as a backup for emergency peak demand situations run ever more frequently and consistently. The health threat has increased with the doubling of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) emissions by this gas-burning plant from 2013 to 2022 (source: National Pollutants Release Inventory), during a period when the World Health Organization significantly lowered NO₂ exposure limits.

Waterfront communities have seen a significant share of the City's overall population increase over the past decade, and there are tens of thousands more residents expected as part of planned major developments near the waterfront, and Portlands Energy Centre, including Quayside, Villiers Island, the McCleary district and East Harbour.

As Toronto continues to grow, and add more badly needed affordable housing, it is crucial that we embrace modern ways of meeting power needs, such as local renewable energy generation, rather than continuing to increase the burning of fossil fuels.

309-525 Richmond St West, Toronto, Ontario, M5V 1Y5



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In conclusion, FoSTRA supports the City's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the imperative of moving to a transformed electricity system that supplies Toronto with sufficient reliable, affordable, low-carbon electricity to meet present and future needs. We thank you for your consideration and support for a healthy environment for our residents.

Sincerely,

Rick Green
Chair