



Addendum to the Works Committee Agenda

Council Chambers
Regional Headquarters Building
605 Rossland Road East, Whitby

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

9:30 AM

6. Waste

6.1 Correspondence

- A) Email Correspondence from Kerry Meydam, Clarington Resident, re: Questions and Concerns Related to Plans for the Anaerobic Digestion and Mixed Waste Pre-Sort Facility

Pages 2 – 3

Recommendation: Refer to Staff for a Response

- B) Email Correspondence from Linda Gasser, Whitby Resident, re: the Anaerobic Digestion/Mixed Waste Pre-Sort Facility February 27, 2020 Public Information Centre Deadline and Project Documents

Pages 4 – 9

Recommendation: Refer to Staff for a Response

From: [Clerks](#)
To: [Sarah Penak](#); [Cheryl Bandel](#); [Ralph Walton](#)
Subject: FW: Mixed Waste Pre-Sort and Anaerobic Digestion Facility
Date: March 3, 2020 1:05:55 PM

From: Kerry Meydam <ksam2@rogers.com>

Sent: March 3, 2020 11:01 AM

To: Clerks <Clerks@durham.ca>; Don Mitchell <mayor@whitby.ca>

Cc: John Henry <John.Henry@durham.ca>; Marilyn Crawford <marilyn.crawford@ajax.ca>; Kevin Ashe <kashe@pickering.ca>; Debbie Bath-Hadden <dbathhadden@townshipofbrock.ca>; Ted Smith <tsmith@townshipofbrock.ca>; Dave Barton (Mayor of Uxbridge) <dbarton@town.uxbridge.on.ca>; Gordon Hight <ghight@town.uxbridge.on.ca>; Bobbie Drew <bdrew@scugog.ca>; Wilma Wotten <wwotten@scugog.ca>; Shaun Collier <shaun.collier@ajax.ca>; Sterling Lee <sterling.lee@ajax.ca>; Joanne Dies <joanne.dies@ajax.ca>; Dave Ryan <mayor@pickering.ca>; Bill McLean <bmclean@pickering.ca>; David Pickles <dpickles@pickering.ca>; Chris Leahy <leahyc@whitby.ca>; Steve Yamada <yamadas@whitby.ca>; Rhonda Mulcahy <mulcahyr@whitby.ca>; Elizabeth Roy <roye@whitby.ca>; Dan Carter <dcarter@oshawa.ca>; Bob Chapman <bchapman@oshawa.ca>; John Neal <jneal@oshawa.ca>; Tito-Dante Marimpietri <tmarimpietri@oshawa.ca>; Rick Kerr <rkerr@oshawa.ca>; Brian Nicholson <bnicholson@oshawa.ca>; Mayor Shared Mailbox <mayor@clarington.net>; 'Joe Neal' <jneal@clarington.net>; Granville Anderson <ganderson@clarington.net>; Janice Jones <jjones@clarington.net>; Ron Hooper <rhooper@clarington.net>; Corinna Traill <ctrail@clarington.net>; Margaret Zwart <mzward@clarington.net>; Elaine Baxter-Trahair <Elaine.Baxter-Trahair@durham.ca>; Mirka Januszkiewicz <Mirka.Januszkiewicz@Durham.ca>; Gioseph Anello <Gioseph.Anello@Durham.ca>

Subject: Mixed Waste Pre-Sort and Anaerobic Digestion Facility

Please include my correspondence regarding AD on the Wednesday, March 4, 2020 Works Agenda.

I have some questions and concerns in relation to plans for the Anaerobic Digestion Facility.

1. Where can I find public information on the Region's AD plans and approvals, consultation with the public and PIC information on the Durham AD along with Mixed Waste Pre-Sort facility has already been decided on, **without public consultation**. The siting has already been discussed and is at the short list stage, with preferred site being decided and to be announced shortly. I was informed at the PIC that there will be no more Public Information Centres held on the AD so only the one that was held on Thursday (in very poor weather). Please provide links.

2. There are more steps to be taken such as sizing of facility -- will this facility be accepting waste from other regions/cities for either MW sorting

or processing? If built oversized, as the incinerator was, and it cannot be used to capacity or near-capacity (hence making it less efficient and more costly), will it be opened to other areas outside Durham? Will we get to comment on architecture since like the incinerator, it will most likely be a "feature" and the "best of the best"? Will we have any more PIC updates as the process moves on?

3. Will the source separated organics, our cleanest organics, no longer be kept separate to produce good quality compost for the region? Or will it be mixed with the organics coming from the mixed waste pre-sort and be processed along with the "dirty" organics to produce fertilizer and methane to the grid, and no more compost? Will we have no more PIC updates for the public?

We are all "stakeholders", as residents in the Region. We all pay for the consultants, for the new facilities. I recognize there are a good number of residents who have concerns about the process and want to have a real voice in the process and the decisions. I can also say with confidence that there are residents with more knowledge about AD, about the process, who have done in-depth research on our own since it is difficult to get full answers or *fully detailed* reports from staff.

I have additional concerns, such as the upcoming Long Term Waste Management Plan, but will keep this short for now and on topic. I anticipate that Committee and Council will look into these concerns, and will find out why "reports" have been somewhat insubstantial, vague and few and far between when it comes to detailed information on an expensive, large new project/facility including business case. They are full of assumptions but oftentimes not solid facts.

Respectfully, we need more transparency, more accountability, and much *more inclusion*. I hope you will consider my concerns and generate some meaningful and far-reaching changes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kerry Meydam
Courtice, ON

From: [Ralph Walton](#)
To: [Sarah Penak](#); [Cheryl Bandel](#)
Subject: FW: Addendum to Works agenda -incomplete -requested action in my Correspondence to March 4 Works Committee not included- AD/MWP Feb 27 PIC
Date: March 3, 2020 5:11:45 PM
Attachments: [2020 March 3 Works Addendum - incomplete -doesn't include request to Works Committee.pdf](#)

From: Linda Gasser <gasserlinda@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 5:11 PM
To: Clerks <Clerks@durham.ca>; Ralph Walton <Ralph.Walton@durham.ca>; Don Mitchell <mayor@whitby.ca>; John Henry <John.Henry@durham.ca>
Cc: John Neal <jneal@oshawa.ca>; Marilyn Crawford <marilyn.crawford@ajax.ca>; Bill McLean <bmclean@pickering.ca>; Ted Smith <tsmith@townshipofbrock.ca>; Tito-Dante Marimpietri <tmarimpietri@oshawa.ca>; Dave Barton (Mayor of Uxbridge) <dbarton@town.uxbridge.on.ca>; Elaine Baxter-Trahair <Elaine.Baxter-Trahair@durham.ca>; Susan Siopis <Susan.Siopis@Durham.ca>; Gioseph Anello <Gioseph.Anello@Durham.ca>; oronotimes@rogers.com; cjones@oshawaexpress.ca; Gilligan, Keith <KGilligan@durhamregion.com>
Subject: Addendum to Works agenda -incomplete -requested action in my Correspondence to March 4 Works Committee not included- AD/MWP Feb 27 PIC

Good afternoon:

The addendum to your Works agenda - attached or found at:
<https://calendar.durham.ca/meetings/Detail/2020-03-04-0930-Works-Committee-Meeting/34fed39a-0ed4-4c61-9c5a-ab73010d7917>

only contains the first portion of my comments submitted this morning, but does NOT include my specific requests to Works Committee about PIC follow up and comment deadlines - see that portion with requests to Works repeated immediately below. Therefore please do not rely solely on the addendum extract of my correspondence as it is incomplete.

The portion of my earlier comments NOT included in addendum, with my request to Works Committee, is repeated here:

Furthermore, - I find TWO separate comment deadline dates in the PIC material provided to me yesterday.

On page 2 of the handout provided to me, it says: "To ensure your views are considered, please submit your comments by March 20, 2020." That is also what this AD/MWP web page states:

<https://www.durham.ca/en/living-here/anaerobic-digestion.aspx#Public-Information-Centre-February-27-2020>

The online comment form says March 20, 2020: <https://www.durham.ca/en/living-here/resources/Documents/AD--Waste-PreSort/Comment-Form-for-PIC.pdf>

On the hard copy comment sheet (attached) provided to me, it states: "Please provide your comments by Friday March 12, 2020." (March 12, 2020 is a Thursday).

MY REQUEST: At your Works meeting tomorrow (March 4) I ask you to consider the following:

*Please direct Works/Waste staff to revise and update the Feb. 27th PIC documents to **include a link** to the AD/MWP documents/project web pages and to somehow identify/describe the main page AD page that popped up in MY search as linking to the AD/MWP project information, and ensure that it's included in all future AD/MWP project communications/handouts to public, and:*

Please direct Staff to extend the comment period to by at least three weeks AFTER the public/interested parties are informed about this AD/MWP info web page in a variety of ways included public newspaper advertisements.

Accessibility and Transparency have to be more than buzz words or platitudes.

Responsibility for communicating clearly and accurately with interested parties around complex and expensive waste projects starts with Works Committee.

Thank you for your attention.

Linda Gasser

Whitby

On 2020-03-03 11:43 a.m., Linda Gasser wrote:

Good morning:

Attention Clerks: Please include this as correspondence to Works Committee for March 4th meeting as my request is time sensitive.

I was out of town and could not attend the AD site selection PIC on February 27th. Yesterday afternoon, I picked up the PIC documents that I had requested be held for me.

PIC handout display boards provided to me yesterday found at https://www.durham.ca/en/living-here/resources/Documents/AD--Waste-PreSort/1119994-Final-PIC-Panels-2020-02-27_ltr-aoda.pdf

How would interested parties provided with these handouts at the meeting know about the AD project web pages because website NOT mentioned handouts?

UNLESS they have signed up to receive regional news releases, as I am.

I received two notices on this topic - in Feb. 13th notice, the link to project website did NOT work (opened to an email address and NOT to project website) -

see that pasted in at the END of this email string.

Link to AD project web page finally DID work in the updated version dated Feb. 21. 20 -see immediately below:

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Region of Durham - UPDATE: Region unveils list of potential sites and invites residents to learn about the new Anaerobic Digestion and Waste Pre-Sort facility

Date:21 Feb 2020 09:57:56 -0500

From:noreply@www.durham.ca

To:gasserlinda@gmail.com



February 21, 2020

UPDATE: Region unveils list of potential sites and invites residents to learn about the new Anaerobic Digestion and Waste Pre-Sort facility

Whitby, Ontario – The Works Department is inviting residents to learn about six potential site locations for the new Anaerobic Digestion (AD) and Waste Pre-Sorting facility in Durham Region.

When: Thursday, February 27, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Where:

- Durham Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby – Room LL-C (located on the lower level).

Potential site locations:

- West Scugog – #10 Regional Road No. 21, Scugog
- East Scugog – 1623 Reach Street, Port Perry
- North Clarington – 9293 Woodley Road, Clarington
- South Clarington – 339 Courtice Road, Clarington
- Oshawa – 1640 Ritson Road
- Whitby – 4600 Garrard Road

Why: Durham Region’s population is growing and is expected to be over 1 million people in the next decade. More residents mean more garbage for the Region to manage. The Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) is at capacity. This new facility will help meet increasing waste management demands by reducing the quantity of garbage going to the DYEC for processing and will also create renewable natural gas.

At the open house, representatives from the project team will provide information and answer questions. If you are unable to attend, all information including the six potential locations will be available online at durham.ca/ADproject and questions can be submitted to ADproject@durham.ca.

Note: AD is a method of processing organic materials such as food scraps to create energy. Organic material is processed in closed, air-tight containers without oxygen while bacteria break down the organic material, creating biogas, compost liquid wastes and solid residue.

The Waste Pre-Sort facility will sort out recyclables from multi-residential garbage as well as organics that the Green Bin did not capture. The organics will then be sent to the AD facility for processing into energy and natural fertilizer products.

Learn more about AD and pre-sorting at durham.ca/ADproject, call 1-800-667-5671, or email ADproject@durham.ca.

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Thank you for your attention.

Linda Gasser

Whitby

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Region of Durham - Region invites residents to learn about potential sites for new Anaerobic Digestion and Waste Pre-Sort facility

Date:13 Feb 2020 08:41:37 -0500

From:noreply@www.durham.ca

To:gasserlinda@gmail.com



February 13, 2020

Region invites residents to learn about potential sites for new Anaerobic Digestion and Waste Pre-Sort facility

Whitby, Ontario – The Works Department is inviting residents to learn about six potential site locations for the new Anaerobic Digestion (AD) and Waste Pre-Sorting facility in Durham Region.

When: Thursday, February 27, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Where: Durham Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby – Room LL-C (located on the lower level).

Why: Durham Region’s population is growing and is expected to be over 1 million people in the next decade. More residents mean more garbage for the Region to manage. The current composting facility for resident’s organics and the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) for residents’ garbage are at capacity. This new facility will help meet the increasing waste management demands and will reduce the quantity of garbage that the Durham York Energy Centre needs to process.

At the open house, representatives from the project team will provide information and answer questions. If you are unable to attend, all information including the six

potential locations will be available online at durham.ca/ADproject and questions can be submitted to ADproject@durham.ca.

Note: AD is a method of processing organic materials such as food scraps to create energy. Organic material is processed in closed, air-tight containers without oxygen while bacteria break down the organic material, creating biogas, compost liquid wastes and solid residue.

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For more information, please contact [Corporate Communications](#).

Read this [news update](#) on our website