

TOWN OF AJAX REPORT



REPORT TO: General Government Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Paul Allore, MCIP, RPP
Director of Planning and Development Services

PREPARED BY: Barbara Hodgins, MCIP, RPP
Senior Policy Planner

SUBJECT: **Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant Outfall Environmental Assessment – Stakeholder Advisory Committee**

WARD(S): All

DATE OF MEETING: November 24, 2011

REFERENCES: Report to General Government Committee - May 5, 2011
Community Action Plan: Leader in Environmental Sustainability

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. That the Regions of Durham and York be requested to include Andrea Duncanson, Paul Kuebler and Professor Douglas Holdway as full members of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee for the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant Outfall Environmental Assessment forthwith; and,**
 - 2. That this staff report be sent to the Regions of Durham and York and the persons recommended for inclusion in the Stakeholder Advisory Committee.**
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BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this report is to request the Regions of Durham and York, as co-proponents of the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant Outfall Environmental Assessment (Outfall EA), to add two Ajax residents and an expert on aquatic toxicology from the University of Ontario Institute of Technology as full members of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC).

DISCUSSION:

The SAC is presently comprised of: 1 (staff) representative each from the Town of Ajax, City of Pickering, Ontario Power Generation, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and the Ministry of the Environment's York-Durham District office; 1 representative of the Frenchman's Bay Yacht Club; 1 member of Durham Region's Environmental Advisory Committee; 2 Building

Industry and Land Development (BILD) spokespersons; and 3 Regional staff. An additional Outfall EA Project Team of 7 Regional staff and consultants also attend SAC meetings.

In March 2011, at the first SAC meeting, Town staff suggested to Regional staff that adding citizens from Ajax and scientific input from local universities would be beneficial, and that this should be done prior to holding the next SAC meeting. Town staff also noted that a tour of the expanded WPCP would help SAC members better understand the facility's scale and operations, the position of the existing Outfall in Lake Ontario and the types of wastewater treatment technologies in use, and potentially to be added, as part of the Outfall EA process.

In staff's view, SAC members need this level of information about the WPCP to better gauge the potential short term and longer term environmental impacts of various project alternatives.

Staff recommend that the following three individuals, who have the education and experience necessary to make valuable contributions to the Outfall EA, be added to the SAC as full members prior to the next SAC meeting:

- Andrea Duncanson, a member of the Ajax Environmental Advisory Committee member who has a graduate degree in Environmental Studies and a diploma in Environmental Protection Technology;
- Paul Kuebler, an Ajax resident and private-sector environmental engineer; and,
- Dr. Douglas Holdway, Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Aquatic Toxicology and Professor of Ecotoxicology, Faculty of Science, University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT).

NEXT STEPS:

Recently, Town staff met with Regional staff to outline a strategy as to how the parties can work collaboratively throughout the Outfall EA. An update report will be provided to General Government Committee in January 2012.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

N/A

COMMUNICATION ISSUES:

The Town's website (www.townofajax.com) has a page dedicated to the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant, under "Quick Links", and highlights the weblink to the Regions' Outfall EA Project Website (www.durham.ca/OutfallEA).

Residents are encouraged to submit comments regarding the Outfall project to the Town and the Regions through both websites.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommend that the three individuals identified in this report be included as full members of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

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Senior Policy Planner

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Manager of Planning

Paul Allore, MCIP, RPP
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