

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON

Report to Chairman & Members of the
Planning and Public Works Committee

From Councillor Walter Mulkewich

Date 1983 12 08

Report No C-13/83

Re: Planning Approvals for the Proposed Expansion of
the Existing Regional Landfill site in Aldershot

RECOMMENDATION:

"THAT Planning Staff present a full report outlining the planning approvals that will be necessary before the existing Regional Landfill site can be expanded beyond its approved boundary and countours and that this report include timelines for these planning approvals."

REPORT:

Regional Council at its meeting of December 7 approved the Solid Waste Management option of expanding the only existing Halton landfill site beyond presently approved boundaries and contours.

Regional Council has had considerable discussion about environmental approvals required.

To date, the matter of planning approvals has not been dealt with in the Regional Staff or Regional Consultant Reports. Therefore, I believe that it is appropriate that Regional Planning staff address the matter of planning approvals immediately and that this information be available for Regional Council.

I have previously indicated to Regional Council that in my estimation planning approvals will be required.

The proposed expansion is in the Parkway Belt West. The Parkway Belt West Act says in Section 5.1.3, "No municipality or local board shall carry out any undertaking that conflicts with the Plan, and no by-law shall be passed for any purpose that is in conflict with the Plan."

Map No. 2 of the Parkway Belt West Plan designates the areas of landfill. This proposed expansion is clearly outside the area so designated on the map. Nowhere in the text of the Plan does there appear to be a provision for an addition to designated landfill areas. Therefore, the intent and purpose of the Act must be to limit landfill to those areas designated. Therefore, this proposed expansion would require a full amendment to the actual Parkway Belt Plan West with the full process of Committees and hearings as provided for in the Act. Or, the Minister could, pursuant to Section 5.1.3 declare the proposed undertaking to conform to the intent and purpose of the Act.

Obviously, a plan of action is required in the Region if the Region persists in its landfill only policy.

I understood that the Environmentally Sensitive Areas (E.S.A.'s) No. 4 and 5 not only border on the site but spill over into the site of the proposed expansion.

On September 28, 1983, the Region of Halton sent letters to all landowners in all 37 Halton E.S.A.'s. This letter says in part, "Our policy is to assist in maintaining the natural environment by requiring an Environmental Impact Assessment (E.I.A.) whenever a landowner within the E.S.A. proposes a development that may change or affect the natural features of the E.S.A. This also applies in the case of municipalities or governmental agency proposals."

This letter has been delivered to the neighbours of the proposed expansion. Based on the Regions letter, and, indeed the Regional Official Plan, the neighbours of this proposed expansion can expect a full Regional E.I.A. to determine the impact of this expansion. This is an expectation which every landowner in every Regional E.S.A. should have as should all Halton residents.

The Regional Official Plan is clear in calling for alternatives to landfill. Is the Region in contravention of its own Official Plan when it refuses to follow it?

There may be other planning issues.

I believe that Regional Council and the public should have the full story before it.

I thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Walter Mulkewich".

Walter Mulkewich
Regional Councillor
Ward 1, Burlington

os/lj

Regional Staff have not had a chance to consider the Councillor's Report. It is the opinion of Regional Staff and Consultants that no planning approvals are required under the provisions of the Parkway Belt Planning and Development Act, the Parkway Belt West Plan, 1978, and the Regulations thereunder.

As a result, any work by Planning Staff in that regard would seem to be unnecessary. In any event, the M.M. Dillon consulting firm handling the continuation plan have planning people who can address that issue if it is allowed to become an issue through the E.A. process.

It should also be noted that the continuation plan was presented to EEAC on November 30, 1983. EEAC has noted that if the continuation plan is adopted by Regional Council there will be the necessary environmental studies to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act and they would like to be involved in all stages of that process from research to design. Regional Staff have agreed to work with EEAC in this regard.

I would therefore respectfully recommend that the report be received and filed.