



West Burlington Citizens' Group

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October 4, 1986

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HALTON REGION - PROPOSED LANDFILL SITE

A huge stack of documents from Halton's consultants has reaffirmed the belief that a Burlington location, designated as Site F, is unsuitable for use as a landfill site.

Dorothy Pocock, spokesperson for the West Burlington Citizens' Group, said that the latest hydrogeological report recommends that the landfill area be significantly reduced from that suggested in previous reports. It was noted that the consultant estimates the capacity at 8.25 million cubic metres and contrasted this with Halton Region's original specification that 11.32 million cubic metres were required.

"W.B.C.G. has always maintained that Site F was too small. We will oppose Halton's attempt to qualify this site by downward revision of their original forecast of required capacity. A much larger site is required if Halton Region is to escape from a perpetual garbage crisis. Site F will not do it".

Mrs. Pocock also highlighted a major credibility issue that is apparent when the latest set of expensive reports are compared to previous versions. Earlier studies characterized the Burlington site as "fractured shale, poor attenuation". However, the latest version of this report describes the area as having "good attenuation capability".

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SITE 'F' IS WRONG

"The basic characteristics of the area simply do not change. Only months ago all experts, including the Region's, agreed that this site offered poor attenuation and development would have to rely on engineering," she said.

She added that, despite the fact that the latest reports concede that the site could leak toxic leachate into an area beyond the 403 highway and into the bay, the consultants have nevertheless dismissed the need for a liner that would improve safety.

"Halton refuses to include critical elements of cost such as a liner at Site F and a transfer station in Halton Hills because they would make the cost of this under-capacity site prohibitive", she said.

The Region was chided for allowing only two weeks for citizens to prepare a response to the mass of data and not making two critical reports available, the cost analysis and site comparison. "We have been asked to respond without possessing all the relevant data", Pocock said. "The October 8 meeting is poorly timed. But we will be there. We intend to use every opportunity to fight Halton's attempts to landfill for another 20 years in Burlington".

June Anderson, President of W.B.C.G. announced that the group is ready for a long fight and that they have secured the support of the Canadian Environmental Law Association and the Canadian Environmental Defense Fund.

Burlington Mayor, R. Bird, reaffirmed the city's opposition to Site F and spoke in support of the citizens' group.

Burlington South M.P.P. Cam Jackson, also opposes the Burlington site, and spoke in support of the position taken by W.B.C.G.