

Council Report

Report Number: WM2023-007

Meeting Date: April 18, 2023

Title: Supporting Collaboration on Energy from Waste

Description: Waste Management Committee Support Recommendation

for an Energy from Waste Collaboration

Author and Title: David Kerr, Manager, Environmental Services

Recommendation(s):

That Report WM2023-007, Supporting Collaboration on Energy from Waste, be received, and

That a letter of support be sent to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks from the Mayor indicating support for a multi-municipal Energy from Waste Collaboration.

Department Head:	
Financial/Legal/HR/Other:	
Chief Administrative Officer:	

Background:

On February 13, 2023 the County of Peterborough's Waste Management Committee received a presentation from Dr. Ray March proposing a future energy from waste (EFW) facility to service the Counties of Hastings, Northumberland, Peterborough and Prince Edward and the Cities of Belleville, Peterborough, Kawartha Lakes and Quinte West. This facility would allow these communities to transition from landfilling waste to utilizing an energy from waste facility similar to the Durham York Energy Centre currently in operation. Dr. Ray March has suggested the development of a Feasibility Committee composed of representatives from each municipality, then apply to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for grants to meet the cost of an experienced professional person to lead the committee. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) supporting this type of collaboration. On March 2, 2023 Peterborough County sent a letter to Minister of Environment from their Waste Management Committee supporting the collaboration on EFW, this letter is attached as Appendix A. The information Dr. Ray March presented from to the County's Waste Management Advisory Committee is also included in this report and is attached as Appendix b and Appendix C.

On March 1, 2023, the City of Kawartha Lakes Waste Management Advisory Committee (WMAC) was briefed by the Director of Public Works and the Director of Engineering and Corporate Assets, regarding a potential regional energy from waste facility opportunity that could service a number of municipalities including the City of Kawartha Lakes.

The Director of Engineering and Corporate Assets explained to the WMAC that the current Environmental Assessment (EA) process will proceed to meet the current waste management needs of the municipality. The approval of an EFW would be a future option given the time it would take to establish a committee and navigate approvals, although if required, the City could pivot and look at alternatives at any time. After some discussion the committee agreed that they would like to support the collaboration. They asked that staff prepare a letter to be endorsed by the City's council and sent to the Minister (MECP).

After receiving Ray March's presentation, the Waste Management Committee made the following resolution:

WMAC2023-007 Moved By J. Taylor Seconded By C.Appleton

That a draft letter be sent to David Piccini, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks supporting the collaboration of a multi-municipal group that will discuss the feasibility of a mutually benefitting regional Energy from Waste facility.

Rationale:

With Council's endorsement, the letter would request that the Minister (MECP) provide some direction on how this collaboration on a potential energy from waste facility may take place within the legislative requirements. This project would be a large undertaking and expense, so the development of a Feasibility Committee to assist the Municipalities in determining if this is a feasible future option would be beneficial.

Other Alternatives Considered:

The City is currently exploring ways to sustainably manage our waste to meet the future needs of all residents. A Future Waste Study has been completed and an Environmental Assessment (EA) to address the current waste management is underway. EFW was a consideration in the study, although not preferred to be in the scope of the EA at this time. However the City is interested in being part of collaborative discussions that consider other options that may become feasible in the future.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities

The recommendations within this Report contribute to "A Healthy Environment" Strategic priority within the 2020-2023 Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan, as the feasibility study is considering an option that is utilizing energy from waste and addressing long term waste disposal needs to ensure a healthy environment.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There are no financial or operational impacts at this time. If the Feasibility Committee is formed any potential impacts will be brought to Council for consideration at the time.

Consultations:

Waste Management Advisory Committee

Chief Administration Officer

Director of Public Works

Director of Engineering and Corporate Assets

Attachments:

Appendix A – Peterborough County's Letter to Minister of Environment from Waste Management Committee



Appendix B – Dr. Ray March's Presentation from Peterborough County's Waste Management Committee



Appendix C – Dr. Ray March's Appendix from the Presentation from Peterborough County's Waste Management Committee



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Department Head: Bryan Robinson