

February 4, 2003

To the Chair and All Councillors
Halton Region

To the Mayor and All Councilors
The Town of Oakville

Comment and Concerns about Mid Halton Waste Water Treatment Plant Master Plan

I urge you to reappraise plans for the expansion of the Mid Halton Waste Water Treatment Plant. Current plans will result in an approximate 8- fold increase in effluent over the next 13 years. Under best available practices, there will be adverse consequences to existing residents and the cost of those consequences will be borne unfairly by all taxpayers, rather than those who are creating the problem – the new growth areas. The prime non- budgeted consequences are :

1. Increased shoreline algae and Lake odour because Lake Ontario will be further contaminated
2. Increased air quality problems emanating from the expanded treatment plant site
3. Biosolids waste disposal problems arising from higher volumes and a reduced farm base

If Council chooses to proceed then it has an obligation to current residents to protect the environment. Actually with Smart Growth the catch phrase today, Council should be striving to achieve a better environment.

And for the community at large to support Smart Growth, development charges should cover the cost of these environmental problems.

I am attaching my comments on the Mid Halton Plan addressed to Mr., Benson Leung to illustrate my concern about the effluent situation. Others are more knowledgeable about biosolids waste management and air quality.

Respectfully

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