27 July, 2020

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Introduction**

Further to my previous submissions expressing my opposition to a new multi-media Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECA) for 2683517 Ontario Inc. located in the City of Toronto at 633 Coronation Drive, I wish to register the following additional comments.

I understand that our City Councillor for Ward 25, Jennifer McKelvie, on July 23rd received a letter from Heather Malcolmson, Director of the Environmental Permissions Branch of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. This letter is in reply to the letter sent to Minister Yurek by Councillor McKelvie on May 19th, 2020.

I have a number of concerns about this response:

1. It is discourteous to the Councillor, and her constituents, for the Ministry to take two months to reply to her letter, and to delay sending the letter until just before the closing date for submission of comments on July 23rd. It was also very disappointing that the reply did not come from the Minister himself.
2. The Councillor and many of her constituents have requested that a public meeting be held to allow the local residents to become fully informed about the proposal, so that they can submit their informed comments. While a public meeting has been prevented by the COVID-1 Emergency, the letter suggests that the June 18th conference call was in some way equivalent and therefore obviates the need for the public meeting. While I appreciate that the COVID-19 Emergency has been an inconvenience to the Proponent, it is also true that it has been difficult for all of us and has impeded our ability to learn about and share information about the proposal. It is not fair that the residents be denied the opportunity for information exchange that only a public meeting can provide. It must not be forgotten that this application relates to what would be the largest food waste processing and biogas plant of its type in Canada being located immediately adjacent to residential neighbourhoods in southeast Scarborough.
3. The relevant supporting explanatory documents related to the application would normally have been available for inspection at the Ministry by interested residents. However, because of the COVID-19 Emergency, this was not possible. After pressure by a few interested residents, some of the supporting materials were made available online, but much information including some supporting reports and appendices have still not been provided.
4. In response to the extension of the comment period to accommodate a public meeting, the Ministry has refused to deal with this request head-on. Instead it has granted several 30-day extensions and most recently only a 7-day extension to allow for comments related to the recently submitted Traffic Study, and a future Noise Study that has still to be submitted. This ad hoc approach to this issue is totally one-sided in favour of the Proponent and is unacceptable.
5. Although I have knowledge of some of the issues related to this application because of my prior involvement with the recent Highland Creek Treatment Plant Biosolids Class Environmental Assessment, it is true that the COVID-19 emergency has severely impacted my ability, even though I am retired, to gather and absorb all the extensive information related to this application. I cannot imagine how the average person with a family and a career could possibly be expected to be fully informed about the project with the limitations and stresses resulting from the COVID-19 Emergency. All this reinforces the need to extend the comment deadline until after the COVID-19 Emergency has been withdrawn and a public meeting has been held.
6. The Ministry has indicated that the Proponent will be distributing its rebuttal response to the issues raised in the online petition, to the residents who were previously informed about the project and to the Ministry. I trust that the Proponent will also have the courtesy send a copy of its rebuttal to the author of the online petition.

Thanking you for your assistance and cooperation on this very important issue that will affect the many residents of south eastern Scarborough, both now and in perpetuity.

Yours sincerely,

A resident of Southeast Scarborough in the City of Toronto