

From: Clerks
To: Sarah Ciani
Subject: FW: Action requested -Concerns about access to documents/reports on DYEC website
Date: October 17, 2024 11:46:06 AM

Hi Sarah,

Sharing from Clerks.

Thanks
Sheila

From: Linda Gasser <[REDACTED]>
Sent: October 17, 2024 11:08 AM
To: Clerks <Clerks@durham.ca>; Dave Barton (Mayor of Uxbridge) <dbarton@town.uxbridge.on.ca>; Linda, Cook, Councillor <lcook@pickering.ca>; Marilyn Crawford <marilyn.crawford@ajax.ca>; Tito-Dante Marimpietri <tmarimpietri@oshawa.ca>; Brian Nicholson <bnicholson@oshawa.ca>; Rhonda Mulcahy <mulcahyr@whitby.ca>; Steve Yamada <yamadas@whitby.ca>; John Henry <John.Henry@durham.ca>
Cc: Ramesh Jagannathan <Ramesh.Jagannathan@Durham.ca>; Andrew Evans <Andrew.Evans@durham.ca>; celeste.dugas@ontario.ca; Rachael.Fletcher@ontario.ca; Battarino, Gavin (ENE) <Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca>; Elaine Baxter-Trahair <Elaine.Baxter-Trahair@durham.ca>; ClerksExternalEmail <clerks@clarington.net>
Subject: Action requested -Concerns about access to documents/reports on DYEC website

Attention Durham Clerks: Please consider this correspondence to Works Committee to be placed on their November agenda.

Attention Clarington Clerks: Please include in your next Council Information Package

Good morning Works Committee Chair Barton and Members:

In my presentation to Works Committee on October 2nd, in Slide 7 of my PowerPoint I briefly described the reduced access to multiple types of documents that used to be posted to the DYEC website, AND/OR that used to be emailed to members of the Energy from Waste Advisory Committee (EFW AC), which committee was required by the Minister in his EA Approval spelled out in EA Condition 8.

See DYEC EA Approval Condition 8 which starts on page 7at:

https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/education-and-resources/resources/Documents/Environmental_Assessment_Notice_of_Approval.pdf

My Oct. 2.24 PowerPoint re Report 2024-INFO-55 at: <https://pub->

durhamregion.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=5160

Following that meeting, I sent two emails to Works Commissioner Jagannathan i.e. October 3rd & 4th, 2024, providing examples of the type of information that used to be posted to the DYEC website and that used to be provided to EFW AC members. Though a reply was requested I have not received either an acknowledgement or reply. I've removed the attachments I sent to him with both emails but could provide to anyone wanting copies.

After the DYEC website overhaul around 4 years ago, notifications to interested parties who had signed up to receive those just stopped. Apparently staff did not "port" the list of interested parties nor notify that they would need to resubscribe.

I describe this in my email below to Works Commissioner Jagannathan and kept some of the email correspondence to Works staff advising them of the problem with DYEC notifications on several occasions.

To date your email notifications to those who have resubscribed are hit or miss not just for the DYEC website but also for Durham business.

I advised Clerks of similar issues with your Durham website, which it seems were addressed in some manner when it comes to getting Durham Committee and Council agenda/minutes matters as I am getting these again since notifying Clerks.

When I checked the DYEC Ambient Air Emissions tab today, I noticed an August 14, 2024 submission letter to MECP re 2024 Q 2 Ambient Air Monitoring report, with the letter showing EFW AC members were copied.

See: https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/resources/Documents/AmbientAir/Ambient%20Air%202024/20240814_LTR_2024_DYEC_AAQ2_Submission_ACC.pdf

As an EFW AC member I received no email from Melodee Smart who is the person issuing these to EFW AC, nor did Wendy Bracken who is also a EFW AC member, nor did either of us receive an automated notification that should have been automatically triggered by the posting of the letter and report to the DYEC website.

Your Works Dept. is not sending out the DYEC information to at least 2 public EFW AC members that they claim to have done in letters to MECP as per above example AND, the DYEC website notifications issues persist YEARS after the website overhaul and long

after Durham Works staff were advised of problems.

I also mentioned in my Oct. 2 PowerPoint that claims in the Sept. 13, 2024 INFO report that the Spring Source Test reports had been posted were not until after on Sept. 23rd I asked staff to follow up and then, staff only posted the Ortech report but NOT the consultant review reports **as had been done in the past**. Please see just some of the examples I provided to your Works Commissioner in my two emails. There are many more.

The above issues could be easily addressed IF there were a commitment by Durham staff to supply and/or post the information they claim to have, and that they used to supply and post to DYEC website, in a timely manner.

Durham decision makers have failed to act on even the simplest concerns brought to their attention when it relates to the DYEC. These failures to take even simple steps to remedy obvious deficiencies make a mockery of the endless claims about transparency and accountability by Durham Chair Henry and your CAO.

I respectfully request that Works Committee take action and direct staff to address these deficiencies and resume providing the data both to EFW AC members and to posting all the documentation related to DYEC website **as had been done in the past**.

Thank you for your attention and please take action(s) required to address the concerns I have raised.

Linda Gasser
Whitby

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Additional Examples Samples reports that used to be routinely posted on DYEC website & next EFW AC meeting?

Date:Fri, 4 Oct 2024 10:08:21 -0400

From:Linda Gasser [redacted] >

To:Ramesh Jagannathan <ramesh.jagannathan@durham.ca>

CC:Andrew Evans <andrew.evans@durham.ca>, Wendy Bracken [redacted]
[redacted]

Good morning Ramesh:

Below are examples of emails that were routinely sent to EFW AC members (we were blind copied) and note that the emails state these reports were posted to the DYEC website.

We used to have access to much more information than has been posted the last few years. Durham has all those consultant review reports and the relevant MECP correspondence and as was done in the past, these should be posted with the relevant Source Test reports.

In contrast, for Ambient Air, for 2023, reports, and **Submission letters to MECP and MECP response** posted: <https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/ambient-air.aspx#2023-Ambient-Air-Reports>

As well, as I mentioned in my email to you of yesterday, at times reports on source testing appeared on Works agenda - see attached the agenda from June 15.2016 which contained update reports on source testing, ambient air monitoring and AMESA monitoring.

On DYEC current website, the last year for which consultant reviews related to source testing are posted is 2018.

2018: <https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/air-emissions.aspx#2018>

2017: Air Zone reviews included: <https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/air-emissions.aspx#2017>

For both 2015 & 2016 Air Emissions Source Test page you see review reports **as well as** ministry correspondence:

2015: <https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/air-emissions.aspx#2015>

2016: <https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/air-emissions.aspx#2016>

From 2019 onward ONLY the Source Test reports (no reviewers' reports) posted for fall and spring.

2019: <https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/air-emissions.aspx#2019>

2020: <https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/air-emissions.aspx#2020>

2021: <https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/air-emissions.aspx#2021>

2022: <https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/air-emissions.aspx#2022>

2023: <https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/air-emissions.aspx#2023>

2024: <https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/environmental-monitoring/air-emissions.aspx#2024>

ALSO, unlike previous years, I got very few emails regarding reports/correspondence or postings to DYEC website between 2021 - 2023. This was also period where notifications stopped after the DYEC website revamp, even though I had subscribed and resubscribed according to staff instructions.

I received a couple of emails in 2024, re posting of 2023 ECA Annual Report (April 2.24) and on March 18.24 - see immediately below. WHY have these emails to EFW AC stopped? Without these emails and regular notifications it's challenging to keep abreast of DYEC reports and related.

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject: Durham York Energy Centre: 2023 Q4 AAMR; 2023 Complaint & Inquiry Logs;
Revised Spill Contingency & Emergency Response Plan

Date: Mon, 18 Mar 2024 21:52:22 +0000

From: Melodee Smart <Melodee.Smart@Durham.ca>

To: Melodee Smart <Melodee.Smart@Durham.ca>

Good afternoon EFWAC –

Please find attached the following correspondence, and related reports, submitted to

the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) regarding the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC), which are also made available on the [project website](#):

[DYEC Ambient Air Monitoring 2023, Fourth Quarterly Report \(Q4\)](#)

[DYEC 2023 Complaint and Inquiry Logs](#)

[DYEC Revised Spill Contingency and Emergency Response Plan](#)

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Durham York Energy Centre Source Test Postings to Project Website

Date:Thu, 14 Sep 2017 13:35:18 -0500

From:Melodee Smart <Melodee.Smart@Durham.ca>

To:Melodee Smart <Melodee.Smart@Durham.ca>

Good afternoon EFWAC members:

Please be advised that the following information is posted on the [Durham York Energy Centre \(DYEC\) project website](#):

- May 2017 Voluntary Source Test Report for the DYEC
https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Assets/Documents/MonitoringPlansReports/AirEmissionMonitoring/SourceTest/May2017_SourceTestReport.pdf
- AirZOne Report on the Final Review of Assessment Methods for the DYEC Compliance Emission Testing
https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Assets/Documents/MonitoringPlansReports/AirEmissionMonitoring/SourceTest/AirZoneReview_Fall2016_SourceTestReport.pdf
- AirZOne Conclusion of Spring 2016 Voluntary Source Testing of the DYEC (July 25, 2017)

https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/Assets/Documents/MonitoringPlansReports/AirEmissionMonitoring/SourceTest/AirZoneReview_Spring2016_SourceTestReport.pdf

Thank you,

Melodee Smart | Administrative Assistant

The Regional Municipality of Durham | Works Department – Commissioner's Office

605 Rossland Road East, Level 5, Whitby ON L1N 6A3

905.668.7711 or 1.800.372.1102 extension 3560 | 905.668.2051

Melodee.Smart@durham.ca | www.durham.ca

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Durham York Energy Centre Spring 2017 Voluntary Source Test - AirZone Report

Date:Fri, 10 Nov 2017 16:19:13 -0500

From:Melodee Smart <Melodee.Smart@Durham.ca>

To:Melodee Smart <Melodee.Smart@Durham.ca>

Good afternoon EFWAC members:

For your information, please find attached a copy of AirZone's report titled:

Report on the Final Review of Assessment Methods for the Durham York Energy Centre Spring 2017 Voluntary Emissions Testing.

This report is being made available on the [Durham York Energy Centre's project website](#).

Thank you,

Melodee Smart | Administrative Assistant

The Regional Municipality of Durham | Works Department – Commissioner's
Office

605 Rossland Road East, Level 5, Whitby ON L1N 6A3

905.668.7711 or 1.800.372.1102 extension 3560 | 905.668.2051

Melodee.Smart@durham.ca | www.durham.ca

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Regional Municipality of Durham's 2016 Annual Waste Diversion Program
Monitoring Report

Date:Fri, 3 Nov 2017 15:53:39 -0500

From:Melodee Smart <Melodee.Smart@Durham.ca>

To:Melodee Smart <Melodee.Smart@Durham.ca>

Good afternoon EFWAC Members:

For your information, please find **attached correspondence, and related attachment**, which was submitted to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change today regarding 'Submission of the Regional Municipality of Durham's Waste Diversion Program Monitoring Report for 2016'.

Thank you,

Melodee Smart | Administrative Assistant

The Regional Municipality of Durham | Works Department – Commissioner's
Office

605 Rossland Road East, Level 5, Whitby ON L1N 6A3

905.668.7711 or 1.800.372.1102 extension 3560 | 905.668.2051

TO CONCLUDE:

I would appreciate a reply from you as to how Works intends to proceed to update the website and whether or not they will continue to update the EFW AC members by email as was done in the past and if not why not.

ALSO, the EFW AC public members were provided with only ONE possible meeting date i.e. June 21st, 2024. I advised Melodee on March 31st that I would be unavailable knowing I would be out of town.

I have e no record of any email from Durham since then with possible dates for the 2024 meeting.

Thank you for your attention.

Linda Gasser

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Samples of MoECC (now MECP) corres. that used to be routinely posted on DYEC website

Date:Thu, 3 Oct 2024 10:38:20 -0400

From:Linda Gasser [REDACTED]

To:Ramesh Jagannathan <ramesh.jagannathan@durham.ca>

CC:Andrew Evans <andrew.evans@durham.ca>, Wendy Bracken [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

On 2024-10-03 10:38 a.m., Linda Gasser wrote:

Good morning:

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me yesterday after Works meeting, including about the DYEC website and related documents' posting.

Before the DYEC website "refresh" few years ago, many documents that were routinely posted prior to revamp didn't make it to new website pages.

Example of MECP correspondence that used to be available are attached, for 2015. Screenshot I took at that time shows posting to Air Emissions web page i.e. that initial source test would happen by Oct 2015 and subsequent MoECC response.

And, prior to regional standing cttee structure changes in fall 2016, some stack test related reports made it to Works agendas.

This info important because gives all interested parties a heads up when testing would occur and if anything specific was requested, and then when Source Test Reports sent to MECP which triggered posting of docs to website and thereafter Ministry response. This is not "internal" correspondence.

This should have been continued after website refresh. It might take work to compile reports and related Ministry correspondence and update retroactively but Works staff have it all but this should have been done all along so that there is a historical record.

Also, when original DYEC website created after EA Approval, one could sign up to be notified on range of DYEC related matters and when new docs posted, etc.

After website revamp, when I noticed I wasn't getting any notifications for long period, I emailed Works staff who advised they did not "port" that list of interested parties to new website.

NOR did Durham staff advise general public that if interested in getting notifications going forward, they would have to resubscribe.

I have several emails with staff about this and the ongoing problem of notifications not always triggered when new docs posted. And after website revamp, one has to subscribe to each individual page to get notifications.

This is unacceptable and seems to be a combination of Works staff and IT staff not considering and/or not taking the necessary steps to ensure that DYEC info is routinely accessible to interested parties, general public and councillors.

If you want copies of those email exchanges between me and Works staff on

the subject of DYEC notifications I would provide.

Thanks for your attention and regards.

Linda Gasser

