

# Power Generation Facility Backgrounder

## **February 17, 2009**

Oakville Council shared its concerns over the request for proposal and evaluation process for the Southwestern GTA Electricity Generation Plant Project with the Minister of Energy and Infrastructure and the Ontario Power Authority and asked staff to undertake research on appropriate planning policies concerning power generation facilities.

## **March 30, 2009**

Oakville Town Council passes an interim control by-law and official plan amendment to ensure the necessary planning work and study could take place before any power plant over a 10-megawatt capacity could be constructed in Oakville. Ford and TransCanada appealed the by-law and official plan amendment to the Ontario Municipal Board.

## **July 7, 2009**

Mayor Rob Burton introduces a motion to the Regional Health Committee that calls on the province to terminate any process to build a power plant in the overtaxed Oakville-Clarkson Airshed.

## **Aug 28, 2009**

Premier Dalton McGuinty meets with Mayor Rob Burton and Ward 6 Town and Regional Councillor Tom Adams to discuss town concerns over locating a power generation facility in the overtaxed Oakville-Clarkson airshed.

## **September 30, 2009**

The Ontario Power Authority announces it has accepted TransCanada's bid to build a 900-megawatt natural gas-fired power generation facility on Ford-owned lands in southeast Oakville, near Royal Windsor and Ford Drives.

## **September 30, 2009**

The Premier of Ontario announces a plan to establish a task force to develop solutions to improve air quality in the overtaxed Oakville-Clarkson Airshed with Dr. David Balsillie assigned to the task soon after.

## **October 20, 2009**

Oakville's provincial, federal and regional representatives pledge their support for Oakville Town Council and offer their assistance to the town in its fight against the province's decision to locate a power plant at the proposed site in Oakville.

Council unanimously passes recommendations in a report from town staff, including calling on the province to require a full environmental assessment of the proposed site of the power plant and through the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario to introduce provincial regulations on certain air emissions, known as PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

## **December 4, 2009**

Ontario Municipal Board issues a decision that upheld the town's interim control by-law, but strikes down the official plan amendment

**February 1, 2010**

After a period of public review and comment, the town passes its Health Protection Air Quality By-law 2010-035 to protect residents from harmful emissions of PM<sub>2.5</sub> from facilities, to collect and disclose information on sources of PM<sub>2.5</sub> to the public and to reduce levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in the town's ambient air over time. Staff began to implement the by-law effective immediately.

**March 29, 2010**

Planning and Development Council extends the interim control by-law to March 31, 2011.

**April 28, 2010**

Town of Oakville planning staff hosts a public meeting regarding the draft Land Use Policy Study for power generation and cogeneration facilities.

**May 18, 2010**

Town hosts a facilitated workshop on the Land Use Policy Study.

**June 24, 2010**

Dr. Balsillie's Air Quality Task Force report is released which states: "All applications for Certificates of Approval for new or modified industrial activities, which will increase emissions within the airshed, must be considered in light of the current capacity of the airshed. This recommendation would also apply to the issuance of a Certificate of Approval for the power plant."

**August 30, 2010**

Oakville Town Council responds to recommendations in the report from Dr. Balsillie's Air Quality Task Force by calling on the Premier and Province of Ontario to impose a moratorium on further development of the proposed Oakville Generating Station until action is taken to address the additional risk to the health of residents living in the overtaxed Oakville-Clarkson Airshed from PM<sub>2.5</sub> and other emissions.

**September 21, 2010**

The town hosts an open house to introduce new planning requirements for assessing proposals for power generation facilities

**September 27, 2010**

Oakville Town Council approves a report that will see amendments for assessing proposals for power generation facilities made to the town's official plan, zoning by-laws and north Oakville zoning by-laws. The appropriate policy framework, new definitions and requirements for specific technical studies will provide the town with the ability to assess appropriate size, type, scale and location of proposed power generation facilities, including cogeneration facilities, throughout the town.

The interim control by-law will remain in effect until March 29, 2011

**October 7, 2010**

The Provincial Government announces the cancellation of proposed Oakville Generating Station.

**January 7, 2011**

TransCanada formally closes all of its planning and development applications related to its proposal to build the Oakville Generating Station in the Town of Oakville. This action follows TransCanada and Ford Motor Company of Canada's decision to withdraw all of their appeals to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) in connection with the Oakville site and allows the town to formally close the book on this proposal.