

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) has granted Taggart Miller approval to proceed with the CRRRC Landfill and Waste Processing Facility at Boundary Road and Hwy 417. The Minister's reason for approving the Taggart-Miller landfill, with 15 conditions, are that they have complied with the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act and that they have demonstrated that the environmental effects can be appropriately prevented, changed, mitigated, or remedied. We still fear surface water contamination (most of us are on well water), air pollution, and traffic gridlock in an area where traffic is already heavy. The proponent has no firm plan on how they will manage the leachate but MOECC still went ahead and approved the EA. One does wonder how Minister Murray, who claims to be the champion of climate change, could approve an EA which will destroy 450 acres of forests and replace it with a toxic industrial, commercial and institutional landfill – and yes a small recycling facility!. Hard to understand! The 15 conditions included in the "Notice of Approval" are all proponent driven. Our system is so broken and not one politician is ready to tackle the task.

During this whole environmental process, the only time we were able, as a concerned group, to provide our comments was when the final environmental assessment (EA) was submitted by Taggart-Miller in April 2016. After the comment period ended in May 2016, the proponent continued to interact with the Ministry and submitted additional reports. Never once were we informed of these new reports, never once were we allowed to comment on them. The whole process continued but one-sided. Now, a year later, we are informed by the Ministry that the Minister approved the EA and did not see any reason to refer the matter to the Environmental Review Tribunal. In other words, no chance to have our experts present in front of a neutral panel. With the Notice of Approval, we no longer have any legal recourse.

The next possible steps for the Capital Region Citizen Coalition for the Protection of the Environment (CRCCPE) are to request a public review of the proponents plans to deal with: leachate treatment, odour abatement, dust control and greenhouse gases under the EPA Environmental Compliance Approval; request participation in drafting of Complaint Reporting; and request representation on the Community Liaison Committee - although that committee will have no power - but will be more like a sounding board - to be able to ensure that the community's welfare is respected.

Thursday, July 6, the following appeared in some local newspapers:

CAPITAL REGION RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY (CRRRC) - COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

The CRRRC recently received approval under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. Taggart Miller Environmental Services is establishing a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) for the CRRRC pursuant to one of the conditions of approval and as contemplated in the environmental assessment for the facility.

The CLC is intended to act as a conduit of information and input to and from the local communities about the CRRRC and its operation. Host community royalties from the CRRRC will be handled by a separate committee to be established in consultation with the local community.

It is contemplated that the CLC will meet quarterly or more or less frequently as determined from time to time by the Committee. An honorarium will be paid to members of the Committee.

Should you wish to be considered for this position, please send a brief written expression of interest to Taggart Miller at info@crrrc.ca. Your submission should explain your interest in participating in the CLC and how you think you can make a unique contribution.

Expressions of interest should be received no later than July 21, 2017.

We thank you for your interest. Only the successful candidates will be contacted.