

Orono Times - Letter to the Editor
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CO₂ emissions need to be addressed

Dear Editor:

In light of the current G8 meeting, the contrast between what this country does and what it says could hardly be more striking.

We know, except for a few "deniers", that there is an urgent need to take action to reduce CO₂ emissions, yet Durham Council is acting as its very own "denier" by voting to proceed with incineration, a project known to add significantly to the air-borne emission levels; this, by the way, is in addition to the additional tax burden on the community that promoters are attempting to disguise in not-so-clever ways.

As far as emissions are concerned, it is indeed the epitome of folly to pretend on the international scene to aim for lower targets yet willfully allow them to worsen the problem at the local level.

This proposed incinerator is not something that was there before and that we are "stuck" with. Rather, it is a problem that we are creating, when we are pretending elsewhere to be committed to solve it. The efforts of this Country should not be jeopardized by the ignorance and/or arrogance of petty politicians who shamelessly ignore the facts compiled and presented by individuals, often at great personal costs.

Moreover, the whole process has made it abundantly clear that the Environmental Assessment process is indeed "broken", as the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario has pointed out.

The Federal Government must join forces IMMEDIATELY with the Provincial Government to see that such crimes against humanity are not allowed to proceed, in Durham Region or elsewhere in the country. This means, amongst other things, shelving the non-sensical incinerator project, something that present and future generations will be immensely thankful for.

In the same way that we need Global Vision at the G8 Summit, we need Local Vision at the Regional Level. The time for empty rhetoric is definitely past; now is the time for action, and a coordinated one at that.

Durham Region politicians have demonstrated that most of them are not up to the task.

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