

*Metroland – Letters to Editor*

## **Energy from waste facility needed here**

Fri Jan 18, 2008

To the editor:

Re: Let's drop incineration as an option for waste, Mark Stanisz letter, Jan. 16.

The letter writer makes several claims which, though they may be accurate, are well out of context.

He states we have a power plant here, obviously true. But it was built at a time when the total area population was about 20,000 people. Revenue from Ontario Hydro was then used to build fire stations, arenas and other infrastructure items which made it possible to construct neighbourhoods.

He states we have a water and a sewage plant. Also true, but they were built to service those neighbourhoods. Oshawa, Ajax, Whitby, Port Perry, etc., also have similar infrastructure items.

We used to have a landfill but have found it convenient to ship our garbage many kilometres away for the past few years. Years and hundreds of thousands of dollars in reports and studies have failed, up to now, to find any other local solution to non-recyclable garbage.

The region is well on its way, after considerable study, to building an energy from waste facility. It is unfortunate that a few people, most of whom live kilometres away from the proposed site have finally realized that this process is underway and are objecting to it.

Fact is, it has to be done, and the local site, some distance from the most vocal protesters, is likely the best place to do it. Throwing up arguments like "we already do too much" just muddies the discussion about whether or not it is the right thing to do.

Bruce Polley

Bowmanville