



Citizens'  
Environmental  
Stewardship  
Association  
East of Ottawa

Association  
des citoyens  
pour la gérance  
de l'environnement  
Est d'Ottawa



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **The Liberal Government of Ontario approves the Taggart Miller waste facility at Hwy 417 and Boundary Road in east Ottawa**

On June 5, we received the MOECC Notice of Approval of the Environmental Assessment (EA) of the Capital Region Resource Recovery Centre (CRRRC) to be built at Hwy 417 and Boundary Road.

We were shocked that, as the local community that will be required to host this 400-acre mega dump, we did not have the opportunity to present our technical concerns at a public hearing before the independent Environmental Review Tribunal, which we and numerous other residents had requested in good faith and for good reasons. In addition, our concerns about management plans for odours, surface water leaving the site, leachate treatment and landfill gas have not, in our opinion, been adequately addressed as part of the EA process, and these matters have now been effectively deferred to the Environmental Compliance Approval process under the Environmental Protection Act. However, in this case, there will be no mandatory public notice or comment opportunities as final design details are developed by the proponent.

### **The EA Process is Broken**

- As the community stakeholders in this EA process, we have been effectively shut out following the public comment period for the MOECC Ministry Review document, which ended on 20 May 2016.
- This MOECC document was issued without proper consideration of our detailed technical comments on the major issues from the Government Review Team members (Ontario Geological Survey and Natural Resources Canada), and on the technical peer reviews prepared by Dr. Kerry Rowe and Dr. Jacques Locat. We had hoped to be able to have our experts comment on these reviews, and to rigorously test the proponent's claims, at an Environmental Review Tribunal hearing. **We were shut out!**
- We have also requested that the Ministry Review, a totally government-prepared document, be made available, in its entirety, to our community in both English and French. We have a 60% Francophone population who have been ignored. This is discrimination to a major part of our community. **This has not been done!**

### **Ontario's Waste-Free Ontario Act (2016)**

- We applaud the new Waste-Free Ontario Act's major objectives of increasing resource productivity and reducing waste, and enabling an efficient and effective

recycling system. However, a crucial piece is missing. Why, with this new legislation to reduce waste, is our provincial government not putting a moratorium on the creation of new waste dumps? We already have enough existing landfill capacity in the eastern part of the province for the next 25-30 years—more if we can take steps to increase the diversion of waste. Currently private landfill operators in Ottawa area are bringing industrial, commercial and institutional (IC&I) waste from all over Ontario and are even proposing to bring waste across provincial boundaries into Ontario, to make their operations more profitable. **This makes Ottawa the dump capital of Ontario!**

- The MOECC Notice of Approval contains no specific diversion targets for the CRRRC facility. **The province sees no need to divert waste!**
- The 13% IC&I diversion targets suggested by Taggart Miller in the EA report illustrated that the proposed CRRRC will do nothing to help Ontario's objective. In our view, the proposed project is essentially a low-tech garbage dump that may add to environmental problems. Since the Notice of Approval, the proponents have a new video on their CRRRC website reporting that they will be separating all the IC&I waste arriving at the waste facility and will aim at 43-57% diversion. **We don't know what to believe!**

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