

REPORT NO. 107
of the
WINDSOR ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
of its Electronic Poll held on October 21, 2020

Approval of the E-mail Poll as of October 21, 2020

Councillor Chris Holt, Chair
Councillor Kieran McKenzie
Keri Banar
Derek Coronado
Katie Kuker
Michael Schneider
Radwan Tamr
Richard St. Denis

Your Committee submits the following recommendation from the *Air Subcommittee* of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee:

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario is planning to ramp up the greenhouse gas pollution from Ontario's gas-fired power plants by more than 300% by 2025 and by more than 400% by 2040; and,

WHEREAS to help fuel this massive increase in fossil fuel electricity and climate threatening pollution, the provincial government recently purchased 3 gas plants at a cost of \$2.8 billion and Enbridge is hoping to build a new pipeline through Hamilton to import fracked gas from the U.S.; and,

WHEREAS Ontario is set to throw away more than a third of the greenhouse gas reductions it achieved by phasing-out its dirty coal-fired power plants due to a power plan built around ramping up gas-fired generation to replace the output of the Pickering Nuclear Station (scheduled to close in 2024); and,

WHEREAS there is a better way to keep our lights on. We can meet our 2030 climate target and lower our electricity bills by phasing-out our gas-fired power plants by 2030 and embracing lower cost and cleaner options:

- Reverse cuts to energy efficiency programs and stop under-investing in this quick to deploy and low-cost resource. We can ensure we maximize our energy efficiency efforts by paying up to the same price per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for energy efficiency measures as we are currently paying for power from nuclear plants (e.g., up to 9.5 cents per kWh).
- Return Ontario to leadership in developing increasingly low-cost renewable energy resources. Support renewable energy projects that have costs that are

below what we are paying for nuclear power and work with communities to make the most of these economic opportunities.

- Accept Quebec's offer of low-cost 24/7 power from its massive water power system. Quebec has offered power at less than one-half the cost of re-building our aging Darlington and Bruce Nuclear Stations and Ontario can only benefit by making a long-term deal with its green energy-rich neighbour. Quebec's system of reservoirs can be used like a giant battery to back-up made-in-Ontario renewable power, eliminating the need to use gas-fired power plants.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Windsor requests the Government of Ontario to place an interim cap of 2.5 megatonnes per year on Ontario's gas plants' greenhouse gas pollution and develop and implement a plan to phase-out all gas-fired electricity generation by 2030 to ensure that Ontario meets its climate targets

And further, that the County of Essex **BE REQUESTED** to consider adopting the resolution as outlined above.

CHAIRPERSON

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

NOTIFICATION:		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
WECEC Members		on-file