

December 9, 2020

The Honourable Doug Ford, M.P.P.
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

**Re: Ontario Gas Fired Power Plants
Our File 35.31.99**

Dear Premier Ford:

At its meeting held on November 30, 2020, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

“WHEREAS the City of St. Catharines strategic plan focuses on livability and increased environmentally friendly initiatives; and

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario is planning to increase reliance on gas-fired electricity generation from Ontario's gas-fired power plants, which is anticipated to increase greenhouse gas pollution by more than 300% by 2025 and by more than 400% by 2040; and

WHEREAS Canada's temperature is rising more than double the rate of the rest of the world (which is in alignment with climate models and projections impacting northern climates most significantly); and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario will adversely impact 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 alternative options are available to reversing short sighted cuts to energy efficiency programs and stop under-investing in this quick to deploy and low-cost resource, which include maximizing 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); and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario should continue to 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; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has alternative options to increasing gas-fired electricity generation, such as the Province of Quebec's offer to receive low-cost 24/7 power from its water powered reservoir system as a possible alternative; and

WHEREAS, other municipalities such as Hamilton, Kitchener, and Halton Hills have called on the Province of Ontario to phase out gas fired power plants by 2030 for cleaner, renewable energy; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of St. Catharines requests the Government of Ontario to place an interim cap of 2.5 mega tonnes per year on our 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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, to the local MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Niagara Region, local area municipalities and the municipalities of Hamilton, Halton Hills and Kitchener.”

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1524.



Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk
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City of Hamilton
City of Halton Hills
City of Kitchener