



March 8, 2011

Hon John Gerretsen, Minister of the Environment
Ministry of the Environment
11th Flr, Ferguson Block
77 Wellesley St West
Toronto ON M7A 2T5

Dear Minister:

RE: SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS IN URBAN VALLEYLANDS
FILE NO.: E06.GE

Please be advised that, at the March 8, 2011 Council meeting, Council approved the following Resolution #GPA-180-11:

Part 1

THAT Report PSD-023-11 be received;

THAT FIT Fund Solar Corporation be advised that Clarington does not support their current proposal for a Class 3 Solar Project in the Soper Creek valleylands and that they be encouraged to meet with staff to consider alternate locations in Clarington for a solar energy project or projects;

THAT the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, FIT Fund Solar Corporation and all interested parties listed in Report PSD-023-11 and any delegations be advised of Council's decision, and

Part 2

WHEREAS the Municipality of Clarington supports the responsible expansion of renewable energy as a means of placing Ontario on a more sustainable path for the future;

WHEREAS municipalities in the Greater Golden Horseshoe are subject to the Growth Plan which encourages the efficient use of land and infrastructure and greater densities;

WHEREAS unlike Class 1 and Class 2 solar installations, Class 3 ground-mounted solar installations greater than 12 kW may require a significant land area and would be contrary to the policies of The Provincial Growth Plan for the efficient use of serviced land and the mandated density of development;

WHEREAS urban valleylands are key ecological features that need protection from development and should be the focus of restoration efforts to enhance the ecological attributes and value to the community as outdoor amenity areas, particularly as communities are intensified;

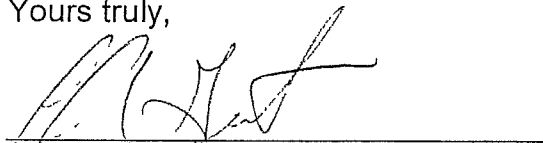
WHEREAS Regulation 359/09, as amended, provides for consideration of a renewable energy project within natural heritage features, including within a significant valleyland or within 120 m of a significant valleyland if supported by mitigation measures in an environmental impact study prepared by the proponent;

WHEREAS consideration of Class 3 solar facilities in urban valleylands will provide an incentive for developers to retain valleyland areas and could limit their dedication to municipalities as Open Space lands in the future;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minister of Energy, the Minister of Natural Resources, the Renewable Energy Facilitation Office, FIT Fund Solar Corporation, and CLOCA be advised that the Municipality of Clarington does not support the consideration of Class 3 solar facilities in urban valleyland areas; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to all other municipalities in the Greater Golden Horseshoe and M.P.P. John O'Toole.

Yours truly,



C. Anne Greentree, B.A., CMO
Deputy Clerk

CAG/jeg

- c. Hon. L. Jeffrey, Minister of Natural Resources
- C. Darling, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority
- P. Fisher, Renewable Energy Facilitation Office
- P. Siemans, FIT Fund Solar Panel
- D. Sebben
- M. Veltri, Veltri & Sons Ltd.
- All municipalities in the Greater Golden Horseshoe
- D. Crome, Director of Planning Services

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK			
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ACTION: <i>for Council</i>			
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