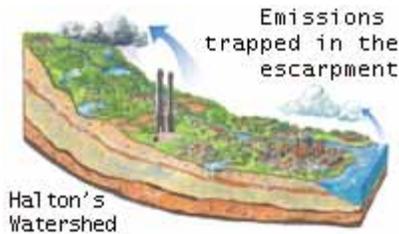


## If a community is only worth the planning put into it, ...

Posted on Tuesday, December 19 @ 21:27:04 EST by [editor](#)

If a community is only worth the planning put into it, what's Halton Hills worth?



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December 19, 2006

**Halton:** Recently the Herald reported how Milton Councillor Day, who represents Milton constituents within the ten kilometer atmospheric toxic dump zone of the proposed power plant, was not so impressed with the political bribery that had taken place in Halton Hills, stating; "if they took money to allow these people to pollute, then shame on them". In the same report Day also stated he "intends, to ask for a "bump up" of the environmental assessment process TransCanada must go through for the Halton Hills plant so "it's site specific and much more thorough.", adding; "Halton Hills has skipped all those safe guards".

Not having so much fate (due to the Province's own conflict of interest) in the Ministry of the Environment's 'environmental assessment', the Herald decided to make its own illustrated model so that our readership may surmise their own environmental impacts that emission dumping in Halton Hills might have on our surrounding communities.

The illustration is an obvious dramatization to model or help illustrate the effects of what, under certain weather conditions we might expect. Evident in the illustration, are the emission clouds that could form and could easily find themselves trapped within the Niagara Escarpment.

If the power plant's emissions are dispersed in rain clouds then obviously those emissions could easily find their way in Halton Hills water supply system through our watershed. If the precipitation rate is low, then of course portions of Halton Hills, particularly those areas at high elevations (more specifically the communities perched along the escarpment) -- could find the emission clouds at the same elevations where people live and breathe.

The Mayor stated it was a good thing for Halton Hills, but then of course he said so while holding out his hand for the 1.5 million dollar hand-out that TransCanada has offered while seeking approval from council for their support of the TransCanada plan. In our initial report, the Herald reported that a Doctor in Hornby didn't think it was all that good of a thing for, not just Halton Hills -- but people in general. The doctor talked more specifically about the details about the toxins and the health related hazards that are associated with the emissions of a fuel burning power generating plant. The Doctor stated the exhaust is definitely acidic and went on to identify some of the pollutants as Nitrous Oxide, Sulfur Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, Hydrocarbons and last but not least, Mercaptan and Benzene which is a known toxic carcinogen.

Milton politicians and community members strongly opposed the proposed plant, realizing a community is only worth as much as the planning put into it. The Town of Halton Hills however, through its mayor and council, with the exception of Councillor Lewis, willfully put their stamp of approval for the proposed power plant without a proper environmental assessment or such immediate considerations thereof, all at a single public meeting.

The Mayor has publicly stated: "it's a good thing for Halton Hills". We suggest you don't take anyone's word on it, particularly a politician who has hands out accepting corporate pay-offs and ask your family doctor if Benzene is a good thing for you or your children to be breathing.

[Original story...](#)

[Follow-up story...](#)

A still timely television documentary on CBC Nature of Things With very little publicity and fanfare it's really on this time. Honest!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE EARTH ENERGY - CBC - NATURE OF THINGS Wed. Oct. 19th, 2005 9:00 pm

<http://www.shatalow.com/energy.htm> The blackout of August, 2003 was a wake up call! Sculptor, aviator, and filmmaker, Bill Lishman, documents his journey around the globe in search of earth's renewable energy. In Niagara, he discovers our rich history of hydro electric production. He explores the world's largest solar collector power plant, in the Mojave dessert. In Iceland, geothermal energy literally shoots out of the ground. And Bill is blown away in Denmark where they produce 25% of their electricity with wind turbines. Today, if the rest of the world consumed at the rate Canadians do, we'd require five planets to sustain ourselves. So harnessing renewable sources of energy is as important as conserving energy through design, as Bill reveals in his own underground house. "North America is blessed with a wealth of renewable resources. There's enough solar energy in the south west to power all of the continent. If we harvested the west in the mid-west we'd never have a blackout again. Our water resources are abundant and there's even geothermal energy in the Rockies. It all clean, renewable energy all we have to do is harness it. "  
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/climatechange>

**Note:** *Letter from GTA Enviro Group Worried about Ontario Hydro My name is Richard Johnson and I have been very active in trying to resolve a power supply issue facing York Region. I have been very vocal in the defence of our community with regards to proposed facilities that may be built near residential areas, in an effort to ensure that the public environmental concerns are addressed no matter what solution is implemented.. The newly created Ontario Power Authority (OPA) recently completed a five month review of alternatives and they have made a number of recommendations to the Ontario Energy Board that largely validate the positions our community based group (S.T.O.P.) and the Aurora-Markham Task Force has been putting forward for well over a year. The reason that I am contacting you is that the OPA is making a second set of recommendation to the provincial government with regards to the potential power supply mix that could meet Ontario's long term power supply needs. A recommendation was to be delivered to the OEB on December 1st 2005 and it appears that more nuclear power may be preferred solution. I am neutral on this idea at this stage, given my lack of expertise in this area and the dearth of information pertaining to the details. STOP representative on the Aurora - Markham Task Force [www.stop-emf.ca](http://www.stop-emf.ca) (see the news stories on the right hand side of the webpage. A feature story in the Toronto Star appeared on October 1st 2005. Some the the details in the story need to be corrected but you will get an idea of the issues. The most important point to note is that a peaking plant as is proposed by Northland Power is nothing like the intermediate 1,000 mega watt facilities being proposed in Mississauga and Vaughan. As I am sure you can appreciate, reporters do not always take the time to get their facts straight ! ----- The following letter was addressed to members of Milton Town Council, and a copy was filed with The Halton Herald.) This letter is in response to the gas-fired power plant set to be built just east of Milton. You have got to be kidding. Other than the possibility of providing an increase in revenue to the area, as a result of the increase in the workforce, what on earth are you thinking about? One of the reasons that people move into this area is for the peace, tranquility, beauty, and breathable air -- qualities that are missing from most of the towns in southern Ontario. What's this? An attempt to assimilate Milton into the cloning landscape of Ontario? Power is a great thing whether it be real or imagined, financial or emotional, beauracratc or socialist, electrical or gas-fired. However, with this type of power comes a social responsibility. I feel that the mere contemplation of this environmental and visual elephant would not only hinder the health of Milton and area residents, it would also decrease our ever dwindling farmland, diminish the natural beauty of the area and serve as an oxymoron to the label 'World Biosphere'. Also, what about the Clean Air Act of Canada? Does Milton fall out of the sphere of Canada to the extent that it doesn't have to comply with these standards? Please use your common sense and "use the powers of a 1,000 pound gorilla to fight for clean air in Milton." I anxiously wait to see that your duty to serving the residents of this area is upheld. ROBIN BUCK CAMPBELLVILLE ----- Twinning of hydro lines may impact dozens of landowners  
<http://www.independentfreepress.com/news/article/18718>*