

Subject:

REsolution from The Corporation of the Town of Thessalon

The Corporation of the Town of Thessalon

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Mayor: BRENT RANKIN Clerk: ROBERT P. MacLEAN

May 6, 2011

The Honourable Brad Duguid

Minister of Energy

900 Bay Street, 4th Floor

Hearst Block

Toronto, Ontario

M7A 2E1

Dear Minister Duguid:

At the May 2, 2011 regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Thessalon, the resolution was passed:

"Whereas in an effort to maintain the peace, quiet, dignity and desirable appearance of the municipality, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon passed By-law Number 1774 on March 7, 2011 to amend Schedule A of By-law Number 1592, being a resolution to establish standards for the maintenance and occupancy of property in the Town of Thessalon, to include the following section:

Every person shall keep every front yard free and clear of any equipment or material relating to Renewable Energy Projects including, but not limited to, Ground and Mounted Solar Photovoltaic(PV) Systems, Wind Facilities or any other like equipment;

And whereas Council has received confirmation of an individual's intention to install large ground mounted solar systems on a vacant lot in a residential area in the municipality;

And whereas the Town of Thessalon has been advised by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing that the Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009 made amendments to the Planning Act, most notably the addition of a new section 62.0.2 which exempts renewable energy projects from most land use planning instruments under the Planning Act, municipal official plans and zoning, site plan control, interim control and holdover laws, thus eliminating the need for a property owner proposing a renewable energy project to seek an official plan amendment or a change to a zoning by-law, among other things;

And whereas Council recognizes the importance of the Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009, Council is sensitive regarding the impact such installations will have on adjacent property owners who will be in extremely close proximity to such proposed solar systems;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon hereby petitions the Government of Ontario through the Minister of Energy and Infrastructure to reconsider the provisions of the Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009 and to address the provisions having regard for the negative impact created by the

Page 2

installation of ground mounted solar systems within residential and commercial areas in municipalities;

And further that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and to all municipalities in the Province of Ontario for endorsement." CARRIED

Your attention regarding this matter will be appreciated.

Yours truly,

Robert P. MacLean

Robert P. MacLean

Clerk-Treasurer

RPM/pw

cc: Premier Dalton McGuinty

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Ontario Municipalities