

COUNCIL AGENDA

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2020
7:00 P.M. - COUNCIL CHAMBER

CITY OF KITCHENER
200 KING STREET WEST

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9. NEW BUSINESS –

- b. Gas-fired Electricity Generation – Councillor D. Chapman has given notice that she will introduce the following motion for consideration this date:

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;

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);

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);

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);

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;

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;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener 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;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, to the local MPP's, and to the Region of Waterloo and local area municipalities.