

# Information Grid-Canadian HIA Initiatives Toronto

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| <b>Identification</b> (Place and project title)           | City of Toronto – Mixed Waste Processing Assessment Study   |
| <b>Groups/people in charge of the project</b>             | Toronto Solid Waste Management Services<br>HIA component – conducted by Golder Associates in collaboration with Toronto Public Health (TPH)   |
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| <b>Context</b>  | The City of Toronto has a goal to divert 70% of the City’s residential solid waste from landfill by the year 2010. It is believed that in order to achieve this goal, the City will need to develop a processing facility to further capture recoverable resources from the residual waste stream. The objective of this study is to define a preferred residual waste management strategy for the planning period from the year 2010 to 2035. The results of this study will allow Toronto City Council to make decisions with respect to the development and implementation of a residual waste system (See Work Package 1 & 2 Report, Section 1.0 <a href="http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/pdf/work_package-1_and_2.pdf">http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/pdf/work_package-1_and_2.pdf</a> ). |
| <b>Who requested the HIA project?</b>                     | Toronto City Council  |
| <b>What kinds of tools were used?</b><br>(E.g. HIA guide) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Golder Associates Pre-Screening Health Determinants decision tool (the Golder Tool) (See Work Package 3, Section 2.0 <a href="http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/pdf/work_package-3.pdf">http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/pdf/work_package-3.pdf</a>). Golder Tool was based on the DRAFT Screening Tool for Toronto Public Health (see Appendix 2 of <a href="http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/pdf/work_package-1_and_2.pdf">http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/pdf/work_package-1_and_2.pdf</a>). TPH Health Impact Assessment Framework by Jacques Whitford was also utilized.</li> </ul>   |



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| <p><b>Screening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How?</li> <li>▪ Who was involved?</li> <li>▪ Were the results communicated?</li> </ul> | <p><b>Process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The HIA Working Group met and together filled out the Golder Tool. All assumptions that were made were documented and impacts on the determinants of health were comprehensively discussed for each combination of technology and siting option. The results from a Life Cycle Assessment were incorporated into this discussion. The tool was filled out based on group consensus.</li> </ul> <p><b>Involvement – HIA Working Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Golder Associates staff with expertise in toxicology, environmental health, social determinants of health and solid waste management;</li> <li>▪ Toronto Public Health staff with expertise in environmental health, toxicology, epidemiology and chronic disease prevention;</li> <li>▪ Toronto Solid Waste Management Services staff with expertise in solid waste management, engineering;</li> <li>▪ Residual Waste Working Group (RWWG) co-chairs. The RWWG is a citizen group established under the authority of Toronto City Council that is representative of the broader community and provides input and advice (See <a href="http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/rwwg/">http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/rwwg/</a>);</li> <li>▪ Local community members. As the study progressed it was determined that the site for this waste processing facility would be located outside the City of Toronto boundaries in Southwold Township. As a result, stakeholders from this community need to be consulted and will give their input into the HIA (target date early 2010).</li> </ul> <p><b>Communication of Results</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A summary of the results was presented at two community open houses in Southwold Township, Ontario</li> <li>▪ A summary of the results is available online (See: <a href="http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/input.htm">http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/input.htm</a>)</li> <li>▪ Results of the HIA were document in a comprehensive work package (See work package 3, Section 2.0 pages 6-24 in <a href="http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/pdf/work_package-3.pdf">http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/pdf/work_package-3.pdf</a>). The work package was shared with the RWWG, and was made available at the community open houses.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Scoping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How?</li> <li>▪ Who was involved?</li> <li>▪ Were the results communicated?</li> </ul>   | <p>Scoping has been done. A session with stakeholders from the local community was organised in order to get their input on the preferred technology for the mixed waste processing facility. This input allowed for the incorporation of mitigation measures into the Request for Proposals that will eventually be submitted to the Solid Waste division of the City.</p>  |



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| <p><b>Analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Literature review (yes, no, how)</li> <li>▪ Stakeholder or citizen participation (yes, no, how)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A literature review (on HIA approaches) was done at the time that the Toronto Public Health HIA Framework was developed. A scan of literature on HIA and waste policies, processes and facilities was done prior to applying the tools.</li> <li>▪ Citizens of the City of Toronto were involved in the earlier stages of this study and citizens from the surrounding community of the proposed site will be involved in the next phase.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Written?</li> <li>▪ With recommendations?</li> <li>▪ Made public?</li> </ul>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Results of the HIA were documented in a comprehensive work package. The work package was shared with the RWWG, and was made available at a community open house (See <a href="http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/reports.htm">http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/reports.htm</a>).</li> <li>▪ A summary of the results to date was presented at a community open house.</li> <li>▪ A summary of the results to date is available online (See: <a href="http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/input.htm">http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/mwp/input.htm</a>).</li> <li>▪ A final recommendation has not yet been made as local citizen input is still needed. The initial HIA results however, do show one technology option as being preferred in terms of fewer impacts on health.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Evaluation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Process evaluation?</li> <li>▪ Impact monitoring?</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The process evaluation will be reported in a report to the Toronto Board of Health.</li> <li>▪ Documentation of the process appears in the work package 3.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Other comments</b><br/>(E.g. Purpose, main values)</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The HIA Screening was conducted when multiple siting and technology options were being considered. In order to compare the many options, the Golder Associates decision tool was developed, as the Toronto Public Health HIA Framework alone did not allow for comparison of many options.</li> </ul>   |

*Last update: May 2010*



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