



STATEMENT BY OAKVILLE MPP KEVIN FLYNN ON THE ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD DECISION

I was pleased to learn yesterday that the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) has ruled in favour of the Oakville's interim control by-law allowing the Town to continue its study to determine the impact a power generating facility could have on our community.

Earlier this year, Mayor Rob Burton and the Town of Oakville Council acted quickly to ensure the town would have sufficient time to undertake planning studies before power generating facilities in Oakville could be built.

I would like to recognize the efforts of the Mayor and Council I would also like to recognize the members of the community who attended the OMB hearings and ensured that the community's presence was felt.

The OMB underwent reform in the last few years and I am glad to see that, as a result of changes, the community was permitted to participate in the hearing and that the OMB made a decision that reveals a regard for local interest and municipal planning decisions.

In my opinion, this decision recognizes what I and many others in the community have felt from the beginning – that the TransCanada site on the Ford of Canada property was an illogical choice for a natural gas power facility and that we need time to conduct appropriate studies to fully understand the impact such a plant would have on the community.

As the Town of Oakville assesses the decision and the steps forward, I will continue to request full transparency from the Ontario Power Authority and work on legislation that will create greater separation distances between these types of power facilities and residential and community spaces.

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