January 15, 2007

Mayor and Members of Council
HAMILTON, CITY OF
120 King Street W, Suite 1170
Hamilton, ON L8P 4V2

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

Re: Marketing of Blue Box Materials

Recent media coverage has raised questions about the final disposition of Blue Box materials recovered from households by Ontario municipalities, suggesting that some materials are not being diverted from disposal or are not being directed to uses that are eligible for Blue Box funding.

Since the cooperation of residents is required to separate Blue Box and other recyclable materials from the garbage stream, the credibility of municipal recycling programs in the eyes of Ontario residents is critical to the success of diversion efforts. Reports that Blue Box materials are being delivered directly from collection routes to disposal facilities, that certain Blue Box materials, particularly glass, are being landfilled or that significant amounts of residue are being shipped to disposal from Blue Box processing facilities are distressing and undermine the future of Ontario's recycling programs.

Waste Diversion Ontario encourages Ontario municipalities to exercise proper diligence in administering and monitoring the performance of collection, processing, brokering and/or material marketing contracts to ensure that the Blue Box materials collected from residents are being managed to minimize residue and maximize the successful marketing of materials.

Sincerely,
Waste Diversion Ontario

Glenda Gies
Executive Director

c: Jackie-Lee McInnes
   Glen Peace