Outstanding Business:

Council provided direction to install, maintain and test a turbine unit and report back to the Public Works Committee.

Information:

Cleanfield Energy Corporation (Cleanfield) has completed the installation of the 3.5 kilowatt vertical axis wind turbine (VAWT) on the roof of the Hamilton Incubator of Technology (HIT) located at 7 Innovation Drive in Flamborough. The turbine and tower were mounted on the building in June. Approval for operation of the VAWT was recently granted by the Electrical Safety Authority. Cleanfield are now fine tuning their equipment for operation. A webcam is expected to be installed shortly so that the operation of the turbine can be viewed from Cleanfield’s website.

Horizon Utilities has provided a net meter at no cost to the City for measuring the energy input and output of the test unit. The net meter will allow the City and Cleanfield to measure the net difference between the energy produced by the VAWT and the energy used to run the turbine. The City is also working with Horizon utilities on installing an interval meter at the site to measure the overall building load on an hourly basis. This will also allow for further analysis to see how the energy produced by the turbine impacts the overall energy usage and costs of the facility.

Cleanfield have informed the City that their project funding application to Sustainable Development Technology Canada (www.sdtc.ca) has passed the first phase of the approval process. The second and more rigid application phase starts in February 2008. This is to secure funding for the larger 150 unit project.
As of September 2007, Cleanfield has established a local supply chain, “Fibrelam of Hamilton” is manufacturing the blades, “Hydraco of Ancaster” is manufacturing the shaft, “Indalex of Mississauga” is manufacturing the arms, “Innovation Plus of Burlington” is manufacturing the inverter/controller and “Baylink of Ancaster” is manufacturing the rooftop towers.

We will continue to keep members of Council informed of this initiative. In the interim, any inquiries can be forwarded to Geoff Lupton, our Manager of Energy Initiatives.

Bryan Shynal
Acting General Manager
Public Works Department