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# HALDIMAND COUNTY

## Report FCA-02-2024 Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan Update



For Consideration by Council in Committee on December 10, 2024

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### OBJECTIVE:

To receive Council approval of the County's updated 2024-2028 Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan, as required by Ontario Regulation 25/23: Broader Public Sector: Energy Reporting and Conservation and Demand Management Plans.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Report FCA-02-2024 Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan Update be received;
2. AND THAT the proposed Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan for Haldimand County, attached to Report FCA-02-2024, be approved as required by O. Reg. 25/23: Broader Public Sector: Energy Reporting and Conservation and Demand Management Plans.

**Prepared by:** David Lamanes, Facilities Technologist, Facilities Capital & Asset Management

**Reviewed by:** Jeff Oakes, Manager, Facilities Capital & Asset Management

**Respectfully submitted:** Tyson Haedrich, M. Eng., P. Eng., General Manager of Engineering & Capital Works

**Approved:** Cathy Case, Chief Administrative Officer

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

An Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan is a required component of O. Reg. 25/23: Broader Public Sector; Energy Reporting and Conservation and Demand Management Plans, under the Electricity Act, 1998, S.O. 1998, c.15, Sched. A. This legislation requires municipalities to develop approve and publish an Energy Conservation and Demand Management (ECDM) Plan every five years. The proposed ECDM Plan presented in this report covers the five year time period from 2024 to 2028 and meets the requirements of O. Reg 25/23.

The proposed plan details the County's initiatives and measures activities across its operations and establishes a goal of a 10% reduction in energy intensity consumption and carbon emissions for the next five years as well as several other objectives including the creation of an Energy Team, improving facility energy monitoring and documentation methods, optimizing facility equipment and operations, reviewing new build green energy certification and design standards, exploring an electric vehicle (EV) pilot program and improving communication and training related to energy management.

Staff believe the plan provides achievable goals over the next five years with the overall aim of bringing an energy conservation approach to daily operations.

## **BACKGROUND:**

On January 1, 2012 Ontario Regulation 397/11, Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plans under the Green Energy Act came into force. This regulation was passed to help Ontario achieve its Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reduction targets as set by Ontario's Long-Term Energy Plan in 2010 and required municipalities to approve an Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan.

In June 2014, through Report CMS-GM-04-2014 Re: Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan approval, Council approved the first Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan for Haldimand County.

On January 1, 2019, O. Reg. 397/11 was revoked and in February 2023, Ontario Regulation 25/23: Broader Public Sector: Energy Reporting and Conservation and Demand Management Plan was filed. This new regulation introduced new targets for GHG emissions of:

- 30% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030; and,
- Net zero GHG emissions by 2050.

The new regulation also required municipalities to update their Energy Conservation and Demand Management (ECDM) Plan every five years to ensure it stays current with technological, regulatory, and market changes while continuing to support a municipality's energy conservation and sustainability goals.

Under the new regulation the requirement is that municipalities have approved ECDM Plans by July 1, 2024 and that these plans be placed on the website and be available to the public in written form. It should be noted that while the County is behind in meeting this deadline, the intent is to meet the required 2028 deadline for the next update.

## **ANALYSIS:**

In 2018, through a corporate restructuring, the Facilities Capital and Asset Management (FCA) division was created with the goal of bringing long term asset management, energy tracking and management, and capital project management for all County facilities under one umbrella. As part of this mandate the FCA division is responsible for the ongoing development and maintenance of the County's Energy Conservation and Demand Management (ECDM) plan.

To assist with the development of the ECDM plan, Jupiter Energy Advisors Inc., was engaged to create a plan that aligns with Haldimand County's current energy management status and capabilities while providing achievable goals for future improvements. An ECDM plan is important for driving energy efficiency, ensuring regulatory compliance, reducing costs, and supporting sustainability efforts as well as helping the County become more responsible with its energy use.

The proposed Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan (see Attachment 1) details the County's initiatives and measures activities across its operations and establishes the following energy and GHG emission targets as goals for the next five years:

- 10% overall reduction in energy intensity consumption
- 10% overall reduction in carbon emissions

The plan also establishes other objectives including:

- Creating an Energy Team
- Improving facility energy monitoring and documentation methods
- Optimizing facility equipment and operations
- Reviewing new build green energy certification and design standards

- Exploring an electric vehicle (EV) pilot program
- Improving communication and training related to energy management

Based on an internal review as well as discussion with the external consultant relative to other municipalities' objectives, staff believe the plan provides achievable goals over the next five years with the aim of bringing an energy conservation approach to daily operations.

It should be noted that, while the EDCM Plan is required by the province, in order for energy management to be effective and sustainable, it must involve the entire corporation and all stakeholders. Energy management needs to become a 'way of work' and continue to be championed by senior management and Council.

## **FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no specific financial implications as a result of the decision to approve the Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan, however future initiatives related to this plan may have capital or operating budget impacts in subsequent years.

## **STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS:**

Not applicable.

## **REPORT IMPACTS:**

Agreement: No

By-law: No

Budget Amendment: No

Policy: No

## **REFERENCES:**

None

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. 2024-2028 Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan
2. Energy Conservation and Demand Management Council Presentation