



Media Release

New District Chilling Project is economical and energy-efficient

HAMILTON, ON – November 2, 2009 – The City of Hamilton's District Cooling Project, which involves the replacement of the City's aging downtown chillers with a more reliable cost-and-energy-efficient district cooling system, is resulting in both environmental and economic advantages for the City.

The City has completed phase one of its \$10 million District Cooling project, replacing all the chillers at the City's Central Utilities Plant with new and energy-efficient technology. The City is also in the process of completing the installation of new district cooling piping that will supply chiller water to the newly renovated City Hall. Upon full project completion, the following Downtown Core buildings will be supplied with chilled water from Hamilton's "new" district cooling system:

- City Hall
- Lister Block
- Copps Coliseum
- Hamilton Convention Centre
- Hamilton Place
- Central Library
- Farmers' Market
- Ellen Fairclough Building
- Hamilton Art Gallery
- Hamilton Wentworth District School Board office

At today's Public Works Committee meeting, the City of Hamilton received a \$144,200 Energy Retrofit Incentive Program cheque from Horizon Utilities in recognition of the electricity savings achieved in phase one of the District Cooling project. The Energy Retrofit Incentive Program, offered by Horizon Utilities and the Ontario Power Authority, provides incentives for commercial, industrial, agricultural and institutional customers who complete energy retrofits that result in on-peak demand savings and/or annual energy savings.

"By replacing aging chillers with a more energy-efficient district cooling system, the City is setting a great example for other municipalities," said Max Cananzi, President and CEO of Horizon Utilities Corporation. "We congratulate the City of Hamilton on taking a pro-active, leadership role in energy conservation in our community."

The first phase of the project cost approximately \$2.5 million and included four new chillers and energy efficient pumps and fans at the Central Utility Plant. Phase two, now underway, involves piping to City Hall, new chillers at the Central Library/Farmers' Market and a pipe to the Lister Building. Phase three, which will be implemented in 2010, will involve new chillers and piping from Copps Coliseum to the Central Utility Plant.

“We are pleased to be working in partnership with Horizon Utilities on this green initiative,” said Councillor Bob Bratina, Chair of the Public Works Committee. “When completed, the new district cooling system will use 41 per cent less energy per year, resulting in annual utility savings of \$181,000 and a 556-tonne per year reduction in harmful CO₂ emissions.”

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