



# REPORT

To: Solid Waste Committee

Report Number: ENV-SWC-041

From: Paulo Eichelberger, GM of Environmental Services

Date: May 6, 2021

**Subject: Wood Waste – Bessborough Landfill**

---

---

## RECOMMENDATION:

That the Solid Waste Committee recommend to the Regional Board that the Peace River Regional District contractor Whissell Ltd. sort and separate approximately 25 end dump truck-loads of dimensional lumber at the Bessborough Landfill for an estimated cost of \$8,200.

## BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

During the March 4 and April 1, 2021 Solid Waste Committee (SWC) meetings, SWC members and staff verbally discussed the recent receipt of a large quantity of dimensional lumber at the Bessborough Landfill (BBLF). This material was dumped in the wood waste stockpile, and has been the subject of expressions of interest from members of the public that are wanting the lumber for their own use.

Typically, all wood waste is stockpiled on site and chipped. The chipped wood is used on an as-needed basis to reduce the amount of cover soils needed for landfilling operations.

As discussed at the last SWC meeting, there is an opportunity to put the dimensional lumber out for bid so members of the public can purchase the material, as opposed to stockpiling it for onsite use<sup>1</sup>. This has the twofold benefit of supporting both reuse and diversion in the region.

Here is a brief summary of where things are at:

- Chipping of the other wood waste that is currently blocking access to the dimensional lumber pile is scheduled for May 11.
- Once the pile is accessible, the dimensional lumber's condition will be fully assessed for marketability.

Based on the preliminary pictures of the wood piles (Attachment 1), the amount of dimensional lumber appears to be significant. This means that the dimensional lumber could be a significant asset for the Regional District. Once the lumber has been sorted, the PRRD can determine whether there is enough value in the lumber to consider one of the two following options for sale of this asset:

- Expression of Interest/RFQ – this method would be best utilized if the pile is planned to be sold as is where is, but could also be used if the wood was sorted<sup>2</sup>; or

---

<sup>1</sup> Since the amount of wood waste onsite is significantly more than what is needed for landfilling operations, there is no risk of running into a deficit of material onsite should the excess wood waste be sold.

<sup>2</sup> The option of sorting into lots or selling as is, where is, will be decided once the entire pile is exposed.

- “Gov Deals” – This is a public auction site, this method would be best utilized if the wood is to be sorted into lifts, where each lift can be bid on and awarded to multiple proponents. “Gov Deals” also allows for a minimum bid amount to be assigned to each lot.

Pictures of the current condition on the piles have been provided in attachment 1. Staff has taken a preliminary look at the pile and feel that there is enough good marketable wood to warrant sorting of the material into lifts to establish an approximate value. An additional benefit of presorting the lumber is that a sorted pile reduces the risk of injury while loading the material.

At this time it is anticipated that an option to purchase will be available to the public by early June.

### ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Solid Waste Committee provide further direction.

### STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- Not Applicable to Strategic Plan.

### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

Any revenue resulting from wood sold, will be received as general revenue in the Solid Waste function.

Staff requested a quote from the landfill operator for sorting the material into lifts. The contractor provided hourly rates and an estimated time of 5 days. A cost table is provided below:

*Cost Table*

Resource	Rate	Estimated Hours	Cost
Labour Staff	\$49.21	50	\$2,460.50
Labour Staff	\$49.21	50	\$2,460.50
Cat 160 Excavator	\$162.00	10	\$1,620.00
Mobilization/De-Mobilization	flat		\$1,200.00
			<b>\$8,241.00</b>

The current price for a lift of 2x6-12' standard pine, which has 189 boards, is \$4,123.98 (excluding taxes) (\$21.82/piece). A typical lift of wood weighs approximately 2,040 kgs with create an equivalent value of approximately \$2,021.55/tonne.

If the pile is to be sorted, the expense incurred by the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) will be reabsorbed through setting a minimum bid on the lots when placed on “Gov Deals.”

### COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

### OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

To avoid the risk of scavenging under Provincial legislation, any structural lumber to be sold will be set aside in a designated area at the landfill with appropriate signage, away from the landfill's active face.

Attachments:

1. BBLF Dimensional Lumber Pictures