



REPORT

To: Solid Waste Committee

Report Number: ENV-SWC-100

From: Gerritt Lacey, Solid Waste Manager

Date: July 7, 2022

Subject: Solid Waste Committee Diary Cleanup

RECOMMENDATION #1:

That the Solid Waste Committee strike Diary Item 1, “Alternatives/solutions for continued development of waste reduction projects in the region taking into consideration challenges with distances to markets, agricultural plastics (including Oil and Gas industry), service variables between low and high density population areas”, which was included on September 28, 2018, from the Solid Waste Committee Diary.

RECOMMENDATION #2:

That the Solid Waste Committee strike Diary Item 2, “Agricultural Plastics – Bale Wrap End”, which was included on August 5, 2021, from the Solid Waste Committee Diary.

RECOMMENDATION #3:

That the Solid Waste Committee strike Diary Item 3, “That the RD continue to evaluate Waste to Energy Technologies as opportunities are presented to the Regional District”, which was included on April 1, 2022, from the Solid Waste Committee Diary.

RECOMMENDATION #4:

That the Solid Waste Committee strike Diary Item 4, “C&D Strategy”, which was added on June 6, 2019, from the Solid Waste Committee Diary.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

This report has been brought forward to update committee members on the status of items in the Solid Waste Diary.

Item	Follow-up Action / Status
1. Alternatives/solutions for continued development of waste reduction projects in the region taking into consideration challenges with distances to markets, agricultural plastics (include Oil and Gas industry), service variables between low and high density population areas. September 28, 2018	Ag-Plastics diversion opportunities.

On June 1, 2021, Cleanfarms and the PRRD kicked off a three year pilot program to recycle agricultural plastics in the PRRD. Together Cleanfarms and the PRRD opened up eight agricultural plastic drop off locations around the PRRD. The cost of the program is split 50/50 between Cleanfarms and the PRRD.

Cleanfarms is managing the logistics of the program (collection, transportation, sourcing end markets, etc.), while the PRRD is administering the program at the collection sites.

Item	Follow-up Action / Status
2. Agricultural Plastics – Bale Wrap End. August 5, 2021	Farkash (Noralta Farms) / Cleanfarms in discussions to determine if Farkash operation can be used as end market for Cleanfarms.

Near Vermillion Alberta, Danny Farkash has an operation which processes recycled plastic bale wrap into plastic fence posts. Staff reached out to Mr. Farkash to investigate the opportunity of him accepting bale wrap from the Peace River Regional District for processing and use. Although interested, Mr. Farkash is still refining the process and is not currently accepting material. Since then, the PRRD has partnered with Cleanfarms (above paragraph) for an agricultural plastics collection pilot. As Cleanfarms is responsible for the marketing of agricultural plastics collected in the PRRD, Cleanfarms will continue to investigate processing opportunities for agricultural plastics in the future.

Item	Follow-up Action / Status
3. That the RD continue to evaluate Waste to Energy Technologies as opportunities are presented to the Regional District. April 1, 2022	

Currently, in the approved 2008 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP), Section 5.3.4 “Explore Feasibility of Joint PRRD-Industry Waste to Energy Facility” speaks to the completion of a feasibility study which investigates options for a WTE facility in the PRRD looking at municipal, forestry, and oil and gas waste. This section of the Plan is high level, without any specifics, and does not commit the PRRD to the actual implementation of a WTE system but stays in the investigation stage. In the recently updated 2021 RSWMP, Strategy 10 “Assess suitability of technologies for energy recovery for residual waste” speaks to feasibility studies or assessment of technologies as they emerge, which again, remains high level and investigative. In both plans it is mentioned that the PRRD is committed to continuing to monitor WTE opportunities as they arise, which staff will continue to do so and bring forward opportunities as they arise.

Item	Follow-up Action / Status
4.a) MARR (Large Appliance Recycling) b) C&D Strategy. June 6, 2019	a) Staff to report back on outcomes of MARR and program. b) To be developed as per draft SWMP (Strategy 6: Increase diversion of C&D waste via education, tip fees and feasibility of recycling additional C&D materials)

a) MARR (Major Appliance Recycling Roundtable)

MARR is a stewardship program that operates under the BC Recycling Regulation for Extended Producer Responsibilities (EPR). During a Recycling Council of BC annual conference held in May of 2019, staff engaged with representatives from MARR to discuss establishing a program in the PRRD for collecting appliances. To date, a partnership between MARR and the PRRD has not been initiated. Staff approached MARR in May of 2022 to reignite the discussion on a potential partnership and invited

MARR to speak to the SWC during the July 7, 2022 meeting, to give committee members an overview of the program requirements and opportunities.

b) C&D Strategy

During the November 5, 2021 Solid Waste Committee (SWC) meeting, the SWC made the recommendation to increase the rates for sorted ICI waste streams by 5% and unsorted ICI waste streams by 76%, which was later supported by the Regional Board. Staff updated the Solid Waste Regulation and Fees Bylaw No. 2065, 2013 to include the changes and submitted to the province for approval. The Bylaw was later approved by the Province on January 27, 2022 and adopted by the Regional Board February 10, 2022. The new fees became effective March 1, 2022. The PRRD is currently working with a third party professional creating a review of the entire tipping fee structure which will include potential options for different fee structures. This report is expected to be completed in August of 2022, and presented to the SWC in September.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Solid Waste Committee provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- ☒ New and Emerging Issues
- ☒ Embracing 'new normal' opportunities

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

As part of offering a MARR program, the PRRD will have to update its tipping fees to make disposal of MARR accepted appliances free of charge. Through the agreement with MARR, financial incentives are paid from MARR to the PRRD in an attempt to bring the cost of offering the program to a net zero for the PRRD.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

External Links:

1. [May 13, 2022 Solid Waste Committee Meeting](#) – See Item 9.6 “Cleanfarms Agricultural Plastics Pilot 2022 Q1 Update, ENV-SWC-097”
2. [August 5, 2021 Solid Waste Committee Meeting](#) – See Item 9.1 “Update on Bale Wrap End Markets, ENV-SWC-049”
3. [November 5, 2021 Solid Waste Committee Meeting](#) – See Item 9.5 “2022 Update to Solid Waste Tipping Fees, ENV-SWC-066”