



TO: Environment and Infrastructure Committee
FROM: D. French, Manager of Public Works
DATE: August 1, 2013
RE: Waste Stream Management Licenses

For Information only.

Reference:

[Development of Organic Infrastructure, Environment and Infrastructure Committee, March 21, 2013](#)

[Draft Bylaw 2618](#) Waste Stream Management Licensing Bylaw

[Draft Board Policy](#) Issuing of Waste Stream Management Licenses for Composting Facilities

History:

The RDOS adopted a revised [Solid Waste Management Plan](#) in 2012 calling for the increased diversion of organics from landfilling. A key strategy of the Plan is the development of local composting facilities capable of handling food waste, yard waste and wastewater bio-solids.

Staff has reviewed private food waste composting projects with a number of Regional Districts. Although these jurisdictions continue to support food waste composting they have indicated a number of similar concerns including poor siting, odour and leachate of materials into groundwater. Regional Districts have used Waste Stream Management Licenses as a method to regulate the siting and operation of compost facilities to minimize the nuisances to neighboring property owners. Waste Stream Management Licenses are managed by Regional Districts but require local planning consent before being issued for a particular property.

Analysis:

Staff presented a Development of Organic Infrastructure strategy to the Environment and Infrastructure Committee in March of this year. Waste Stream Management Licensing is a tool to provide a 'level playing field' so that all Facilities meet minimum standards and are sited in locations that will limit impacts to neighbors. This bylaw will allow the RDOS to make better 'apple to apple' decisions between public and private compost facilities.

In terms of soliciting the public for comments, the RDOS will:

- Develop a webpage to allow for the public to view the bylaw and respond to it;
- Send out notices to compost organizations and potential compost business;
- Set up meetings with parties interested in developing private compost facilities.

Staff are also beginning the process of hiring a consultant to prepare feasibility studies for local government owned properties deemed suitable for composting. The consultant will be responsible for assisting Staff in assessing potential private composting Facilities.

After a period of public input, Staff will bring forward a finalized Waste Stream Management Licensing Bylaw and associated Board Policy for adoption.

Respectfully submitted:

"Doug French"

D. French, Public Works Manager