

3

WASTE TRANSFER/RAIL HAUL FACILITY - FIRST WASTE TRANSLOAD INC.

The Solid Waste Management Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, February 6, 2008, from the Commissioner of Environmental Services and the following additional recommendation:

- 4. The Regional Clerk forward a copy of this report to the Clerk, City of Vaughan, for information, immediately following the Committee meeting.**

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The Ministry of the Environment be strongly encouraged to resolve any concerns raised by the City of Vaughan regarding the issuance of a Provisional Certificate of Approval (MOE Reference Number 2845-79YM3L) to First Waste Transload Inc. for the operation of a waste disposal site on lands owned entirely by the Canadian National Railway Company and located in the City of Vaughan
2. The Ministry of the Environment include the following conditions in the Provisional Certificate of Approval:
 1. All discharges from this operation to the sanitary or storm sewer systems meet the present and any future requirements of the Regional Municipality of York's Sewer Use By-Law No. S-57-92-155.
 2. The MOE require sufficient Financial Assurance to cover the costs for the clean up, removal, transportation, disposal and supervision of any waste present on the site due to its hazardous nature or because of, including but not limited to, fires, spills, or any other emergency or financial insolvency on the part of the Company.
3. The Regional Clerk forward copies of this report to First Waste Transload Inc., the Clerk of the City of Vaughan and the Ministry of the Environment.

2. PURPOSE

This report responds to a request from the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) for comments on the application by First Waste Transload Inc. for a Certificate of Approval to establish a waste transfer station in the City of Vaughan.

3. BACKGROUND

First Waste Transload Inc. has made application to the MOE for a Certificate of Approval (MOE Reference Number 2845-79YM3L) to establish a waste transfer and processing site in the City of Vaughan. The MOE is seeking comments from the Region by February 29, 2008, and if no comments are received by that date, the MOE will assume that the Region has no objections. A location plan is attached (see Attachment 1).

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

4.1 Description of Location, Facility and Operation

First Waste Transload Inc., under an agreement with Canadian National Railway Company, proposes to operate a transfer/rail haul facility on lands owned entirely by the Canadian National Railway Company at the south end of the MacMillan Classification Rail Yard located in the City of Vaughan. The leased site is approximately 2.66 hectares (6.58 acres) with an additional leased road access of 2.10 hectares (5.20 acres). All incoming and outgoing vehicle traffic will travel on Freshway Drive. The facility will accept industrial, commercial and institutional waste materials and construction and demolition waste.

First Waste Transload Inc. currently has a 3716 m² (40,000 ft²) structure under construction on the site. Two doors sets will be used to accommodate all incoming loads of material and the third set of doors will be used for a six open top rail cars to load waste. Roll up doors will remain closed at all times, except when receiving waste material and shunting the open top rail cars.

4.1.1 Proposed Operation

The facility will operate on a 24 hour per day shift from Sunday at 11:50 p.m. to Saturday at 2:00 p.m. inclusive. The waste material will be generated within the Province of Ontario. The facility will receive a maximum of 1,000 tonnes per day of solid, non-hazardous waste materials from industrial, commercial and institutional sources including construction and demolition waste. The Certificate of Approval will limit on site waste storage to 1,039 tonnes. During normal operations, the incoming waste will be loaded as it arrives eliminating the need for on-site storage of unprocessed material.

The facility has two eighty foot scales incorporating radiation monitoring on the inbound side. Trucks discharge waste inside on one of two tipping floors each with a 523 tonne capacity. The receiving area and tipping floor areas make up about two thirds of the building, approximately 2,876 m². Most of the time, waste will not require processing and loaders will place it into specially designed open top rail cars owned and operated by International Bulk Services (IBS), a wholly owned subsidiary of Canadian National Railway Company. All incoming material will be rail hauled to a landfill site in the State of Michigan.

4.2 Regional Comments

York Region does not provide solid waste management services to the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional sector, except at the Georgina Transfer Station. However, through planning comments seeks to set a benchmark for long term operational and environmental sustainability of private waste transfer facilities serving this market. The First Waste Transload Inc. appears to meet such a benchmark. York Region staff have no reason to object to this application and, subject to the City of Vaughan's concerns being addressed. Should that the MOE continue to process this application staff recommend including the following standard conditions for the transfer station:

- All discharges from this operation to the sanitary or storm sewers systems meet the meet the present and any future requirements of the Regional Municipality of York's Sewer Use By-Law No. S-57-92-155.
- The MOE require sufficient Financial Assurance to cover the costs for the clean up, removal, transportation, disposal and supervision of any waste present on the site that due its hazardous nature or because of including, but not limited to, fires, spills, or any other emergency or financial insolvency on the part of the Company.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

Region Staff have been in discussion with Vaughan staff and were advised they are preparing a report for their municipal Council.

7. CONCLUSION

First Waste Transload Inc. is a 1,000 tonne-per-day private transfer/rail haul facility that will service the local Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) sectors throughout the Province of Ontario with a viable long-haul rail option to a landfill site in Michigan. Rail hauling waste is an important alternative to trucking waste, reducing the air pollution (carbon dioxide) emitted from vehicles and reducing truck traffic on local and provincial roadways. It is recommended that York not object to its approval.

For more information on this report contact Robert Zander, Project Coordinator of the Solid Waste and Administration Branch at 905-830-4444 extension 5721 in the Environmental Services Department.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachment referred to in this clause is attached to this report.)