

WASTE MANAGEMENT

WEST CARLETON ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE

SOME WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITMENTS TO THE COMMUNITY

June, 2010

We have heard recently is that it is fine for us to talk in very general ways about how we will address the community's concerns, but will we really follow through? To help in showing you that we will, we offer the following series of statements of our commitments on some of the more common concerns that have surfaced recently.

Please contact us with your questions and comments.

Odour – We understand the community concern about odour.. As evidence of our commitment that any future odour impacts will be rare, minor and addressed promptly, we are proposing an Odour Enforcement Mechanism to supplement existing remedies. A preliminary statement of principles as to how the mechanism would operate is attached.

Property value protection - Some residents have expressed concern about the impact of our project on land values. We are committed to construct and operate the project so as to ensure that any adverse impact will be very limited. We understand, though, that some are not convinced of this. As a result, we are prepared to commit that we will provide to qualified owners of real estate protection against reduction in value of their homes by reason of the new project. Details as to how the plan would work and what residences qualify will be developed in consultation with stakeholders as part of the environmental assessment.

Community benefits – We think it is critical that the community benefit generously from a project such as ours in ways that are more tangible and immediate than the contribution the project makes to waste management infrastructure within the city. The forms that these benefits take vary from community to community, but typically include:

- on-site recreational and other amenities,
- off-site contributions to identified programs and groups,
- subsidized disposal for local businesses,
- preferred local hiring and procurement, and
- trust funds (often in excess of \$1 million per year) administered by local councillors or other representatives.

We look forward to discussing with you and your councillors at the appropriate time the ways in which the community may benefit.

Continued waste programs for community -- The site will continue to offer public drop off of recyclables including electronic waste, tires, plastic, wood, scrap steel and other recyclables

Community liaison committee - We will continue to participate on and support the site's critically important community liaison committee. In addition to its normal function in relation to operations of the site, we will ask the committee to help establish a group to make recommendations as to aesthetics and beautification at the existing landfill site which will be closing in the near future.

Commitment of Capacity to Ottawa - We will continue to reserve the vast majority of the capacity at the site for waste generated within the City of Ottawa.

Waste diversion facilities -- The waste diversion facilities - directed to general commercial recyclables and construction and demolition materials - will be built at the same time as the other project components. They will be able to process more than 75,000 tonnes of material annually. Actual throughput will depend upon market conditions.

Principles of Odour Enforcement Mechanism

Purpose

The purpose of the mechanism is not to establish a definitive and conclusive resolution of all odour related issues at the site. Rather it is to provide enough clarity and concreteness that members of the community feel it will supply an effective and important additional inducement to WM to ensure odour impacts are rare, minor and addressed promptly.

Fund

A lump sum will be deposited in escrow on opening of the new project. If the fund is depleted in any given year, it will be topped up at the beginning of the following year. There would be normal provisions for investment in safe investments and income adding to the fund.

Administration

The escrow would be administered by the four west end councillors. All references to the councillors operate on the assumption that the councillors will be amenable to their involvement.

Referee

A person or agency who is technically qualified and trained in odour assessment and identification would be designated as the "odour referee" by the west end councillors and WM. If at any stage any of the councillors or WM becomes dissatisfied with the objectivity of the incumbent referee, they will discuss the matter in good faith with a view to resolving the matter. There will be provision for removal and replacement of the odour referee. Ideally this will be as a result of consensus between the councillors and WM, but a fair method of resolving any lack of consensus will be identified.

Claim

At any time, a person or group of people may claim to the referee that they have suffered adverse impact. In this protocol, "adverse impact" means an odour impact which:

- persists over a specified period,
- materially and adversely affects people's enjoyment of their residential properties in the area, and
- is attributable to operations at the site

There will be provision for filing of the appropriate written claim and responses to the claim.

The costs of the decision-maker will be paid by WM.

Investigation

The referee will investigate the situation on the basis of such written evidence as it is available (including any written ministry conclusions and written submissions by the complainant, WM and other community members). The referee will, within no more than a specified time after the original claim was made, issue a final decision (with reasons) as to whether there has been an adverse impact. The matter will not, unless all parties agree otherwise, be considered to be confidential.

Payment to local cause

If the referee decides that there was an adverse impact, a payment of a specified amount (to be settled upon with the councillors) will be made from the escrow fund to such cause benefitting the local community as the councillors may designate.

No credit

WM will not claim any credit for the donation. This will not prevent WM from describing in simple and objective terms its role in the process.

Not a substitute for other remedies

None of this affects the rights of individual residents to pursue whatever other remedies they may have -- whether with the Ministry as a regulatory matter or with the courts as a civil action against WM or otherwise.