

Minutes of a Meeting of the Core Area and West Shore Sewage Treatment Technical and Community Advisory Committee (TCAC)

Held November 5, 2013, in the Board Room, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC

Present:

Committee Members: D. Blackwell (Chair), R. Barnhart, M. Baxter, G. Gillespie, D. Halldorson, E. Ishiguro, D. Kalynchuk, M. Mahovlich, D. Marshall, J. Miller, B. Oldham, D. Purewall, L. Resnick, D. Spinner, T. Tiedje, D. White, C. Witter

Staff: T. Brcic, Deputy Program Director, Core Area Wastewater Treatment Program; J. Hull, Interim Program Director, Core Area Wastewater Treatment Program; L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; A. Sweetnam, Program Director, Core Area Wastewater Treatment Program; D. Telford, Senior Manager, Environmental Engineering; J. Tradewell (recorder) **External Resources:** E. Dyck, Island Health; B. Mann, Ministry of Environment; J. Wilson, Ministry of Environment

Absent:

M. Coburn, K. Cossey, T. Davies, J. McIsaac, J. Rosenberg

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by D. Kalynchuk, **SECONDED** by R. Barnhart, That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Minutes

A member noted a date discrepancy in the consolidated version of the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan – May 2011 (CALWMP) that was distributed to members with the September TCAC agenda package. It was suggested that on page 7.1 in Section 7 – Item 2 Recovery of Energy from Biosolids, the first sentence should read The CRD and the participating municipalities will, by the end of 2018 (instead of 2016).

MOVED by D. Halldorson, **SECONDED** by B. Oldham, That the minutes of the October 15, 2013 meeting be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

[Upon further consideration after the meeting, staff confirmed that the 2016 date was in fact stated correctly in the consolidated version (May 2011), since it reflects CALWMP as it exists prior to the proposed Amendment No. 9 being approved by the Ministry of Environment. Therefore, the October 15 minutes were not amended as requested above.]

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair reported that at the meeting of October 30, 2013, the Capital Regional District (CRD) Committee of the Whole and CRD Board reviewed staff recommendations regarding changes to the regional biosolids management policy and decided that the policy should remain as originally approved. There is still, however, a need to amend the wording in the CALWMP to allow the consideration of other innovative alternative technologies for dealing with the biosolids.

4. Committee of the Whole Review of Regional Biosolids Management Policy

L. Hutcheson confirmed that the TCAC report *Committee of the Whole Review of Regional Biosolids Management Policy* documents the outcome of the CRD Board's Committee of the Whole discussion last week.

A member queried why the second item in the Conclusion section of the staff report specifically states that the CRD does not support the application of biosolids on farmland and perhaps should refer to land in general. Staff replied that the wording in Conclusion items 1 and 2 are as approved by the CRD Board in 2011 and upheld at the meeting of October 30, 2013. Conclusion item 2 reinforces the policy with respect to application of biosolids to farmland.

MOVED by D. Kalynchuk, SECONDED by M. Mahovlich,

That the Core Area and West Shore Sewage Treatment Technical and Community Advisory Committee receive for information the report *Committee of the Whole Review of Regional Biosolids Management Policy*.

CARRIED

5. Proposed Amendment No. 9

J. Hull reported that the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (CALWMC) recommended a change to the proposed wording in *Draft Amendment No. 9 – Item 4 Amendment to Biosolids Processing*. The recommended change was to add the words *in a manner that is consistent with CRD policy* to the last sentence so that it would read: *Preparing the biosolids for beneficial use in a manner that is consistent with CRD policy*.

A member queried what other potential uses for biosolids are there. Staff responded that this is presently under investigation and that thermal destruction and gasification could potentially be added to the list of options.

A member queried a page number discrepancy in the consolidated version of the CALWMP (May 2011) and the CALWMP Draft Amendment No. 9 – Summary and suggested to strike the reference to page numbers entirely. Clarification was given that the draft amendment summary is referencing the Amendment No. 8 document sections provided in the staff report as Appendix B.

Discussion ensued, which included the following:

- sludge stabilization process solids vs. sludge these terms are interchangeable
- different classes of biosolids

MOVED by D. Kalynchuk, SECONDED by M. Mahovlich,

That the proposed Amendment No. 9 of the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan, be accepted with the addition of *in a manner that is consistent with CRD policy* added to the proposed amended sentence in Commitment 3.b) on page 6.2 of Section 6 so that it reads as follows: *Preparing the biosolids for beneficial use <u>in a manner that is consistent</u> with CRD policy.*

B. Oldham, C. Witter **OPPOSED**

6. Motion for Which Notice Has Been Given

MOVED by C. Witter, SECONDED by G. Gillespie,

That staff be directed to provide the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee and the Technical and Community Advisory Committee with documentation that confirms an Environmental and Social Review for McLoughlin Point and Hartland North is no longer mandated by the CRD.

Discussion on the motion followed. Staff provided a brief history on how the Environmental and Social Review (ESR) and Environmental Impact Study (EIS) evolved. Staff clarified that the Ministry of Environment (MOE) and Environment Canada jointly developed and agreed (2008-2009) on a required format for the Seaterra Program's EIS that covers all of the same topics normally included in an ESR. The Environmental Impact Study of Core Area Wastewater Treatment Facilities: Terrestrial Environment Part 2: McLoughlin Point – Hartland Facilities was included in Amendment No. 8 to the CALWMP, which was approved by the TCAC, CALWMC, CRD Board and MOE in 2010. Staff reported that the ESR referred to in the motion has been done, but under the EIS name.

A member stated that an ESR and EIS are two distinctly different reports and there is no discussion or directives that the two reports should be merged. Staff listed the various topics covered under ESRs versus EISs, as provided by the environmental consultant who prepared the reports for the CRD. The Chair requested the consultant's comparison of topics be made available to members.

Discussion on the motion ensued and included the following:

- Major and minor amendments trigger different consultation requirements from MOE.
- Amendment No. 8 had all of the appropriate documentation when submitted to MOE.
- A suggestion was made to submit the question around the ESR and EIS reports through staff to the CALWMC.
- EIS reports are mandated by MOE not the CRD.

Staff advised that the discussion on the above motion will go to the CALWMC in the TCAC minutes. The Chair requested that the list of differences between an ESR and an EIS that staff read to the members be attached to the minutes for information.

The Chair ruled the above motion out of order based on the TCAC Terms of Reference and it not being relevant to the discussion regarding the minor changes included under draft Amendment No. 9.

7. New Business

There was no new business.

8. Adjournment

MOVED by D. Kalynchuk, **SECONDED** by M. Mahovlich, That the meeting be adjourned at 12:44 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR