



BOARD REPORT

TO:

Chair and Directors

File No: 5360 01

SUBJECT:

Update on Waste Gypsum Material

DESCRIPTION:

Report from Ben Van Nostrand, Team Leader, Environmental Health Services dated May 4, 2018. Gypsum board (drywall) recycling program update.

RECOMMENDATION #1: For Information Only

SHORT SUMMARY:

In October 2017, CSR D staff was informed by the gypsum board (drywall) recycling service provider that stockpiled drywall at CSR D refuse disposal facilities would no longer be accepted for recycling. Similar program notifications occurred between gypsum recycling contractors and neighbouring regional districts (TNRD, RDNO, and RDOS) as well as the City of Kelowna. These local governments formed an informal working group to examine new acceptance, recycling and disposal provisions and options for waste drywall disposal.

The CSR D recently released a Request for Proposals from qualified proponents to provide an option to undertake a recycling program for waste drywall within the CSR D. The CSR D received no submissions to the RFP.

As waste drywall has changed from a marketable waste to an unmarketable waste, incoming loads of drywall and existing stockpiles of drywall will need to be landfilled as CSR D staff investigate new options for recycling.

VOTING:

Unweighted
Corporate



LGA Part 14
(Unweighted)



Weighted
Corporate



Stakeholder
(Weighted)



BACKGROUND:

Drywall is inorganic and does not contain biogenic carbon. As such, its decomposition does not produce methane or other greenhouse gases. However, hydrogen sulfide gas will be produced from landfilled drywall, because of the moist, anaerobic environment and a low pH conditions in a landfill. Hydrogen sulfide gas is toxic at high concentrations (~1,000 parts per million) and has a foul, rotten-egg odor. Several communities in Canada do not accept drywall at landfills for this reason.

The CSR D began recycling drywall in 2010 by encouraging residents and contractors to separate their drywall from their waste and to deposit it in a marshalling area at a refuse disposal facility. Initially, the drywall was shipped to a processing facility in Lake Country where it was recycled into new drywall. In 2013 the CSR D partnered with the North Okanagan and Okanagan-Similkameen regional districts to send drywall to a composting facility in Alberta.

In October, 2017 the CSRD was informed by the composting facility in Alberta that, due to uncertainties related to the potential for drywall to contain waste asbestos, they would no longer be able to accept drywall.

Drywall manufactured from 1950 through to the 1980s is likely to contain asbestos. Asbestos was added to drywall to make it more noise absorbent, improve fire resistant capabilities and to make it stronger. As a result, accepting drywall at CSRD refuse disposal sites without procedures in place to ensure that drywall is asbestos free impacts the ability to recycle this material.

Depositing waste asbestos in a landfill is authorized by the Ministry of Environment, provided that the waste asbestos is immediately buried with a minimum of 0.5 metres of cover material. Waste asbestos is required to be confined during handling, storage and transportation to the receiving facility.

The CSRD Refuse Disposal Site Rates and Regulations Bylaw, No 5759 identifies that recycling programs will be developed for waste items that are marketable for recycling. Existing bylaw provisions allow for unmarketable items to be alternatively disposed of through burial. As there is no current market available to the CSRD, it is now an unmarketable waste.

The following changes to the CSRD drywall recycling program will be implemented immediately at all CSRD landfill sites:

- All incoming waste loads of drywall will be directed to the active face of the landfill and the existing "Mixed Waste" tipping fee rate will be applied.
- CSRD staff will work with site contractors to dispose of existing stockpiles, using techniques that minimize risk to their workers.
- CSRD staff will investigate and recommend to the Board new drywall disposal fees that will encourage proper drywall management.
- CSRD staff will look to develop and recommend to the Board new recycling programs for drywall which does not contain asbestos.
- CSRD staff will continue to work with our neighbouring counterparts in an attempt, where possible, to create consistent acceptance, recycling and disposal policies related to drywall.

CSRD staff will endeavor to bring forward a new policy for the Board's consideration at the June 2018 regular Board meeting. In the meantime, staff will implement measures to handle and dispose of existing drywall stockpiles and direct all drywall to be immediately buried at CSRD landfills.

POLICY:

The proposed changes are consistent with solid waste management bylaws and practices.

FINANCIAL:

No negative impact to the solid waste budget.

KEY ISSUES/CONCEPTS:

Changes to drywall recycling programs have impacted the CSRD's ability to accept and manage drywall for recycling. Staff are working on developing new acceptance policies and procedures to effectively manage drywall at CSRD refuse disposal facilities.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Upon Board approval, staff will implement immediate changes proposed and will work to bring forward updated policies to the Board as soon as possible.

LIST NAME OF REPORT(S) / DOCUMENT(S) AVAILABLE FROM STAFF:

N/A

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2018-05-04 Drywall Management Board Report.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	May 8, 2018

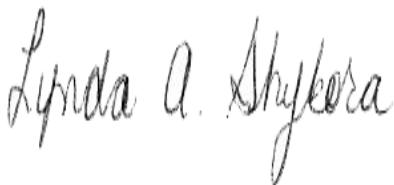
This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

No Signature - Task assigned to Darcy Mooney was completed by assistant Phaedra Turner

Darcy Mooney - May 4, 2018 - 3:24 PM



Jodi Pierce - May 4, 2018 - 4:15 PM



Lynda Shykora - May 8, 2018 - 9:56 AM

No Signature - Task assigned to Charles Hamilton was completed by assistant Lynda Shykora

Charles Hamilton - May 8, 2018 - 10:13 AM