

Geoff Rathbone
General Manager Solid Waste Management Services

City Hall
Street Address
25th Floor, East Tower
Toronto, Ontario Postal Code

Tel: 416 392-4715
Fax: 416 392-4754
grathbo@toronto.ca
www.toronto.ca

Issue / Background:

At its meeting of February 23 and 24, 2011, City Council adopted with amendment the Executive Committee report EX3.2 entitled "Rate Supported Budgets – Toronto Water and Solid Waste Management" and directed that "The General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services report to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee as soon as possible on the financial impact of transporting sludge to the Green Lane Landfill Site."

This Briefing Note is to be considered at the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee meeting on April 26, 2011 with Staff Report PW3.4 entitled "Biosolids Master Plan Update - Highland Creek Treatment Plant" dated April 7, 2011 from the General Manager, Toronto Water.

Key Points:

In 2010, the City's Green Lane Landfill site received 12,057 wet tonnes of biosolids which corresponds to an average of between one and two loads per day, five days per week. Green Lane Landfill has in the past received up to three loads per day, five days per week. Presently, the Green Lane Landfill is able to accept between 4 and 6 loads of biosolids per day, five days per week. The two primary limitation factors for Green Lane Landfill to receive beyond 4 to 6 loads per day for a long-term period are currently as follows:

1. The receipt of biosolids tonnage above 11-12% of the total waste stream alters the nature of the landfill leachate, which in turn quickly overwhelms Green Lane's leachate collection and treatment system causing operational and regulatory compliance challenges; and
2. Current experience related to the receipt of biosolids above six to eight loads per day greatly increases off-site odour impacts thereby generating an increase in the number of odour complaints from the surrounding community along with additional regulatory enforcement by the provincial Ministry of the Environment.

If Toronto Water is to take the maximum number of loads to Green Lane Landfill, the additional tonnes of sludge will be approximately 25,000 tonnes per year, which combined with the 2011 budget amounts, the total weight would be approximately 50,000 tonnes. Based on the maximum available tonnage capacity, the additional inter-divisional revenues to be paid by Toronto Water to Solid Waste Management Services will be approximately

Prepared by: Geoff Rathbone, General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services

Circulated to: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

Further information: Vincent Sferrazza, Director Policy and Planning, Solid Waste Management Services

Date: April 21, 2011

\$1.6 million a year, in addition to the budget revenues of \$2.1 million included in the 2011 Solid Waste

Management Services Operating Budget. The actual 2010 revenues for the sewage sludge from Toronto Water amounted to \$1.1 million.

In the future, if there is a Biogas Composting Facility at Green Lane Landfill, additional volume of sludge can be accepted through this facility. In the proposed Biogas Composting Facility, a maximum 30,000 tonnes of capacity could be available for Toronto Water's biosolids.

With respect to transportation, Solid Waste Management Services Division is not currently set-up to undertake the biosolids haulage. The equipment used to haul biosolids involves the use of sealed dump trailers, not the present 50 foot walking floors that are used for Solid Waste Haulage. Furthermore, biosolids should not flow through the Transfer Stations as they are not designed nor permitted to handle this type of material. Hence, Toronto Water has the sole responsibility of hauling the biosolids to the Green Lane Landfill.