

# ATTACHMENT 3

**Coffee Pods Consultation Meeting: Stakeholder Attendees and Responses**  
**Thursday, February 22, 2018**  
**BMO Conference and Education Centre, 60 Leonard Avenue, Toronto, ON.**

A total of 43 organizations were invited to participate including manufacturers, waste and recycling organizations, retailers, processors, municipal organizations, and environmental groups. Representatives from the following 22 organizations attended the consultation in person or via teleconference:

<b>Stakeholder Organization</b>	<b>Organization Type</b>
AECOM	Waste Management Service Provider
BASF	Industry Association
Biopolymers Market Development Management	Industry Association
Canada Fibers Limited	Waste Management Service Provider
Canadian Plastics Industry Association	Industry Association
CIEL Group	Industry Consultant
Club Coffee	Coffee Pod Manufacturer / Brand Owner
Coffee Association of Canada	Industry Association
Compost Council of Canada	Industry Association
Emterra Group	Waste Management Service Provider
Go Java	Retailer/ Recycler
Keurig Green Mountain	Coffee Pod Manufacturer / Brand Owner
Pathway Group	Media Agency / Lobbyist
Mother Parkers Tea & Coffee	Coffee Pod Manufacturer / Brand Owner
Municipal Waste Association	Municipal Organization
Nestle-Nespresso Canada	Coffee Pod Manufacturer / Brand Owner
PAC Packaging Consortium	Industry Association
Recycling Council of Ontario	Industry Association
Recycling & Waste Disposal	Waste Management Service Provider
Retail Council of Canada	Industry Association
Stewardship Ontario	Industry Funding Organization
Toronto Environmental Alliance	Environmental Non-profit

## **Summary of Consultation:**

The consultation provided an opportunity for the City to share information in a status updates since the July 19, 2017 consultation and for attendees to participate in facilitated table discussions. This involved presentations by the City of Toronto, Compost Council of Canada, Keurig Green Mountain, and Nespresso.

The presentations were as follow:

1. **City of Toronto** provided a status update to advise stakeholders of Club Coffee's acceptance through the Green Market Acceleration Program and the City's plan to move forward to conduct testing at the Disco Road Organics Processing Facility.
  - No comments or questions were received following this presentation.
2. **Compost Council of Canada** provided an update from the Certified Compostable Committee
  - No comments or questions were received following this presentation.
3. **Keurig Green Mountain** presented on their testing of the recyclability of Coffee Pods. Keurig's test placed RFID (radio frequency) devices on K-cups so that their flow through Material Recovery Facility could be tracked.
  - Two questions were received:
    - Q: "At present, if a coffee pod is in a recycling bin, what happens?"
    - Comments following this question highlighted the City's concerns about contamination in the Blue Bin program. It highlighted current market pressures in the recycling industry and the negative impact to the City's revenue should Blue Bin Recyclables, especially paper, become soiled with organics during processing.
    - Q: "How do you come up with the 50/50 rate (which suggests that half of consumers will follow disposal instructions)?"
    - A discussion of curbside studies followed as well as a viewing of two consumer education videos produced by Keurig.
4. **Nespresso** presented on their Green Bag program, a take-back program through which consumers return used aluminum pods for recycling. Nespresso has established agreements with Quebec municipalities, Terracycle, Canada Post, 2M Resources, etc. Consumers place their used pods in a dedicated bag inside their Blue Bin, or mail them back using pre-postage paid bags. At the Material Recovery Facility, bags are pulled out of the recycling system and sent to Nespresso. Nespresso separates the Pods from the grounds, recycles the aluminum and composts the grounds, through the agreements with their project partners.

- Four questions about the design of the bag and the pod were directed to Nespresso:

Q: "What is the adhesive on the green bag like? Does it resemble a Ziploc, or actual glue adhesive?"

Q: "What happens to the bag?"

Q: "Do the bags come with the product? How does the consumer get them?"

Q: "Is the pod just aluminum?"

Nespresso demonstrated a sample bag, showing the seal design and adhesive, stating that the bag is recyclable and available in stores, and stating that the pods is 90 per cent aluminum.

Following these presentations and discussions, Solid Waste Management Services presented a new draft policy conditions and considerations that the City will use in determining whether or not to evaluate a material for inclusion in a waste diversion stream. In facilitated table discussions, participants were asked the following questions about a draft document, entitled: *New Material Policy Considerations*:

1. What stands out for you in the considerations?
2. Where do you see opportunities?
3. What are your concerns? What impacts you?
4. What would you want to see changed?

Participants can continue to provide feedback on the draft *New Material Policy Considerations* until March 9, 2018. They were also advised that a consultation on policies for the acceptance or rejection of new materials in waste diversion streams will be held on March 21, 2018. Solid Waste Management Services will report on this topic following the March 2018 consultation.