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Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2010 4:42 PM

To: Information Centre

Cc: env.minister@gov.bc.ca

Subject: Feedback on the Draft Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan

My feedback on the Draft Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan.

I am very pleased with most of the draft plan except for one major item.

I am not in favour of any costly, ineffective, polluting and zero waste defeating incineration plant for the region.

I was involved in the inspection of the current incinerator plant in Burnaby for the first five years and from that experience I am not sold on the need for another plant.

These incinerators need fuel and since most waste arriving at the current Burnaby plant is not sorted and has dubious fuel capacity except for plastic (the pit has everything from propane bottles, pharmaceuticals, kitchen wastes etc...all poor fuel sources) it cannot be seen as advancing the goals of zero waste.

I have seen operators separate the plastic from the garbage bags in the pit and set them aside in a pile to be used when the temperature of the incinerator boilers gets too low. I have seen such weak flames in the boilers at times that plastic is the only thing, except natural gas, that brings to flicker to a raging fire.

Since plastic provides the btu's to keep the flame burning in Bby's three boilers, why would we even think of building more incinerators? Do we wish to continue to have the level of plastic entering our waste stream to begin with? Do we need all the plastic packaging we seem to get whether we like it or not? If we are serious about a Zero Waste initiative then why would we build something that relies on plastic for its fuel?

Another issue I have is the hazardous waste that is generated by burning. Again failure to source separate allows all sorts of dangerous waste to enter the incinerator plant. We know that incineration does not rid us of all waste, incineration generates its own waste stream, at least 1/4 of all waste burned becomes ash and 1/4 or more of that ash is dangerous/hazardous and must be disposed of in a special landfill.

We need initiatives that will end the flow of plastics into the waste stream not encourage that flow. Construction of a very expensive incinerator (increasing taxes) will just delay the inevitable, zero waste!

I also think we need to have a full analysis of both the capital and operating costs of the current Bby incinerator. The maintenance, rebuilds have been expensive and these costs should be identified and placed up against other options, including removing certain packaging from consumer shelves that are unnecessary and are costly and detrimental to the environment. Incineration is a 17th Century practice that must end in the 21st Century.

As a grandfather it is upon myself to seek and ensure we plan properly for my grandson's son's future.

Thanks for reading my comments. I hope they are taken seriously. Phil Le Good