

Covering Memo - June 20th, 2016

On June 9, 2016, the BC government amended the Organic Matter Recycling Regulation (OMRR) with respect to larger composting facilities. These amendments are not reflected in the “Compost Facility Requirements Guideline: How to Comply with Part 5 of the Organic Matter Recycling Regulation” document. Certain aspects of this report relating to regulatory requirements are therefore not current and may no longer apply.

Overview of Amendments

The OMRR amendments provide site specific oversight and address concerns regarding public notification for certain facilities. In addition to complying with OMRR, compost facilities that meet the following criteria will now also require a permit issued pursuant to the *Environmental Management Act* (EMA):

- process food waste or biosolids, and
- have the design capacity to produce 5,000 tonnes or greater of compost per year.

Facilities that meet the criteria above will have 60 days to apply for a permit; the application deadline is August 8, 2016. Facilities that do not meet the above criteria, or that currently hold an approval or operational certificate do not require a permit.

Compost Facility Guidelines

Although some information related to regulatory requirements is not current in the guidance document, a majority of the information still applies, including:

- guidance on site and environmental considerations
- best management practices and criteria for leachate management plans
- odour management plans, and
- environmental impact studies (EIS)

Facilities that are captured by the amendments and now require a permit can use this document for guidance on how to develop an EIS, leachate management plan or other relevant material that is required in a permit application.

For information on the permit application process please consult the following link:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/waste-discharge-authorization>

For more information on the OMRR amendment and regulatory requirements, please consult the following link:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/wastemanagement/recycling/organics/regulations-guidelines>