
Solid Waste Management Planning Guideline Update Response Form

The Ministry of Environment (the ministry) will be updating the guideline for preparation of regional solid waste management plans. The [guideline](#) outlines the process for regional districts to develop and coordinate a solid waste management plan. A solid waste management plan also acts as a blueprint for reducing disposal of municipal solid waste.

The ministry's intentions for updating the guideline are described in an intentions paper provided on the [ministry's municipal waste management plans website](#). This response form and consultation questions follow the structure of the intentions paper. Comments on the ministry's intentions are welcomed, using this response form or by separate submission. All submissions and comments will be reviewed and considered by the ministry in moving forward with the proposed updates to the guideline. As well, all submissions will be reviewed for inclusion without attribution in a consultation summary report to be made public following the consultation period. Please note that comments you provide and information that identifies you as the source of those comments may be publicly available if a Freedom of Information request is made under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

After review of consultation comments, the ministry will begin drafting an updated guideline with the aim of releasing it in early 2016. A training and implementation period for the guideline will follow in early 2016.

The ministry welcomes comments on the information and proposals outlined in the intentions paper posted on the [ministry's municipal waste management plans website](#). Those interested are invited to submit comments to the ministry using this comment form, or by separate submission if desired.

If you have any questions or comments please email: SWMP.IP@gov.bc.ca

Completed response forms or submissions may be submitted using the online form or as an attached file to this email address, or by mail to: **PO Box 28159 Westshore RPO Victoria B.C. V9B 6K8**

Comments should be submitted by: **November 15, 2015**

All submissions will be treated with confidentiality by ministry staff and contractors when preparing consultation reports. Please note however that comments you provide and information that identifies you as the source of those comments may be publicly available if a Freedom of Information request is made under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Thank you for your time and comments.

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Discussion Questions

The following discussion questions are based on the ministry's intentions paper for updating the Solid Waste Management Planning Guideline. The intentions paper can be downloaded from the [ministry's municipal waste management plans website](#).

General questions

The current guideline has been in place since the early 1990s. It was developed to provide guidance for regional districts on provincial legislative requirements for solid waste management planning.

How useful have you found the current guideline in supporting your work and/or interests regarding solid waste management planning?

- Not applicable - haven't used it Not useful at all Adequate Quite useful Very useful

What are the reasons for your choice?

Do you have any general comments about the ministry's proposed updates to the guideline?

PROPOSED UPDATES

1. Scope of the proposed updates

The proposed updates focus on changes that can be addressed within the *Environmental Management Act* legislative framework (see intentions paper pages 2-3).

1.1 Do you have any comments regarding the scope of the proposed updates?

1.2 Do you have any comments for consideration by the ministry on future consultations related to municipal solid waste policy and/or legislative changes?

2. Regional district planning and updating process

2.1 **Planning process** (see intentions paper page 3).

Do you have any comments regarding the three-stage planning process?

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2.2 **Plan timeframe** (see intentions paper page 3).

Do you have any comments regarding the timeframe of ten years for the plans and the setting out of a time horizon for commitments?

Do you have any comments regarding the five-year implementation and effectiveness review?

Do you have any comments regarding the ministry's intention to add a provision that a plan should be renewed every ten years?

2.3 **Plan updates** (see intentions paper pages 3-4).

Do you have any comments regarding the ministry's intention to provide guidance for plans to be living documents - by enabling use of schedules to the plan with specified information and a process for updating the schedules over the life of the plan without resorting to updating the full plan?

3. Ministry of Environment role in plan development and implementation

3.1 **Plan development - interactions with the ministry** (see intentions paper page 4).

Do you have any comments regarding the ministry providing a plan checklist/summary template for a regional district corporate officer to certify - documenting how the plan and planning process meet the ministry's desired results and requirements?

Can you suggest other alternatives or positions within a regional district that would be appropriate for certifying how the plan and planning process meet the ministry's desired results and requirements?

3.2 **Plan implementation - interactions with the ministry** (see intentions paper page 4).

Do you have any general comments regarding this topic?

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4. *Targets*

- 4.1 Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding targets that could or should be included in the guideline? (see intentions paper pages 4-5).

5. *Plan principles*

- 5.1 **Consultation principles** (see intentions paper page 5).

Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding the consultation principles listed or any additional principles to suggest?

Are there any other key stakeholder groups that should be included in the consultation process beyond those listed in the intentions paper (see second bullet on page 5)?

- 5.2 **Environmental guiding principles** (see intentions paper pages 5-6).

Do you have any comments regarding the environmental guiding principles listed or any additional principles to suggest?

6. *Public accountability mechanisms*

- 6.1 **Advisory committees** (see intentions paper page 6).

Do you have any comments regarding this topic?

- 6.2 **Public consultation** (see intentions paper page 7).

Do you have any comments regarding the desired outcome of community members and all impacted stakeholders being aware of the planning process and of opportunities to participate and/or provide input?

Do you have any comments regarding the proposed flexibility for regional districts to determine how best to engage their stakeholders?

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Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding the content of consultation reports?

Do you have any comments regarding use of a plan checklist/summary document asking a corporate officer to demonstrate and certify that adequate consultation took place?

6.3 Reporting (see intentions paper page 7).

Do you have any comments regarding the items suggested for annual or bi-annual reporting to the regional district board?

Do you have any comments regarding preparation of the five-year implementation and effectiveness review report for the public?

Do you have any comments or suggestions to support public access to reports?

7. Plan content

7.1 Do you have any comments regarding the existing guideline's list of elements to be included in a plan? (see intentions paper page 8 and section 29 of the guideline)

Do you have any comments regarding efficiency/consistency opportunities with neighbouring regions being an element of a plan?

Do you have any comments regarding strategies being defined in a plan for how regional districts interact with industry product stewardship programs?

Do you have any comments regarding broadening section 29g to include a description of measures that key stakeholders have agreed to undertake to implement the plan?

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8. Compliance

8.1 Do you have any comments regarding this topic? (see intentions paper page 8)

Additional comments

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions for the ministry regarding the proposed updates to the solid waste management planning guideline?

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Background and Area of Interest

Please check the appropriate boxes to describe your primary interest in the Ministry's update:

- Work for a regional district:**
Please describe (e.g., planning, engineering):
- Work for a municipality:**
Please describe (e.g., planning, engineering):
- Work for a government regulatory agency (other than local):**
Please describe (e.g., federal, provincial):
- Work for a public sector organization:**
Please describe (e.g., health authority, education institution, Crown corporation)
- First Nation:** Please describe:
- Work in the solid waste management industry (private sector):**
Please describe type of goods or services provided:
- Work for an industry product stewardship organization:**
Please describe:
- Involvement or work for an environmental or community interest group:**
Please describe:
- Other interest:** Please describe:

Thank you for your time and comments!

Please remember to return this comment form to the ministry on or before November 15, 2015

If you wish, you may also provide contact information below. This information will be compiled separately from your comments and used to inform respondents of postings of the summary of comments and progress in updating the solid waste management planning guideline.

Contact Information

If you wish to receive further information concerning updates to the solid waste management planning guideline, please provide your contact information - **including an email address** below.

All submissions will be reviewed for inclusion without attribution in a consultation summary report to be made public following the consultation period. Please note that comments you provide and information that identifies you as the source of those comments may be publicly available if a Freedom of Information request is made under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Contact Name:

Business or Organization Name (if appropriate):

Email:

Mailing address:

Telephone:

Thank you once more for your interest in solid waste management planning in British Columbia.

If you have any further questions, please contact: SWMP.IP@gov.bc.ca