



# Amendment to the Organic Matter Recycling Regulation (June 9 OIC)

Ministry of Environment  
June, 2016



# Outline

- Background
- Objectives
- New requirements
- Exemptions
- Permitting process
- Questions

# Organic Matter Recycling Regulation (OMRR)

- The OMRR under the *Environmental Management Act* (EMA) governs production, quality and land application of certain types of organic matter
- Sets requirements for compost facilities with respect to:
  - Construction and operation
  - Leachate management
  - Odour management
  - Capacity
  - Process and quality criteria



## The New Requirements

- Affect compost facilities that:
  - Process food waste or biosolids, and
  - Have the design capacity to produce 5,000 tonnes or more of compost per year
- These facilities:
  - Must follow the OMRR requirements, and
  - Apply for a Permit within 60 days (deadline is August 8, 2016)



## Objectives of Amendment

- With more compost facilities expected to come online we want to insure effective protection of the environment and public health
- Establishment of site-specific requirements to:
  - Reduce environmental impacts
  - Address and reduce impacts from odour
- Improved compliance monitoring
- Increased transparency and address concerns regarding public notification
  - *Environmental Management Act*. Public Notification Regulation



# Exemptions

- As per OMRR S.3.1, exemptions apply if the facility holds:
  - an approval, or
  - an Operational Certificate (OC)
- Agricultural Operations
  - On-farm composting in accordance with Agriculture Waste Control Regulation not affected by these changes



## Other Authorizations

- Waste Management Plans
  - As per OMRR S.3.1, exemptions only apply for facilities operating under an operational certificate
  - As per EMA S.28, operational certificates are issued by the ministry to facilities operating under approved Solid Waste Management Plans

## Other Authorizations

- Waste Stream Management Licences
  - S.25(3) of EMA gives regional districts the authority to make bylaws to regulate the management of municipal solid waste
  - Includes requirement to hold a waste stream management licence
  - As per OMRR S.3.1, facilities still require a permit
    - Exemptions only apply to facilities operating under an Operational Certificate
  - Regional Districts can still issue licences, as long as they don't conflict with permit terms and conditions (as per EMA S.25(2))



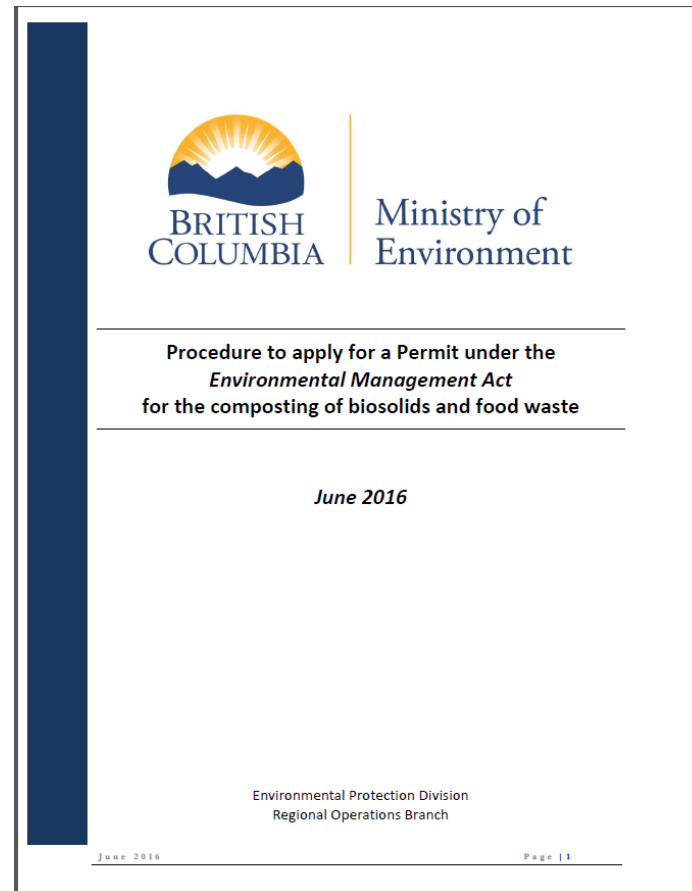
## Who is not affected

- Facilities that have a design production capacity of less than 5,000 tonnes of compost per year
- Facilities that do not process food waste or biosolids
- Food waste – defined in Schedule 12 of OMRR:
  - *“recyclable food for humans that has been diverted from residential, commercial or institutional sources”*
  - Does not include fish, meat, or poultry waste, or plant matter derived from processing plants
- Biosolids – defined in S.1 of OMRR:
  - *“stabilized municipal sewage sludge resulting from a municipal waste water treatment process or septage treatment process which has been sufficiently treated to reduce pathogen densities and vector attraction to allow the sludge to be beneficially recycled in accordance with the requirements of OMRR”*



# The Permitting Process

- The following have been made available:





## The Permitting Process

- In order to apply for a Permit under the EMA, the following must be undertaken:
  - A standard Permit Application form must be completed.
  - Public Notification must be undertaken in accordance with the Public Notification Regulation
  - First Nation Consultation must be undertaken where there is a potential to impact on First Nations Rights and Title
  - An Environmental Impact Study must be undertaken by a Qualified Professional. The Environmental Impact Study must provide recommendations that the proposed facility will not impact human health or the environment.



# The Permitting Process

- Support Documents (prepared by a Qualified Professional) submitted with Permit Application include:
  - Environmental Impact Study (EIS)
  - Operating Plan
  - Odour Management Plan
  - Leachate Management Plan



## The Permitting Process

- Information on the Permit Application Process is available at the following website:
  - [www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/waste-discharge-authorization](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/waste-discharge-authorization)
- Some helpful documents on the above website include:
  - An application process flow sheet
  - Pre-application meeting information
  - Guidance on Notification and Consultation



## Contact Information

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[www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/recycling/organics/regulations-guidelines](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/recycling/organics/regulations-guidelines).



# Questions and Discussion



[www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/recycling/organics/regulations-guidelines](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/recycling/organics/regulations-guidelines).