

INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Environment (the ministry) will be revising the [Organic Matter Recycling Regulation](#) (OMRR) made under the [Environmental Management Act](#) and the [Public Health Act](#). Enacted in 2002, the OMRR governs the construction and operation of composting facilities and the production, distribution, sale, storage, use, and land application of biosolids and compost. The OMRR was developed to facilitate the recycling of organic material while protecting human health and the environment.

On April 4, 2016 [the Provincial government announced](#) that it will be undertaking a comprehensive review of the OMRR to ensure it remains protective of human health and the environment. The following areas will be considered throughout the review process:

- opportunities for increased public transparency;
- notification requirements for First Nations;
- improved facilitation of organics recycling; and,
- increased clarity regarding regulatory requirements.

This intentions paper outlines the ministry's proposed revisions to OMRR and provides the opportunity for consultation as part of the ministry's [review process](#). The purpose of this paper is to seek comments and feedback on the proposed revisions from all interests including: First Nations, local government, stakeholders and the public.

Comments and feedback will be reviewed by the ministry and all information received during consultation will be considered when revising the regulation. The ministry expects to amend and implement the revised regulation in 2017.

Key Points

- ➔ Organic matter is a valuable resource.
- ➔ The OMRR sets standards and requirements that must be met before organic matter can be recycled.
- ➔ There is a need to update the OMRR to reflect advances in science and present day practices, and to ensure the regulation remains protective of human health and the environment.
- ➔ Composting and recycling of organic matter under the OMRR helps divert organic material from disposal and supports the ministry's service plan targets for organic waste disposal restrictions.
- ➔ The review process will consider:
 - » *Ensured protection of human health and the environment;*
 - » *Facilitation of organics recycling and use of specified organic materials;*
 - » *Inclusion of provisions that align with best achievable technology and practices;*
 - » *Improved public transparency;*
 - » *Increased clarity regarding ministry requirements and expected end results;*
 - » *Clear and effective guidance for local governments and others who produce, manage and use compost and biosolids; and,*
 - » *Harmonization with federal regulations, national standards, and provincial regulations, requirements and standards.*
- ➔ **Comments should be provided by December 2, 2016.**

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Management and Recycling of Organic Matter

Organic matter can originate from plants, animals or humans, as well as from residential, commercial, institutional, or industrial sources. Examples of organic matter include: food scraps, grass clippings, and animal and human waste. A feature of organic matter is that it is biodegradable. Organic matter can be recycled to create products for beneficial uses. The OMRR was designed to enable organic matter to be recycled while protecting human health and the environment.

The OMRR contains provisions for Medical Health Officers and ministry directors to review, and direct or deny, the land application of managed organic matter¹. Under OMRR, a director may also issue permits for composting facilities that process food waste or biosolids and have a design production capacity of 5,000 or greater tonnes of compost per year.

Organic matter suitable for composting under the OMRR is described in [Schedule 12](#) and includes: food waste, animal bedding, biosolids, brewery and winery wastes, domestic septic tank sludge, fish and hatchery wastes, manure, milk processing waste and whey, plant matter derived from processing plants, poultry carcasses, red-meat waste, untreated and unprocessed wood residuals, and yard waste.

The OMRR does not apply to:

- the composting of agricultural wastes (such as farm animal manures, used mushroom medium and agricultural vegetation waste) on farms, if done in accordance with the [Agricultural Waste Control Regulation](#);
- the operation of a mushroom composting facility, which is governed under the [Mushroom Compost Facilities Regulation](#);
- the land application of soil amendments governed under the [Code of Practice for Soil Amendments](#) which includes: primary or secondary pulp or paper mill wastewater treatment residuals, treated water residuals, and fly ash derived from the burning of wood; or

- the composting of slaughter and poultry processing waste according to the [Code of Practice for the Slaughter and Poultry Processing Industries](#).

Ministry Service Plan Targets

Amendments to the OMRR foster organic waste recycling and support the ministry's service plan. The current service plan targets include performance measures for organic waste disposal restrictions and best achievable technology practices. These targets are summarized below:

- Organic waste represents up to 40% of all waste currently sent for disposal. The ministry continues to work toward the long-term target of 75% of BC's population being covered by organic waste disposal restrictions by 2020. Restrictions to organic disposal will divert more organic waste to alternative management options, including activities under the provisions of the OMRR.
- The ministry routinely reviews its policies, regulations, fees and fines to ensure they include best available information, and best achievable technology and practices. The ministry leads these efforts by incorporating world-leading approaches and best achievable technologies into environmental guidelines, policies and regulations; and, by engaging with environmental groups, First Nations, industry and the public on the development of regulatory requirements and standards.

¹ "Managed organic matter" is defined in OMRR as "Class A biosolids, Class B biosolids or Class B compost."

Waste and Climate Action in British Columbia

- ➔ Any amendments to the OMRR should also align with BC's goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from waste. In 2014, BC's total greenhouse gas emissions were 64.5 million tonnes of CO₂e. Approximately 8.6% of this came from the waste sector according to [B.C.'s greenhouse gas emission inventory](#).
- ➔ Waste reduction, reuse and recycling can reduce greenhouse gas emissions both by lowering the demand for new materials and products (reducing upstream impacts) and by minimizing downstream impacts such as transporting waste over long distances and disposing of it in landfills.
- ➔ There is an increased awareness of greenhouse gas emissions associated with food waste, organic waste, and landfills. Disposal of organic waste can also cause losses of nutrients (e.g., nitrogen and phosphorus). Diverting organics from disposal is a way to achieve greenhouse gas reductions while producing a valuable end-product. Additionally, organic matter may be recycled to create products that may be used for beneficial purposes.
- ➔ In an effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from organic waste, the province is establishing a food waste prevention target of 30% and increasing organics diverted from landfills through organic waste disposal restrictions.
- ➔ Organic matter recycling supports a "circular economy" which is an alternative to a traditional linear economy built around the model of "make then use then dispose." The circular economy keeps resources in use for as long as possible, extracts the maximum value from them while in use, then recovers and regenerates products and materials at the end of their service life.

2006 AND 2011 INTENTIONS PAPERS

This intentions paper builds on intentions papers released in 2006 and 2011. This paper takes into account comments received from the "policy intentions paper for consultation" posted in October 2006 and the

"update and policy intentions paper for consultation" posted in July 2011. More than thirty responses and close to fifty responses were received in 2006 and 2011, respectively. The 2006 and 2011 intentions papers and summarized comments can be viewed at the ministry's OMRR website.

Key changes proposed by the ministry in 2006 and 2011 and which are discussed in this intentions paper include:

- Amendments to schedule 12 (Organic Matter Suitable for Composting) to include additional feedstocks (see section 1);
- Notification of First Nations (see section 4.2);
- Updates to sampling and record keeping requirements (see section 5) and technical standards (see section 6); and
- Additional "housekeeping" changes (see section 7).

The following intentions proposed by the ministry in 2006 and/or 2011 **will not be advanced with the current amendment**:

- Amendments to Schedule 12 (Organic Matter Suitable for Composting) to include primary or secondary pulp or paper mill wastewater treatment residuals (wood or paper fibre removed from a pulp or paper mill wastewater treatment plant or a spill retention pond after primary treatment). These materials are potentially suitable for composting and/or land application. The [Soil Amendment Code of Practice](#), enacted in 2007 under the Waste Discharge Regulation of the *Environmental Management Act*, authorizes the land application of these materials as a soil amendment. In the future, the ministry may consider options for how to regulate primary or secondary pulp or paper mill wastewater treatment residuals and other organic materials currently authorized for land application under the [Soil Amendment Code of Practice](#).
- In 2011 it was proposed that the requirement for preparation of an "environmental impact study" triggered by tonnage of production be replaced with a requirement to prepare a "leachate impact assessment report" regardless of production tonnage. The ministry has revised this intention and it is now proposed that the requirement for

preparation of an “environmental impact study” be retained in the regulation and be required of all composting facilities designed to produce 5,000 or greater tonnes of finished compost per year (excluding those facilities composting only yard waste) (see section 2.2).

- A requirement for existing composting facilities to provide the ministry with a notification of operation before January 1, 2013 is no longer deemed necessary as the ministry believes it has been provided with the data for all existing operations.

PROPOSED OMRR REVISIONS

In response to technical information and stakeholder input received since 2011 (including: research reports; a literature review; sampling information; technical working groups; advisory committees; comments heard during presentations; and jurisdictional scans), the ministry is proposing additional revisions to the OMRR which were not discussed in the previous intentions papers. The proposed revisions are intended to address advances in science, feedback from stakeholders, and operational issues or gaps that have been identified through implementation of the OMRR. Proposed OMRR revisions will be in keeping with the ministry’s approach to develop legislation, regulation and policies based on sound scientific knowledge and expertise.

Additional proposed revisions will include changes applicable to:

- Composting facilities (see section 2);
- Land application and distribution of organic matter (section 3);
- Increased public transparency, including notification requirements (section 4); and,
- Sampling and record keeping (section 5).

The following sections outline the ministry’s proposed intentions and describe current revisions proposed in the OMRR review.

1. Organic Matter Suitable for Composting

The OMRR sets out a list of organic matter suitable for composting and management under the regulation ([Schedule 12](#)). The following categories of materials are addressed under the regulation or related regulations

or codes of practice. The ministry is seeking comments regarding potential definitions and inclusion of these categories.

1.1. Clean wood from any source

The OMRR currently includes a definition for “**untreated and unprocessed wood residuals**².”

The ministry intends to amend the definition of **untreated and unprocessed wood** to include wood shavings, sawdust, wood chips, hog fuel, bark and mill ends” and will include clean wood from construction and demolition sources. Treated wood will be excluded from the proposed definition of **untreated and unprocessed wood**.

Untreated and unprocessed wood must:

- (a) Not contain composite wood products including plywood, particle board, fibreboard, hardboard, oriented strandboard, laminated lumber, laminated wood, veneer, laminate flooring, or engineered wood products; and,
- (b) Not be contaminated with, or have been treated or coated with, antisapstain, preservative, fire retardant, glue, adhesive, laminate, bonding agents, resin, paint, stain, varnish or any substance harmful to humans, animals, plants or the environment.

1.2. Domestic composting toilet sludge

The OMRR currently allows composting of unstabilized “domestic septic tank sludge” within provisions of the OMRR. However, it does not enable composting of other unstabilized (i.e., untreated) domestic sewage sludge.

The ministry intends to amend Schedule 12 of the OMRR to include **domestic composting toilet sludge** as “sludge removed from a composting toilet used for receiving and treating domestic sewage.” The broader category of unstabilized (i.e., untreated) domestic sewage sludge is not intended to be defined or included in Schedule 12 of the OMRR.

² Clean (non-contaminated and untreated) wood from lumber manufacture, e.g., shavings, sawdust, chips, hog fuel, ground mill ends and land clearing waste which has been ground with the majority of the greenery removed and no soil present but does not include construction and demolition debris.

1.3. Paper and cardboard

At present the OMRR does not contain provisions for composting of “**paper and cardboard**.” Enabling this material to be categorized as organic matter suitable for composting under the OMRR could provide an additional feedstock for composting and support operation of composting facilities. In addition, **paper and cardboard** contaminated with organic food waste (and that is not acceptable for paper recycling) could be recycled as compost and this could support landfill disposal restrictions.

The ministry intends to amend Schedule 12 of the OMRR to include **paper and cardboard** that cannot be reasonably recycled into a paper product and is not contaminated with any substance harmful to humans, animals, plants or the environment.

1.4. Compostable plastic

At present, the OMRR does not contain provisions for composting of “**compostable plastic**.”

The ministry intends to add **compostable plastic** to schedule 12 as organic matter suitable for composting. The definition of **compostable plastic** will be based on a review of industry standards and practices, including those promoted by the [Compost Council of Canada](#).

2. Composting Facilities

2.1. Best practices

Composting facilities must ensure protection of human health and the environment. The ministry intends to amend the OMRR to:

- require any materials, products or substances at the composting facility, including organic matter, managed organic matter, compost, municipal solid waste, residuals and waste, to be managed and stored in a manner that prevents access by, and attraction of, wildlife, domestic animals, birds and associated vectors.

In June 2016, the OMRR was amended to require composting facilities processing food waste or biosolids with a design capacity to produce 5,000 or greater tonnes of compost per year to obtain a site-specific authorization (see “New Rules for Composting Facilities” below).

The OMRR includes setback requirements for the land application of managed organic matter but does not specify mandatory buffers or setbacks for composting facility siting. However, siting considerations and requirements are set out under municipal and/or regional district zoning and related bylaws. Therefore, setback provisions for compost facilities are not being considered at this time.

New Rules for Composting Facilities

- ➔ In June 2016, the OMRR was amended to require permits for compost facilities that process food waste or biosolids, and have a design capacity to produce 5,000 or greater tonnes of compost per year.
- ➔ The permitting process enables site specific requirements to be considered to address factors such as environmental and odour impacts.
- ➔ Along with obtaining a permit, affected facilities must continue to comply with all the applicable requirements of the OMRR.
- ➔ For more information please visit the following website:
www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/recycling/organics/regulations-guidelines/composting-facilities-permit

2.2. Plans, reports and associated requirements

The ministry intends to amend the OMRR to include the following provisions for all composting facilities designed to produce 5,000 or greater tonnes of finished compost per year (excluding those facilities composting only yard waste):

- Consolidate requirements for the environmental impact study, odour management plan, operating plan, and leachate management plan into one plan called a “**facility environmental management plan**”;
- Specify that captured facilities prepare a **facility environmental management plan**;
- Clarify that the **facility environmental management plan** be prepared by a qualified professional(s); and,
- Require all plans, reports and specifications required under the OMRR to be submitted to the ministry within a specified time frame.

Submitted information will increase public transparency through measures such as submissions being made available online to the public.

The ministry intends to amend the regulation to require that all plans, reports and specifications required under the OMRR are kept up to date.

3. Land Application and Distribution of Managed Organic Matter

3.1. Addition of new standards

The OMRR sets out requirements for production and use of compost, biosolids and biosolids growing medium. The regulation also includes process and quality criteria and distribution requirements (Sections 10 and 11, and Schedule 11).

The ministry will ensure that standards reflect up-to-date science and are protective of human health and the environment. The ministry will work closely with Ministry of Health in revising the standards.

In addition to other standards under consideration, the ministry proposes to add chromium and copper maximum allowable standards to Class A biosolids.

Table 1: Addition of Proposed Metal Standards

Class A Biosolids	Standard
Chromium	1060 µg/g
Copper	2200 µg/g

This ministry is also considering addition of standards for other substances of concern not currently in the OMRR, including:

- Emerging substances of concern or ESOCs: personal care products, pharmaceuticals, flame retardants, and endocrine disrupting compounds; and
- Legacy organics: dioxins, furans, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), phenols and phthalates.

Comprehensive Review of Biosolids

- ➔ The Province and biosolids management experts completed a comprehensive review of academic literature and research on biosolids which explored the impacts to wildlife, aquatic life, food and human health as well as cumulative effects and alternatives to the use of biosolids.
- ➔ The literature review was posted publicly in June 2016.
- ➔ The Province completed a soil sampling project in the summer of 2016. The sampling results and analysis report was posted in September 2016.
- ➔ This report may be accessed at the following website:
www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/waste-management/recycling/organics/biosolids_sampling_project.pdf
- ➔ Findings from the comprehensive review have been considered in the development of this intentions paper.

3.2. Land application

The ministry intends to amend the OMRR to include the following requirements for land application:

- Application rates of soil amendments³ will not be allowed to exceed agronomic requirements; and,
- Soil amendments products are intended for land application to support plant growth and must not be used as fill material or in any practice of disposal.

The ministry intends to amend the OMRR in relation to land application plans:

- Specify that the land application plan must include a contingency plan in the event that sampling and monitoring results suggest non-compliance; and,
- Require land application plans to be submitted to the ministry (and to medical health officers or the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission where required) prior to the occurrence of land application (see section 4.1).

The ministry intends to amend the OMRR to provide that all plans, reports and specifications required under it are kept up to date, and the ministry notified of any change within 30 days of the change.

3.3. Mine site reclamations and landfill closures

Currently under OMRR, land application and distribution of managed organic matter may only occur at those sites meeting specified soil quality standards. In certain circumstances, as in the case of specific mine site reclamations or landfill closures, it may be reasonable for managed organic matter to be applied and distributed to sites that may already exceed the specified soil quality standards. In these circumstances it would be reasonable to enable the director to exercise discretion in enabling land application that would otherwise be prohibited.

The ministry intends to amend the OMRR to enable the director to issue permits or approvals on a site-specific basis for mine site reclamations or landfill closures.

³ “Soil amendments” could include: biosolids growing medium, Class A compost, fertilizer, managed organic matter and soil conditioner.

4. Notification under OMRR

4.1. Notification requirements

The ministry is proposing revisions that will require plans, reports and specifications required under the OMRR to be submitted to the ministry. **In turn, this information will be made available online to the public.**

4.1.1. Composting facilities

At present, the OMRR requires composting facilities to give notice in writing to the director and the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission (if the facility is located in an agricultural land reserve or forest reserve land) at least 90 days before beginning operation.

However, the ministry has received feedback from stakeholders indicating that existing notification requirements in the OMRR are inadequate and there is a need for the regulation to provide increased public transparency.

The ministry intends to amend the OMRR to include the following notification provisions for composting facilities (that do not require a permit):

- Require that composting facilities notify the ministry (and Provincial Agricultural Land Commission where required) of significant amendments;
- Specify that all plans, reports and specifications required of composting facilities under OMRR are submitted to the ministry and kept up to date; and
- The ministry (and Provincial Agricultural Land Commission where required) must be notified of any change within 30 days of the change (see also Section 2.2).

All existing notification requirements that apply to composting facilities will also apply to biosolids growing medium facilities. Existing biosolids growing medium facilities will be provided a reasonable timeframe within which to provide notification to the ministry.

4.1.2. Land application

At present, the OMRR requires proponents to give notice in writing to the director, to the local medical health officer (if the application is planned for agricultural land or in a watershed), and to the

Provincial Agricultural Land Commission (if the application is planned for agricultural reserve land or forest reserve land) at least 30 days before the land application.

However, the ministry has received feedback from stakeholders indicating that existing notification requirements in the OMRR are inadequate and there is a need for the regulation to provide increased public transparency.

The ministry intends to amend the OMRR to include the following notification provisions:

- Require that the land application plan be submitted to the ministry (and medical health officer or Provincial Agricultural Land Commission where required) and the site owner (where the site owner is not the discharger) before the proposed land application/occurrence;
- Require that the written certification required by the discharger from the qualified professional who prepared the land application plan confirming whether or not the plan was followed, is submitted to the ministry (and medical health officer or Provincial Agricultural Land Commission where required) within 60 days of the application/occurrence;
- Include provisions that all plans, reports and specifications required under the OMRR are kept up to date, and the ministry notified of any change within 30 days of the change (see also Section 3.2); and,
- Specify that producers of compost that contains biosolids (Class A or B) or biosolids growing medium disclose to users that the product contains biosolids irrespective of the volume of compost or biosolids growing medium distributed (i.e., even if less than 5 m³).

The ministry is also considering the option of requiring notifications for large volume applications of Class A compost and biosolids growing media.

4.2. Notification of First Nations

Information concerning notification of First Nations with respect to activities under the OMRR will be developed in accordance with legal requirements, ministry policy and government direction.

The ministry is proposing that proponents provide notification to local First Nations communities as follows:

- For composting facilities, to give notice in writing at least 90 days before beginning operation; and
- For proposed land applications, to give notice in writing at least 30 days before the land application occurs.

5. Sampling, Monitoring and Record Keeping

5.1. Sampling and monitoring requirements

The ministry is proposing the following revisions to sampling requirements:

- Sampling standards and procedures will be based on the most current manuals or guidelines posted on the ministry website, or where these manuals do not apply, will be based on standards and procedures as described in *British Columbia Environmental Laboratory Manual For the Analysis of Water, Wastewater, Sediment, Biological Material and Discrete Ambient Air Samples: 2009 Edition*;
- Sampling of the finished product will be done based on volume rather than mass to ensure accuracy and consistency and ease of operation;
- Fecal coliform levels be met in all seven discrete (not representative) samples; and
- Clarifying requirements for yard waste testing for metals and pathogens.

The proposed revisions will introduce requirements for soil sampling and monitoring to be conducted at land application sites, including after each land application occurrence where a land application plan is required.

5.2. Record keeping requirements

The ministry is proposing the following changes to sampling and record keeping requirements:

- Records be kept for ten (rather than three) years; and
- Soil sampling and monitoring data (where a land application plan is required) be submitted to the ministry.

6. Updates to Technical Standards

6.1. Consistency of schedules with other national standards and regulations

The OMRR contains a number of schedules that set out technical standards and requirements for recycling organic matter. These include: pathogen reduction processes; vector attraction reduction; pathogen reduction limits; quality criteria; and sampling and analysis protocols and frequency (Schedules 1-5). Schedules 9 and 10 also set out generic and matrix soil standards for identified metals.

The proposed amendments to the OMRR will ensure that the technical standards in the OMRR are consistent with current national standards (such as the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) [Guidelines for Compost Quality](#)) and federal regulations (such as the federal [Fertilizer Act and Regulations and trade memoranda](#)). These standards and regulations reflect current science and technologies, including those for composting and compost.

The ministry intends to update the OMRR (including Schedules) to ensure consistency and currency with CCME standards, including:

- Adding maximum limits for *Salmonella* (as already required by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency T-4-120 trade memoranda for the regulation of compost);
- Deleting references to the carbon to nitrogen ratio for composting and adding respiration as a measure of compost maturity;
- Considering options for extending curing time requirements for compost or a requirement to demonstrate maturity if less than a 14 day period;
- Clarifying standards for biosolids growing medium to be derived from Class A or Class B biosolids which meet the pathogen and vector attraction reduction requirements for Class A biosolids; Class A or B compost which meet the pathogen and vector attraction reduction requirements for Class A compost; or yard waste, untreated and unprocessed wood or soil; and,
- Specifying that Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN) in biosolids growing media must be <1.0 percent by weight and that organic matter content must not

exceed 20 percent dry weight (consistent with the BC Landscape Standard).

6.2. Consistency with the Contaminated Sites Regulation (CSR)

The revisions will consider all provincial legislation, including the [Contaminated Sites Regulation](#) made under the *Environmental Management Act*. It is proposed that the revised OMRR may refer to other regulations, including the CSR, by reference rather than by repeating those regulations in OMRR.

6.3. Consistency with the Agricultural Waste Control Regulation

The ministry will ensure that the OMRR and the [Agricultural Waste Control Regulation](#) (currently also being revised) will be harmonized to ensure consistency between regulations, particularly as it relates to the land application of soil amendments by agricultural operations.

7. Additional Housekeeping Changes

Additional “housekeeping” changes to the OMRR proposed by the ministry include:

- Exempting composting of food waste and yard waste at sites where production not greater than 20 m³/year at residential and institutional sites (e.g., schools, universities, and hospitals);
- Requiring all areas that receive greater than 600 mm/yr of precipitation must cover stored compost between October 1st and March 31st; and
- Adopting the definition of “**drinking water source**” and other consequential amendments from the *Drinking Water Protection Act*.

DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDANCE

The OMRR is currently supported by guidelines and best management practices (BMPs). For example, the ministry has developed and posted [Land Application Guidelines](#) for the OMRR and the Soil Amendment Code of Practice, and the [Compost Facility Requirements Guideline](#).

These practices and procedures are based on existing BMPs developed by the industry and/or developed jointly with government and do not have the force of law. Guide-

lines or BMPs may be viewed as assistance to persons governed by a regulation in meeting their legal obligations.

The ministry is seeking comment on the utility and effectiveness of current guidance documents and suggestions for development of further guidance.

In keeping with the ministry's approach towards continuous improvement, the ministry will be updating policies and best practices guidance to ensure they are in keeping with proposed revisions to the regulation. For example, updated guidance documents will:

- Specify that the **odour management plan** contained in the **facility environmental management plan** required for composting facilities describes how air contaminants from the facility will be “managed, treated and discharged in a manner that does not cause pollution” and which includes a process for tracking and addressing odour complaints; and,
- Clarify terms such as “cannot be reasonably recycled” (with respect to paper and cardboard) and “occurrence” (with respect to land application).

ASSURING COMPLIANCE

The ministry will develop a strategy for the promotion of voluntary compliance with the revised requirements of the OMRR, in cooperation with stakeholders. Compliance promotion may entail training for ministry staff, as well as information and education for regulated parties.

To enable compliance verification, the ministry will require all plans, reports and specifications to be submitted to the ministry as described in sections 2.2 and 4.1. The notification provisions will support increased public transparency and submissions will be made available online for the public to access in order to help increase assurance.

Compliance verification will also occur through the addition of contingency provisions to land application plans.

The ministry is committed to using compliance verification data to guide the ongoing management of composting facilities and managed organic matter, and to assure the goals for environmental protection are being met.

The ministry's approach to assuring compliance with the OMRR will include regular and random compliance reviews and inspections, as well as reviews and

inspections in response to identified or potential issues or concerns regarding protection of human health and the environment.

The ministry response to non-compliance may include tools such as: administrative monetary penalties, written advisories, warnings, directives, tickets and prosecutions. The choice of response will be based on standard ministry-wide policy (as outlined in the [Compliance Framework](#) and [Compliance Policy and Procedures](#)), the compliance history for the regulated party and the significance of the impact from the non-compliance occurrence.

IMPLEMENTATION

After a review of consultation comments and further detailed policy development, the ministry intends to amend the regulation accordingly.

Comments to the ministry should be made on or before 60 days after posting date of October 3, 2016.

Thank you for your time and comments.

Additional Information Sessions

The ministry is planning to conduct a series of webinars on the proposed revisions. The webinars will review the information contained in this intentions paper.

If you are interested in participating in a webinar, please contact the email or mailing addresses below.

If you have any questions or comments about the ministry's proposed revisions, please submit them by e-mail or mail to the addresses below **by December 2, 2016**.

Email: env.omrr.reg.reviews@gov.bc.ca

Mail:

Ministry of Environment – OMRR Reg Review
PO Box 9341 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9M1

All comments received through webinars, meetings, mail or email will be compiled for review by ministry staff before final drafting of the revised regulation. The ministry intends to complete revisions to the regulation in early 2017.

PROVIDING FEEDBACK

The ministry welcomes comments on the information and proposals outlined in this Intentions Paper. Those interested are invited to submit comments to the ministry using the comment form or by separate submission by e-mail or mail at the address listed below.

Responses received by **December 2, 2016** will be considered by the ministry in preparing the proposed revisions to the regulation.

Completed response forms or submissions may be submitted as follows:

- By using the form available at the following ministry website and sending:
www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/waste-management/recycling/organics/omrr_response_form-ip_sept_22.pdf
 - And sending as an attached file to this email address: env.omrr.reg.reviews@gov.bc.ca;
 - Or by mail to:

Ministry of Environment – OMRR Reg Review
PO Box 9341 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9M1

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*.

If you have any questions or comments please email: env.omrr.reg.reviews@gov.bc.ca.