




Hamilton

INFORMATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	April 1, 2019
SUBJECT:	City of Hamilton's Central Composting Facility Operations Update #3 (ES19012) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Craig Murdoch Director, Environmental Services Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

This information update is to inform the Mayor and Members of Council about the first two months of operations at the City of Hamilton's (City) Central Composting Facility (CCF), and to provide a status update on the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) amendment application currently under review by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

CCF Operations Update

On February 4, 2019, the CCF accepted Source Separated Organics (SSO) material from the City's Green Bin program for the first time since the voluntary and temporary closure on June 24, 2018. At this point, the CCF has been accepting and processing SSO for approximately two months.

During the first two months of operations, the CCF has processed approximately 1800 tonnes of SSO. City staff have received no odour complaints during this time and the proactive air quality patrols/inspections completed in the surrounding neighbourhoods, have detected no odours from the CCF.

As outlined in Information Update ES19006, City of Hamilton's Central Composting Facility Operations Update #2, City staff and the operations contractor performed a controlled ramp up of the CCF operations. This ramp up period started on February 4, 2019 and ended March 15, 2019. During this ramp up period, the maximum weekly tonnage of SSO accepted at the CCF was 200 tonnes. The purpose of the controlled

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ramp up period was to acclimate the biofilter, which treats air emissions generated from the composting process.

Following the end of the ramp up period on March 15, 2019, the maximum weekly tonnage accepted at the CCF increased from 200 tonnes per week to 384 tonnes, which is equivalent to approximately 20,000 tonnes annually.

In order to stay within the processing capacity at the CCF, starting April 1, 2019, leaf and yard waste, including grass is no longer accepted in the Green Bin program. With this change, staff expects this weekly tonnage capacity will be enough to process SSO generated from the City's Green Bin program. During the first week of operations following the ramp up period (March 18 – 22), the CCF accepted and processed 376 tonnes of SSO, which accounts for 98% of the processing capacity for that week.

Environmental Compliance Approval Amendment Application Update

In November 2018, City staff and the City's consultant submitted an amendment application for the CCF operations ECA to the MECP which outlined capital upgrade requirements.

The MECP has been actively reviewing this submission, and both City staff and the City's consultant have been providing additional information as requested. During the week of March 25, representatives of the MECP Approvals Branch visited and toured the CCF to gain an understanding of the operations and discuss details of the amendment application. At this time, it is unknown when an amended ECA will be received.

If you have any questions related to the operations of the CCF or the ECA amendment application, please contact Catherine McCausland, Manager of Recycling and Waste Disposal at (905) 546-2424 extension 4203.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Not applicable