




Hamilton

INFORMATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	March 8, 2019
SUBJECT:	City of Hamilton's Central Composting Facility Operations Update #2 (ES19006) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Craig Murdoch, B. Sc., Director, Environmental Services Division Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

This information Update is to inform the Mayor and Members of Council about the first month 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 one month.

During the first month of operations, the CCF processed approximately 650 tonnes of SSO. City staff have received no odour complaints and results from the proactive air quality inspections completed in the neighbourhoods surrounding the CCF indicate no odours from the CCF have been detected.

Since February 4, 2019, City staff and the operations contractor have been performing a controlled ramp up of the CCF operations. During the ramp up period, the CCF has been accepting a reduced amount of SSO. The purpose of the ramp up period is to acclimate the biofilter, which treats air emissions generated from the composting process.

Following the end of the ramp up period in March 2019, the maximum weekly tonnage of SSO accepted at the CCF will increase from 200 tonnes per week to 384 tonnes,

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OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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which is an equivalent of approximately 20,000 tonnes processing capacity per year. Staff expect this weekly tonnage capacity will be enough to process all SSO generated from the City's Green Bin program with the implementation of the temporary grass, leaf and yard waste ban from the Green Bin program that will begin April 1, 2019.

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 for the following upgrades:

- Installation of an acid scrubber to assist in the removal of ammonia generated by the composting process;
- Extension of the bio-filter exhaust stack from 30 metres to 50 metres; and
- Installation of a carbon filtration system to assist with the treatment of exhaust air.

Since the submission of the amendment application, the MECP has been actively reviewing the submission, and both City staff and the City's consultant have been providing additional information requested by the MECP to ensure the MECP has all the information it requires to process the amendment application in a timely fashion. At present, it is unknown when an amended ECA will be received.

If you have any questions related to the operations of the CCF, please contact Joel McCormick, Manager of Waste Collections at (905) 546-2424 extension 4770.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Not applicable