

Information Report

Title: Environmental Services
Compliance Report March 2024

Report Number: Environmental Services-2024-
11

Director: Infrastructure &
Development

Manager: Environmental Services

Meeting Date:
Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Executive Summary:

The intent of this report is to inform Council of any compliance related issues and general information from the Environmental Services Department for the period of February 27 to March 24, 2024.

Context and Background Information:

This report includes a summary of annual wastewater reporting for 2023, a Transportation of Dangerous Goods Inspection, the DWQMS Management Review, Leachate Treatment exceedance follow up and a spill reported to the MECP.

Annual Wastewater Reports

The 2023 Annual Wastewater reports have been prepared and submitted to the Ministry as required by the March 31 deadline. The reports give a summary of each system in the 2023 reporting year including major expenses, sampling and monitoring, maintenance performed, operating issues, corrective actions, conformance with procedure F-5-1, and a summary of bypasses, overflows and spills. Copies of the reports are attached and will be made available to the public on the municipal website.

Leachate Treatment Exceedance Follow Up

The Leachate Treatment facility at the Kincardine Waste Management Center in Armow had an exceedance of Total Suspended Solids, Ammonia and CBOD reported for the bi-weekly effluent sample taken on February 6, 2024. The plant was placed into recirculation state and the effluent discharge pipe was plugged. The receiving stormwater pond was sampled to ensure that water directed to the environment was not contaminated. The February 20 and 27th sample results from the plant showed very high ammonia while in recirculation, so staff determined the plant needed to be re-seeded. On March 1st the plant received one load of activated sludge (approximately 15m³) from the Walkerton Sewage Treatment Plant to re-

seed treatment train #1. Lab results taken on March 4 showed the plant was in compliance and effluent discharging commenced with ministry approval on March 8, 2024. Bluewater Sanitation has been hired to haul leachate offsite from the landfill cell to the Kincardine lagoons to assist in keeping the leachate level down at the cell until the plant can return to full treatment capacity. From February 21 to March 25 a total of 420m³ of leachate has been hauled offsite. Spring rains and snow melt have contributed to higher amounts of leachate at the landfill cell and caused a spill on March 15, 2024, as noted below.

Leachate Spill

On March 15 a spill of approximately 1m³ of leachate from the landfill cell into the groundwater cell was reported to the Spills Action Center, the Ministry of Health, and the local ministry office. Heavy rain overnight on March 14 caused excess fluid at the landfill cell and staff noticed that leachate was trickling overtop of the berm and into the groundwater cell. The groundwater pump was turned off to ensure no liquid was sent to the downstream stormwater pond until sample results were received. Both the groundwater cell and the stormwater pond were sampled, and results showed no contamination. Flows into the leachate treatment plant have been increased to treat more leachate but can only be increased by small increments each day following the exceedance noted above until the plant is back up to full treatment capacity. Bluewater Sanitation hauled 2 loads of leachate offsite to the Kincardine Lagoons on the 15th and will continue to haul leachate offsite until seasonal temperatures allow all the snow to melt and spring rains have subsided.

DWQMS Management Review 2023

The annual management review for 2023 was completed on March 19, 2024. The purpose of the management review is to ensure top management has been informed of all summaries for the 2023 operating year and to follow up on all Adverse Water Quality Incidents, Non-Compliances and Corrective Action Requests. A number of items were noted for follow up in 2024 and are summarized in the DWQMS Management Review and Action Plan attached. A copy of the action plan was also forwarded to the Township of Huron Kinloss for the Huronville subdivision.

Transportation of Dangerous Goods

An inspection for Transportation of Dangerous Goods was conducted by Transport Canada for the Environmental Services Department on January 31, 2024. The inspection report was received on March 1, 2024, and noted 3 findings that were discussed during the inspection that staff resolved before the report was issued. Findings #1 and #2 were in relation to the paperwork required for transport when sending empty containers back that previously held dangerous goods. The Legislative text reads 'Consignor failing to prepare and give shipping document to carrier taking possession of dangerous goods for transport'. This was regarding returning Chlorine gas cylinders from the Water Treatment Plant and Empty totes of Aluminum sulphate used at the Leachate Treatment Facility. The Municipality was provided a form from Brenntag Canada for the return Chlorine cylinders but were informed during the inspection that the form did not meet the requirements in the regulations. The municipality has now created a form that complies with the current regulation, and it will be used by staff when returning empty totes and cylinders.

The third finding was regarding training for staff in the Environmental Services Department. The Text states 'Employer directing or allowing employee to handle, offer for transport or transport dangerous goods when not adequately trained and not holding a training certificate

in accordance with Part 6 of the TDG Regulations'. None of the Environmental Services Staff had valid training certificates for Transportation of Dangerous Goods. Upon investigation, the Municipality had access to Transportation of Dangerous Goods Training through the HR Downloads program, so 11 of the Environmental Services staff have now taken the training and are certified. Training is required every 3 years through the employer. Transport Canada inspections are random and do not occur on an annual basis. The last Transport Canada inspection was in 2009.

Consultation Overview:

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks receives the Annual Wastewater Reports and spill notifications as required under the Ontario Regulations.

Transport Canada performed the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Inspection.

Origin:

The Drinking Water Quality Management Standard requires relevant aspects of the Quality Management System to be communicated to the Owner of the system.

- Attachments:**
- 2023 Annual Report for the Bruce Energy Center Wastewater Treatment and Collection System
 - 2023 Annual Report for the Kincardine Wastewater Treatment and Collection System
 - 2024 Dangerous Goods Inspection Report Kincardine Water Plant
 - DWQMS Management Review Action Plan for 2024

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