

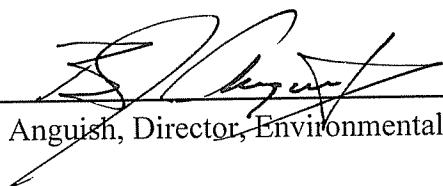


PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Halifax Regional Council
January 27, 2004

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:



Brad Anguish, Director, Environmental Management Services

DATE: January 12, 2004

SUBJECT: RRFB Paint Recycling Program

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

At the Regional Council meeting of November 25, 2003, Councillor Adams requested a report regarding the Paint Recycling Program, including options under which the ENVIRO-DEPOTS™ do not lose money by accepting paint.

BACKGROUND

The Paint Recycling program is administered by RRFB through contract services with the local ENVIRO-DEPOTS™ operators. RRFB has the legal and fiduciary responsibility for the administration of the program. The Paint Recycling program commenced in the summer of 2002 and annually diverts more than 98,400 liters of oil base and latex paint, which is then recycled into paint and sold in local retail stores across the province.

The proper management of paint is one goal of the HRM Integrated Solid Waste Resource Management Strategy. HRM supports and promotes the Paint Recycling program through the Naturally Green newsletter and the Call Centre. The program is also aligned with and supports the Pollution Prevention Program's objective of keeping paint out of HRM storm and sanitary sewers and ultimately the receiving waters, i.e., local fresh water rivers and lakes and the Halifax Harbour.

DISCUSSION

Similar to the tire recycling program, the cost of the Paint Recycling program is borne by the purchaser of the product, rather than by all taxpayers of HRM (and the Province) through a small fee charged per litre. The paint fees remitted by Brand Owners (approximately \$682,000 total annual revenue) enables RRFB to administer the program through contract with local ENVIRO-DEPOTS™ operators, transportation cost to the paint processing facility at Springhill, and the cost to process the paint at the Springhill facility.

The program is a typical drop off program. Residents are advised to drop off old paint at local ENVIRO-DEPOTS™ where the paint is stored (still in the can) in large plastic tubs. RRFB pays the ENVIRO-DEPOTS™ operators \$25.00 per month for every plastic tub on the property, plus an additional \$25.00 for every full tub removed from the property. The ENVIRO-DEPOTS™ owner is responsible for the placement of latex/oil paint in one tub, aerosol paint in a separate tub, and the storage of the tubs until they are full and ready for pickup. The \$25.00 fee received by the ENVIRO-DEPOTS™ is established by RRFB, and is modelled after a similar program in British Columbia that has been in place for several years.

Both RRFB and the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour (NSDEL) recognized that the receipt and storage of paint could result in potential insurance implications for ENVIRO-DEPOTS™ owners. To address this potential issue, prior to the commencement of the program, NSDEL had residential latex and oil base paint classified as non hazardous material. To further assist ENVIRO-DEPOTS™ owners, RRFB is providing environmental liability insurance (cost of \$133,000 annually) for every ENVIRO-DEPOTS™ that receives paint and, when requested, conducts training for their operators on the handling of paint.

RRFB has advised that no requests have been received from an ENVIRO-DEPOT™ operator for an adjustment in the fee for the handling of paint. RRFB annually reviews all expenditures for contracted services and makes adjustment where appropriate.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

N/A

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ATTACHMENTS

N/A

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Jim Bauld, Acting General Manager 490-7176