

RE: LETTER FROM DR. G.A. SINGLETON WHICH APPEARED ON THE AGENDA FOR
THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 1984 APRIL 02 (ITEM 4a)
DISPOSAL OF REFUSE AT GENSTAR TRANSFER STATION IN COQUITLAM

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Director Engineering be adopted.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 84 04 05
FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM DR. G.A. SINGLETON, 8018 15TH AVENUE,
BURNABY, B.C., V3N 1X2

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Dr. G.A. Singleton, 8018 15th Avenue, Burnaby, B.C., V3N 1X2 and the Greater Vancouver Regional District, 2294 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., V6K 2H9 receive copies of this report.

REPORT:

In his letter to Council concerning disposal of refuse at the Genstar Transfer Station in Coquitlam, Dr. Singleton raises a number of questions, which are best dealt with under the appropriate subjects.

1. Genstar now charging by weight.

The Greater Vancouver Regional District has confirmed that during the "shakedown" period immediately following the opening of the Transfer Station in 1983 early October, the charges which were intended to be minimums were used as lump sum fixed charges. The G.V.R.D. studied the volume and weights of refuse passing through the Transfer Station sometime during 1983 November and December and discovered a significant difference between total weights booked in and total weights booked out. Inasmuch as Genstar, the City of Vancouver as dump operators at Burns Bog, and the Corporation of Delta in the form of royalties are all paid on the basis of weight, the G.V.R.D. felt that full control, achievable only through weighing everything coming into the Station, was a necessity and they so instructed Genstar. The current practise, then, is that everything is weighed unless there are very significant delays being caused to large commercial vehicles.

For the information of Council, the current rates are:

Car	\$ 2.00
Station Wagon	\$ 3.00
Auto & Trailer	\$ 5.00
Van or Pickup	\$ 5.00
Van or Pickup & Trailer	\$ 8.00
One Ton Truck & Over	\$10.00
By Weight	\$23.70 per metric tonne

Everyone bringing refuse to the Station pays on the basis of \$23.70 per tonne and following upon the issuance of instructions to weigh everything coming into the Station, all above rates, other than \$23.70 per tonne are, in effect, pure minimum charges.

2. Sign posted in window at Genstar Transfer Station.

Dr. Singleton brought to our attention that he had observed a sign stating: "Insults to employees will not be tolerated" posted in the window at the Transfer Station gate office. This sign was removed within one hour of Burnaby's Director Engineering making a request to G.V.R.D. that it be removed.

3. Disposal of Dr. Singleton's refuse.

The question naturally arises as to why Dr. Singleton did not take his refuse to the Stride Avenue Area especially since, according to his letter, it was of the garden refuse variety.

We spoke to Dr. Singleton over the telephone and he advised us that he made enquiries of a Burnaby employee and was told to take the refuse to the Genstar Station. According to Dr. Singleton, he believes he used the words "household refuse" when 'phoning in and that there was some putrescible material with his garden refuse. All Burnaby employees are thoroughly aware that garden and landscape refuse can go to Stride Avenue but they always point out to an enquirer that if such refuse contains any amount of household putrescile garbage it cannot be accepted at Stride because we do not have a permit to operate a sanitary landfill.

We have frequently in the past included statements in 'Information Burnaby' concerning our refuse services and we will arrange to do that again in the next available issue.

It is unfortunate that Dr. Singleton incurred a bill for \$44.75 for disposal of refuse, particularly if it was mostly of a pure garden or landscape variety and perhaps the putrescible component could have been separated out.

4. Refuse being dumped in parks and lanes.

There is really no excuse for any Burnaby citizens to use parks and lanes and similar areas for disposal of refuse. We pick up virtually everything that is set out with our route trucks and we have operated, for many years, a disposal area at Stride Avenue for garden and landscape refuse.

The problem of indiscriminate dumping does not appear to be growing, primarily because we offer the services mentioned above. A small percentage of the population seemingly persists in using such areas for refuse, probably as a result of ignorance of the services offered. A certain number of such irresponsible acts probably will always be with us.

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We believe that the services we offer, both by the route trucks and at Stride Avenue, constitute in total an excellent level of refuse service for Burnaby citizens; it is important, however, that our services be made known to the public by employing a good level of publicity and appropriate reminders from time to time concerning those services. Dr. Singleton's letter to Council was instrumental in once again indicating to us that the services we offer at Stride Avenue for garden and landscape refuse are most worthwhile in saving dumping fees, saving landfill space, and as a convenience to Burnaby citizens.

EEO:sp


DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

