

ITEM 1
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 40
COUNCIL MEETING 90/06/11

RE: LETTER FROM NEWSTECH RECYCLING INC. WHICH APPEARED ON THE AGENDA
FOR THE MAY 14TH MEETING OF COUNCIL (ITEM 22)
RECYCLED NEWSPRINT PLANT, COQUITLAM, B.C.

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Acting Chief Public Health Inspector be adopted.

* * * * *

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1990 JUNE 06

FROM: ACTING CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SUBJECT: NEWSTECH RECYCLING INC. RECYCLED NEWSPRINT PLANT, COQUITLAM, B.C.

PURPOSE: TO PROVIDE COUNCIL WITH INFORMATION ON STAFF'S COMMENTS UPON
REVIEWING THE PUBLIC INFORMATION DOCUMENT PROVIDED BY NEWSTECH
RECYCLING INC. REGARDING THEIR PROPOSED RECYCLED NEWSPRINT PLANT IN
COQUITLAM, B.C.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to:
 - a) Major Project Review Process Coordinator, Regional Planning and Infrastructure Branch, Ministry of Regional and Economic Development, 4th Floor, 712 Yates Street, Victoria, B.C., V8V 1X5.
 - b) Newstech Recycling Inc., c/o Mr. Stuart Belkin, Suite 1550 - Marine Building, 355 Burrard Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2G8.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION:

During the regular Council meeting held on 1990 May 14, a correspondence including a copy of Public Information Document was received from Newstech Recycling Inc. regarding their proposed recycled newsprint plant in Coquitlam, B.C.

Council upon reviewing the correspondence made a resolution that staff send a letter to the Ministry of Regional and Economic Development advising them that Council will be providing a submission regarding the proposed operation in Coquitlam. In addition, Council requested staff to prepare a report upon reviewing the Public Information Document.

Staff sent a letter to the Ministry of Regional and Economic Development requesting an extension of their existing deadline of 1990 May 26 for providing written submission on the proposed operation. The request for an extension was denied, however they stated that the deadline for Government Agencies to provide written submissions was 1990 June 13 and that the Municipality of the District of Burnaby could provide written comments up to and including the 1990 June 13 deadline. Staff from Engineering, Health and Planning Departments have reviewed the Public Information Document and have provided their comments in this report.

2.0 PROPOSED RECYCLED NEWSPRINT PLANT IN COQUITLAM, B.C.:

102

Newstech Recycling Inc. is proposing to undertake the construction and operation of a recycling facility in Coquitlam, B.C. The proposed facility would process 140,000 tonnes per annum of old newspapers and magazines into 122,500 tonnes per annum of recycled fiber suitable as a replacement for virgin fiber in the manufacture of newsprint.

The project is expected to create a local market for old newspapers and magazines collected from recycling programs throughout British Columbia and Alberta and is expected to establish the use of post consumer waste paper in the manufacture of newsprint in British Columbia.

Newstech's proposed recycling plant is being reviewed under the Provincial Government's Major Project Review Process (MPRP). As a part of MPRP guidelines, Newstech has submitted a Public Information Document which provides an overview of the project and addresses the potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of the project.

3.0 MAJOR PROJECT REVIEW PROCESS GUIDELINES

The Major Project Review Process is a non-legislated working policy supported by the Environment and Land Use Act. It is administered by the Major Project Steering Committee, and co-chaired by the Ministry of Regional and Economic Development and the Ministry of Environment.

The main objective of the MPRP is to provide a comprehensive and timely assessment of the environmental and socio-economic impacts of projects not examined under existing integrated review processes.

The MPRP is divided into four steps: Prospectus Preparation and Review; Stage I Analysis and Review, Stage II Analysis and Review; and Stage III Permitting and Licensing. For projects with no significant impact, approval in principle is usually granted at the conclusion of the Prospectus Review. Upon receiving this approval, the project by-passes Stages I and II, and enters Stage III during which the proponent deals directly with individual governmental agencies to obtain approvals, permits or licenses.

Projects with unresolved technical, social or environmental issues usually require Stage I review. It is staff's opinion that the concerns noted in this report warrant the project to at least go through the Stage I review process.

4.0 STAFF'S COMMENTS UPON REVIEWING THE PUBLIC INFORMATION DOCUMENT:

The proposal to construct and operate the recycled newsprint plant is philosophically consistent with the concept of building a strong regionally based "conservation society". The proposed newsprint recycling plant would provide the industrial infrastructure for recycling the newspaper and magazines that are presently being separated from the waste stream throughout the G.V.R.D. and handled through a variety of arrangements between municipalities and contractors.

The prospectus for the recycled newsprint plant is comprehensive. The plant design which incorporates the treatment and recycling of process water within the plant and the commitment to attempt to develop a composting process for the "burnable" portion of the solid waste stream makes the plant progressive with respect to quality and quantity of waste discharge.

Notwithstanding the issue of feasibility of acquiring 140,000 tonnes of old newspaper and magazines, there are concerns relating to the plant operation that need to be clarified. These are categorized to include:

Solid Waste

1. The "non-burnable" waste consisting of metal and grit are proposed to be landfilled at a permitted landfill site. However, there is no indication as to which landfill it will be taken to nor are there any assurances that the landfill will be capable of accepting the waste from the proposed plant on an ongoing basis in the future.
2. Carbon black accounts for approximately 30% of the "burnable" solid waste stream. There needs to be a clarification on whether the carbon black can be recovered for recycling in ink.
3. The specific end uses of soil ameliorant that may be produced through composting of "burnable" portion of the waste stream including the type of monitoring program needed to ensure that the soil ameliorant has acceptable levels of metals, etc. for intended end uses are not indicated in the document.
4. Alternate plans for dealing with the "burnable" solid waste in an event that the composting of such wastes is not feasible have not been indicated in the prospectus.

Liquid Waste and Water

1. Information presented in the document indicates that waste water will meet Provincial and G.V.R.D. standards for various parameters. Monitoring for some parameters has also been indicated. However, the monitoring criteria for temperature and specified metals present or possibly known to be present in the waste water has not been shown in the document.
2. The percentage of the water actually recycled including the mass balance for water and other chemicals used in the process has not been provided. This would provide a complete overview of the plant process.

Miscellaneous

1. There is a commitment indicated in the prospectus for preparation of an emergency response plan for handling of the chemicals relating to the uses in the operational process. However, there seems to be a lack of commitment for spill response measures during unloading of chemicals upon delivery by trains. This is of a significant importance due to the close proximity of the site to Nelson Creek and Fraser River.
2. Fish and Wildlife have received a rather cursory review in the prospectus. As the site is located on the Fraser River, it is difficult to believe that wildlife values in the general vicinity of the plant are as low as implied in the prospectus. However, due to a long history of industrial activity at the site selected for the plant, it is plausible that the replacement of one industrial use with another will not have any significant impact on wildlife.
3. The prospectus did not include any geotechnical information for the site. This would provide information on mitigative measures required in an event of an earthquake.

NEWSTECH RECYCLING INC. RECYCLED NEWSPRINT PLANT,
COQUITLAM, B.C.
1990 JUNE 06

.....4

ITEM	1
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	40
COUNCIL MEETING	90/06/11

4. The composition of standard print ink is indicated to be inert carbon black combined with a resin binder and a carrier medium which is usually mineral oil or biodegradable oil. However, the document does not identify whether there would be any concerns related to the process if mineral oil is present as a carrier in the ink, or whether the oil will subsequently be a component of soil or liquid waste requiring monitoring. **104**

5.0 CONCLUSION:

The proposal to construct and operate a recycled newsprint plant in Coquitlam, B.C. to process old newspapers and magazines into recycled fiber suitable as a replacement for virgin fiber in the manufacture of newsprint is philosophically consistent with the concept of building a strong regionally based "conservar society".

The proposed plant would provide the industrial infrastructure for recycling the newspaper and magazines that are presently being separated from the waste stream throughout the G.V.R.D. and handled through a variety of arrangements between municipalities and contractors.

Notwithstanding the issue of feasibility of acquiring 140,000 tonnes of old newspapers and magazines, staff have noted concerns upon reviewing the prospects which require clarification and warrant the project to undergo MPRP Stage I process.



K.C. Johnston, C.P.H.I.(C)
ACTING CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

KCJ/DD:ro

cc: Medical Health Officer
Director Administrative &
Community Services
Director Engineering
Director Planning & Building Inspection