

CITY OF BURNABY  
ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS

RE: Bill 17 (Waste Management Amendment Act, 1998)

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to City of Rossland, 100 Mile House, Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks, G.V.R.D., and Union of British Columbia Municipalities.

REPORT

Council, at the regular Council meeting held on 1998 August 24, received the *attached* letter from the City of Rossland expressing concerns about certain provisions of Bill 17 (Waste Management Amendment Act 1998). Council referred the letter to the Environment and Waste Management Committee for review. Please note that Council, at the regular Council meeting held on 1998 September 14, received a letter from 100 Mile House expressing similar concerns regarding Bill 17 amendments. Arising from discussion of the 100 Mile House letter, Council referred the positions of 100 Mile House and City of Rossland to Mayor Drummond for investigation and action.

The Environment and Waste Management Committee, at its meeting held on 1998 September 08, received and discussed the letter from the City of Rossland. The Committee supported the provisions of Bill 17 with respect to granting the Regional Districts with additional power to enforce environmental issues at privately operated landfill sites and to license solid waste haulers. The GVRD has been regulating privately operated facilities under the GVRD bylaw and the Province now is including the GVRD bylaw provisions in Bill 17. The City of Burnaby concurs with the need to regulate privately operated facilities and is therefore supportive of the provisions of Bill 17. The Committee recommended that a copy of this report be forwarded to the City of Rossland, Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks and Union of B.C. Municipalities advising of Burnaby's view on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor L. Rankin  
Chair

Councillor D. Johnston  
Member

Councillor D. Lawson  
Member

: COPY - CITY MANAGER  
- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING  
- DIR. PLNG. & BLDG.  
- DIR. PARKS, REC. & CULT. SERV.

The Corporation of the City of Rossland

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

August 11, 1998

Hon. Cathy McGregor  
Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks  
Parliament Buildings  
VICTORIA, B.C.  
V8V 1X4

Dear Ms. McGregor:

We are writing to you because of a concern we have about the broad powers to be granted to regional districts through the provisions of Bill 17 (Waste Management Amendment Act, 1998). Our concern is specifically focused on the new section 19 of the Act, whereby regional districts would be granted sweeping powers to license haulers and recyclers.

The City of Rossland is, under the definition of the Act, a "hauler". As we also own and operate a recycling site, our municipality may be subject to any condition our regional district may impose on the City under section 19(3). Our specific concerns are with the phrase *'for the purpose of implementing a plan'* and *'without limitation'*.

Regional districts are not defined in the Act. The term "municipality" is defined to mean a city, town or village ... a regional district ... etc. As both regional districts and cities are by definition "municipalities", does it therefore mean that cities could also enact bylaws under section 19(3) to do all those things authorized under that section?

It is our understanding that Bill 17 may not be enacted this year. We ask that you reconsider this bill with a view to preventing inter-governmental disputes at the local government level. Rossland Council wholeheartedly supports the principle of empowering legislation. However, when the effect of that legislation is to empower one local government to unilaterally impose its will on another local government, the legislation will not achieve what it may have been intended to achieve.

The requirements under section 19(4) for consultation with affected stakeholders and notice of intention to amend the plan for the purpose of enacting a power under section 19(3) is of marginal value at best.

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: COPY - CITY MANAGER  
- DEP.MGR.-CORP. SERV.  
- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING  
- CITY SOLICITOR

Regional districts, by virtue of their political structure and lack of accountability to citizens and taxpayers, are not a form of government that ought to be granted sweeping powers. There is growing tension in British Columbia between regional districts and municipalities. To further empower regional districts by giving them regulatory powers over municipal operations is unacceptable.

Rosland Council appreciates your consideration of our concern and we look forward to your response.

Yours truly,



W.E. Profili  
Mayor

cc. Councils, all B.C. Municipalities  
Union of B.C. Municipalities



