

2007 Energy Aware Award Corporate Operations

Contact Information

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Thompson-Nicola Regional District Compaction – The Roadway to Transportation Efficiencies

Executive Summary

In 2004 the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) embarked on a program to develop and establish a new Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP). Public consultation and involvement through the establishment of a Public Advisory Committee (made of volunteers from the general public), a Technical Advisory Committee (consisting of staff from member municipalities, waste management businesses and Ministry of Environment representatives) and many public consultation meetings were integral to the development of the plan.

Based on a 5-R strategy of waste reduction, reuse, recycling, recovery and residual management this plan, which was developed with a holistic systems approach that identified initiatives to be applied to the entire waste stream, was adopted by the TNRD Board of Directors on June 14, 2007.

Implementation initiatives are now being developed. The TNRD recently received FCM Letter of Intent funding approval for a feasibility study to explore and identify options to handle relatively small volumes of municipal solid waste and recyclable materials from a very large geographic area. Initiatives will be identified to reduce hauling inefficiencies through a combination of utilizing technological solutions, such as installing compaction equipment at transfer stations and/or on collection vehicles, reducing the number of transfer stations and establishing recycling facilities at transfer stations. A five year goal is a 30% reduction in the amount of landfilled solid waste. Projected is a 25 to 50% reduction in transport distances and transportation fuel consumption.