

GUIDELINE TITLE: WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY CLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

BRANCH/DIVISION: Environmental Approvals / Environmental Stewardship

Date Revised: June 29, 2017

INTENT

To provide guidance to waste management facility (WMF) operators on how to provide closure plans, closure reports and post closure monitoring for WMFs that will no longer operate. This also will assist those landfill site closures and are seeking to establish a transfer station at the same location.

DEFINITIONS

Operator – *in relation to a waste management facility, means the holder of a licence or permit issued in respect of the waste management facility.*

Waste Management Facility – *means a landfill, a composting facility, a transfer station, a material recovery facility, or a remote seasonal waste facility.*

BACKGROUND

A WMF typically discontinues operation when the site has filled to capacity and a new facility cannot or will not be constructed, or when a regional site becomes favorable. Proper closure must be followed to prevent future safety hazards and to ensure that human health and the environment are protected.

GUIDELINE

1) Submit Documentation

The operator of a WMF that proposes to close must notify the director in writing of the intended closure and submit a final closure plan at least six months before the closure of the facility to the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch (ECE) of Manitoba Sustainable Development (SD).

Information on what should be included in a final closure notification and plan can be found in the Standards for Landfills in Manitoba guideline document posted on the Solid Waste Program [website](#).

2) Review of Documentation

Upon receipt, the submission is reviewed for completeness. The operator will be advised of any deficiencies, and that the submission shall not be further reviewed until the deficient information is submitted and complete.

An inspection by an Environmental Engineer and/or Environment Officer (EO) may occur as part of the review process to verify the information and view the facility. When the director is satisfied with the review, an acknowledgement letter may be issued with specific terms and conditions the operator must include in the plan.

If a landfill is requesting to convert to a transfer station, see Guideline: Convert a Landfill into a Transfer Station, available on SD's Solid Waste Management Program [website](#).

3) Closure Report and Post Closure Monitoring

Once the closure work is complete, a landfill or a remote seasonal waste facility must submit a closure report to the director of Environmental Approvals (EA). Note that a closure report is not required for a transfer station, a composting facility, or a material recovery facility.

Once the closure report is reviewed by the EA Branch, an acknowledgement letter may be provided. SD may require follow up inspections to confirm the closure work has taken place as proposed and any additional requirements have been met. Post-closure monitoring of the site and the groundwater may be required to ensure compliance with the regulation and closure requirements.

4) Notifications

Once the WMF is closed, the operator must also notify the following regarding the changes:

- 1) In the case of a landfill, notify Sustainable and Green Initiatives Branch of Manitoba Sustainable Development regarding the Waste Reduction and Recycling Support (WRARS) Program. All registered landfills must remit their landfill levy in accordance with the biannual fee schedule.
- 2) Lands Branch of Manitoba Sustainable Development if the facility is located on Crown Land.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Manitoba Sustainable Development
Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch**
Regional Office Contact Information
www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/ece/contact.html

**Manitoba Sustainable Development
Environmental Approvals Branch**
2nd Floor, 123 Main Street (Box 80) Winnipeg, MB R3C 1A5
General Inquiry: (204) 945-8321
<http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eal/index.html>

Manitoba Sustainable Development
Solid Waste Management Program
1007 Century Street Winnipeg, MB R3H 0W4
<http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/envprograms/swm/index.html>