Manitoba
Environment and Climate Change
Environmental Approvals Branch
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Public Registry File Number: 6000.00
File Number: 31561

March 18, 2025

Paul Ziesmann
Superintendent of Public Works
City of Portage La Prairie
495 11th St. NW
Portage La Prairie MB R0J 1E0
pziesmann@city-plap.com

Dear Paul Ziesmann:

Re: Portage Compost Facility Permit No. 43030 P2

Please find enclosed Permit No. 43030 P2 in response to your application dated September 19, 2024, and additional information received on March 12, 2025. You wish to continue to operate Portage Compost Facility on portions of Lots 199/228, Plan No. 14, Parish of Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

The City of Portage La Prairie must follow all permit requirements and federal, provincial, and municipal regulations and by-laws.

Anyone affected by this decision may appeal, in writing, to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change at minecc@manitoba.ca by April 17, 2025. The permit is available on the public registry at https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/6000wmfpermits/index.html.

For clauses 15-21, the designated environment officer of the Environmental Approvals Branch is Desalegn Edossa, who may be contacted at Desalegn.Edossa@gov.mb.ca or 204-945-7021.

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If you have any questions about this approval, please contact Tyler Kneeshaw, Acting Regional Supervisor, Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch at EnvCEPortage@gov.mb.ca or 204-239-3608.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By
Agnes Wittmann
Director
The Environment Act

Enclosure

c. Tyler Kneeshaw
Desalegn Edossa

Composting Facility Operating Permit

Manitoba
Environment and Climate Change

File No. : 31561

Permit No.: **43030 P2**
Issue Date: **March 18, 2025**

Following the Waste Management Facilities Regulation under The Environment Act, the City of Portage la Prairie is hereby permitted to run the Portage Compost Facility on portions of Lots 199/228, Plan No. 14, Parish of Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. Schedule A of this permit identifies the facility.

This Permit is subject to being amended, suspended or revoked under sections 7 and 9 of the Waste Management Facilities Regulation.

Definition

In this Permit,

"compost" means the solid mature product resulting from composting;

"composting" means the managed process of bio-oxidation of a solid heterogeneous organic substrate, including a thermophilic phase;

"composting facility" means a facility at which composting is carried out;

"odour nuisance" means a continuous or repeated odour, smell or aroma, in an affected area, which is offensive, obnoxious, troublesome, annoying, unpleasant or disagreeable to a person:

a) residing in an affected area;
b) working in an affected area; or
c) present at a location in an affected area which is normally open to members of the public;

if the odour, smell or aroma:

d) is the subject of at least 5 written complaints, received by the director in a form satisfactory to the director and within a 90-day period, from 5 different persons falling within clauses (a), (b) or (c), who do not live in the same household; or
e) is the subject of at least one written complaint, received by the director in a form satisfactory to the director, from a person falling within clauses (a), (b) or (c) and the director is of the opinion that if the odour, smell or aroma had occurred in a more densely populated area there would have been at least 5 written complaints received within a 90-day period, from 5 different persons who do not live in the same household; and

"operator" means the holder of a licence or permit issued in respect of the waste management facility.

General Terms and Operating Conditions

1. This permit expires on March 18, 2030.

2. The operator must maintain and operate the facility following the Waste Management Facilities Regulation and any future amendments, and this permit.

3. The operator must:
   a) review and update the existing operations manual at least every five years, or at an earlier time if required by the director; and
   b) submit the operations manual to the director or environment officer upon request.

Alteration

4. The operator must obtain approval in writing from the director before altering the facility.

Odour Nuisance

5. The operator must not cause or permit an odour nuisance to be created as a result of the construction, operation, or alteration of the facility, and must take such steps as the director may specify to eliminate or mitigate an odour nuisance.

Site Access and Control

6. The operator must restrict access to the facility when the site is not open to the public with a locked gate, barrier or other system approved in writing by an environment officer.

Materials Acceptance and Handling

7. The operator must implement control measures to prevent attraction and sustenance of rodents and scavenging vectors.

8. The operator must not accept any livestock or other animal mortalities at the facility.

9. The operator must remove any litter accumulated along the access road and around the perimeter of the site. Litter collection must occur at minimum twice annually or as required by an environment officer

Hazardous Wastes

10. The operator must not collect, store, and dispose of any hazardous waste at the facility without a licence issued under The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act or any future amendments. If any incidental hazardous waste is found disposed of at the facility, it must be managed following The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act, and other federal, provincial, and municipal regulations.

Solid Waste

11. The operator must dispose of all non-hazardous solid waste collected at the facility, which is not composted, only to a waste disposal ground operating under the authority of a permit issued under the Waste Management Facilities Regulation or any future amendment, or a licence issued under The Environment Act.

Surface Water Management

12. The operator must construct the facility such that all uncontaminated surface water flows to the perimeter ditch and impacted water from all material storage areas is contained within the facility boundaries.

13. The operator must maintain the facility such that there is no standing stagnant water in the area where the compost windrows are situated.

Site Construction and Upgrading

14. The operator must have all composting pad, curing pad, or leachate pond, modifications, or alterations designed by and construction overseen by an engineer.

15. The operator must, before beginning any construction at the facility, submit an electronic copy of the final engineering design plans, sealed by an engineer, to the designated environment officer for approval. The plans will show the engineering details of each new or altered component and the location of each new or altered component relative to other components.

16. The operator must construct the facility following the design plans submitted to the designated environment officer following clause 15 of this permit and subject to any terms and conditions set by the designated environment officer.

17. The operator must, unless approved by the designated environment officer, arrange with the designated environment officer a mutually acceptable time and date for any required soil sampling between the 15th day of May and the 15th day of October of any year.

18. The operator must, following Schedule B of this permit, take and test undisturbed soil samples from:
    a) the clay of new compost and curing pads;
    b) leachate pond; and
    c) any clay component of the facility requiring testing by the designated environment officer.

19. The number and location of samples and test methods will be specified by the designated environment officer up to a maximum of 20 samples per compost pad, curing pad, leachate pond or clay component of the facility.

20. The operator must, not less than two weeks before using any component of the facility as referenced in clause 18 of this permit, submit for the approval of the designated environment officer the results of the tests carried out following clause 18 of this permit.

21. The operator must:
    a) prepare record drawings of the facility and must label the drawings “record drawings”; and
    b) submit "record drawings" along with a construction report to the designated environment officer within 120 days of the completion of construction of the facility.

       The construction report must include the following:
       (i) the engineer’s inspection dates and notes;
       (ii) density measurements (for clay lined facility); and
       (iii) updated site plan showing the new cell, monitoring well installation logs, locations, and background water samples (if applicable).

Compost Feedstock and Bulking Materials

22. The operator must compost only yard waste including grasses, leaves, woody materials and garden refuse. Any other feedstock requires approval from the environment officer, prior to acceptance. No manure, meats or dairy can be composted at this facility.

23. The operator must compost materials identified in clause 22 of this permit following the operations manual developed following clause 3.

Compost Use

24. The operator must not sell any compost made at this facility without first applying for and obtaining a licence following Section 10 of The Environment Act.

25. The operator must not make available, to any third party, compost generated at the facility that does not achieve the quality requirements and specifications as contained in the most recent edition of the CCME publication entitled “Guidelines for Compost Quality – PN 1340” or equivalent standard approved by the director.

Environmental Emergency Reporting

26. The operator must, in the event of an environmental accident, take all necessary actions to report the spill by calling the Environmental Emergency Report Line at 204-944-4888 (toll-free 1-855-944-4888) following regulatory requirements, contain the spill, manage the impacted environment, and restore the environment to the satisfaction of the director.

Fire Reporting

27. The operator must, in the event of a fire that continues in excess of 30 minutes, require implementation of the emergency response plan, or request fire suppression assistance from personnel outside of the facility (example: fire department) by:
    a) calling the fire department; and
    b) reporting to the environmental emergency report line at 204-944-4888 (toll free 1-855-944-4888), identifying the type of materials involved, and the location of the fire.

Heritage Resources

28. The operator must comply with the requirements of The Heritage Resources Act and suspend construction and immediately notify the Historic Resources Branch if heritage resources are encountered during the construction of any component of the facility.

Revocation

29. This permit replaces permit No. 43030 P1, which is expired.

Original Signed By
Agnes Wittmann
Director
The Environment Act

Schedule A to Permit No. 43030 P2

Figure 1 Facility layout

Schedule B to Permit No. 43030 P2
Soil sampling following clause 18 of this permit

Soil Sampling

1. The operator must provide a drilling rig, acceptable to the designated environment officer, to extract soil samples from the specified liner of the structure. This includes all liners constructed with clay. The drill rig must have the capacity to drill to the maximum depth of the clay liner plus an additional 2 metres. The drill rig must be equipped with both standard and hollow stem augers. The minimum hole diameter must be five inches.

2. For liners placed or found at the surface of the structure, the operator must provide a machine, acceptable to the designated environment officer, capable of pressing a sampling tube into the liner in a straight line motion along the centre axis line of the sample tube and without sideways movement.

3. Soil samples must be collected and shipped following ASTM Standard D 1587 (Standard Practice for Thin-Walled Tube Sampling of Soils), D 4220 (Standard Practice for Preserving and Transporting Soil Samples), and D 3550 (Standard Practice for Ring-Lines Barrel Sampling of Soils). Thin-walled tubes must meet the stated requirements including length, inside clearance ratio, and corrosion protection. An adequate venting area must be provided through the sampling head.

4. At the time of sample collection, the designated environment officer must advise the operator as to the soil testing method that must be used on each sample. The oedometer method may be used for a sample where the environment officer determines that the soil sample is taken from undisturbed clay soil which has not been remoulded and which is homogeneous and unweathered. The triaxial test must be used for all samples taken from disturbed and remoulded soils or from non-homogenous and weathered soils.

5. The operator must provide a report on the collection of soil samples to the designated environment officer and to the laboratory technician which includes but is not limited to a plot plan indicating sample location, depth or elevation of sample, length of the advance of the sample tube length of soil sample contained in the tube after its advancement, the soil test method specified by the environment officer for each soil sample and all necessary instructions from the site engineer to the laboratory technician.

6. All drill and sample holes must be sealed with bentonite pellets after the field drilling and sampling have been completed.

Schedule B to Permit No. 43030 P2
Soil sampling following clause 18 of this permit
(continued)

Soil Testing Methods

1. Triaxial Test Method

    a) The soil samples must be tested for hydraulic conductivity using ASTM D 5084 (Standard Test Method for Measurement of Hydraulic Conductivity of Saturated Porous Materials Using a Flexible Wall Permeameter).

    b) Soil specimens must have a minimum diameter of 70 mm (2.75 inches) and a minimum height of 70 mm (2.75 inches). The soil specimens must be selected from a section of the soil sample which contains the most porous material based on a visual inspection. The hydraulic gradient must not exceed 30 during sample preparation and testing. Swelling of the soil specimen should be controlled to adjust for: the amount of compaction measured during sample collection and extraction from the tube and the depth or elevation of the sample. The effective stress used during saturation or consolidation of the sample must not exceed 40 kPa (5.7 psi) or the specific stress level, that is expected in the field location where the sample was taken, whichever is greater.

    c) The complete laboratory report, as outlined in ASTM D 5084, must be supplied for each soil sample collected in the field.

2. Oedometer Test Method

    a) The soil samples must be tested for hydraulic conductivity using ASTM D 2435 (Standard Test Method for One-Dimensional Consolidation Properties of Soils).

    b) Soil specimens must have a minimum diameter of 50 mm (2 inches) and a minimum height of 20 mm (0.8 inches). The soil specimens must be selected from a section of the soil sample which contains the most porous material based on a visual inspection. The soil specimen must be taken from an undisturbed soil sample. The soil specimen must be completely saturated.

    c) The complete laboratory report, as outlined in ASTM D 2435, must be supplied for each soil sample collected in the field.