

B.7

MOTION ON NOTICE

7. Metro Vancouver's Solid Waste Management Planning

MOVER: Councillor David Cadman

SECONDER: Councillor

WHEREAS: Metro Vancouver is looking for alternatives to landfilling the region's solid waste, and is considering building six new waste-to-energy (WTE) incinerators within Metro Vancouver that would burn up to 1.5 million tonnes of garbage annually;

AND WHEREAS: burning garbage releases toxic materials including hydrogen chloride and nitric oxide, lead, cadmium, arsenic, mercury and chromium, that can pose serious health hazards;

AND WHEREAS: the air pollutants released by waste incinerators in Metro Vancouver would drift east into the Fraser Valley, further impacting a sensitive airshed that already suffers from severe air pollution;

AND WHEREAS: Metro Vancouver would be contractually obligated to deliver up to 1.5 million tonnes of waste to the private operators of the incinerators, that could put a cap on incentives and initiatives to increase the region's recycling and to reduce, reuse and recycle waste;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that Council advise the Metro Vancouver Waste Management Committee, through its representative on that Committee, that before any decisions are taken on building new WTE incinerators, that the Metro Waste Management Committee undertake a comprehensive and independent economic, health and environmental study of the impacts of waste incinerators on both the Metro and Fraser Valley regions;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Metro Vancouver Waste Management Committee initiate an independent and comprehensive and public consultation process before making any decision on building new WTE incinerators in the region.

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