



April 28, 2016

Mr. Warren Johnson
Metro
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

SUBJECT: Metro Solid Waste Code Updates

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Metro is currently seeking public comments on proposed changes to its solid waste code (Title V of the Metro Code). Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc. ("Schnitzer Steel") appreciates the opportunity to submit these comments regarding the proposed changes.

As an initial matter, Schnitzer Steel is concerned that Metro may not recognize the full effect of its proposed changes. Metro describes the proposed changes as "proposed improvements and housekeeping changes."¹ Metro also suggests that it is simply "[c]leaning up the code."² These statements suggest the proposed changes are non-substantive, non-controversial, or both. Schnitzer Steel does not agree. As explained in this letter, Schnitzer Steel believes many of the proposed changes are substantive and could be controversial. Some of these changes will increase burdens on regulated entities, while others will expand the types of materials regulated under the solid waste code, without sufficient justification to support the changes. Schnitzer Steel is also concerned that stakeholder feedback regarding the proposed changes could be muted because of the way Metro has characterized the changes. The consequence could be a process that lacks sufficient transparency and fails to engage stakeholders who will be impacted.

Metro's proposed changes to the solid waste code would amend the following chapters of the Metro Code: Chapter 5.00 (Solid Waste Definitions), Chapter 5.01 (Solid Waste Facility Regulation), Chapter 5.02 (Disposal Charges and User Fees), and Chapter 5.05 (Solid Waste Flow Control). The comments below are organized by code chapter and focus on specific changes proposed by Metro. This comment letter proposes additional changes to the solid waste code that would further Metro's stated goal of "provid[ing]

¹ Metro, Public Notice: Solid Waste Code Updates (Feb. 29, 2016), <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/news/public-notice-solid-waste-code-updates> (last visited April 5, 2016).

² *Id.*

greater predictability, consistency and clarity for businesses while meeting Metro's public obligations of ensuring accountability and transparency for the public in regulating the region's garbage and recycling system."³ All citations to the solid waste code refer to the *proposed* section numbers, unless otherwise noted.

I. CHAPTER 5.00 (SOLID WASTE DEFINITIONS)

A. Clean Fill

Metro proposes adding "clean fill" as a new defined term. Metro's rationale for adding this new definition is unclear, particularly given that Metro's proposed changes to Chapter 5.00 are intended to "[d]elete . . . unnecessary or unused terms."⁴ The only place Metro proposes to use the new term is in the revised definition of "cleanup material." Metro could achieve the same result without adding "clean fill" as a new defined term.

The issue with adding "clean fill" as a defined term is that it is unclear how clean fill would be regulated under the solid waste code. For example, it is unclear whether clean fill falls within the definition of "solid waste." Relatedly, the definition of "non-putrescible waste" explicitly includes "construction and demolition waste" but explicitly excludes "cleanup material, source separated recyclable materials, special waste, land clearing debris or yard waste." This definition leaves unclear whether clean fill is non-putrescible waste. Whether clean fill falls within the definition of "solid waste" and/or "non-putrescible waste" will affect how clean fill is treated under various provisions of the solid waste code.

Schnitzer Steel encourages Metro to reconsider its decision to add "clean fill" as a new defined term. If Metro decides to retain the proposed definition, Schnitzer Steel encourages Metro to better explain how clean fill will be regulated under the solid waste code.

B. "Designated Facility" and "Metro Designated Facility"

Metro proposes changes to the definitions of "designated facility" and "Metro designated facility." The proposed definitions are:

- "'Designated facility' means a facility that Metro designates as part of the system designated pursuant to Chapter 5.05."

³ *Id.*

⁴ Metro, Summary of Proposed Improvements and Housekeeping Changes to Metro Code Title V (Solid Waste) for 2016, at 2 (Feb. 29, 2016).

- “‘Metro designated facility’ means a facility in the system of solid waste facilities and disposal sites that Metro authorizes under Chapter 5.05 to accept waste generated within the jurisdiction of Metro.”

It is unclear whether Metro intends for these terms to have different meanings. If Metro intends for both terms to have the same meaning, Metro should consistently use one of the terms throughout the solid waste code and remove the other term. If Metro intends for the terms to have different meanings, Schnitzer Steel encourages Metro to better explain the difference between the two terms.

C. Electronic Waste

In its proposed revisions to Chapter 5.01 of the Metro Code, Metro proposes to require facilities to obtain a solid waste license if they shred, mill, pulverize, or store outdoors any electronic waste. Chapter 5.00 does not define the term “electronic waste.” Schnitzer Steel urges Metro to replace references to “electronic waste” with “covered electronic device waste,” based on a term that is used in ORS chapters 459 and 459A. This would better align the solid waste code with ORS chapters 459 and 459A.

Consistent with ORS 459A.305(4), Schnitzer Steel recommends that Metro define “covered electronic device” as follows:

“Covered electronic device” means (1) a computer monitor of any type having a viewable area greater than four inches measured diagonally; (2) a desktop computer or portable computer; (3) a television of any type having a viewable area greater than four inches measured diagonally; (4) a computer peripheral; or (5) a printer. This term does not include (a) any part of a motor vehicle; (b) any part of a larger piece of equipment designed and intended for use in an industrial, commercial or medical setting, such as diagnostic, monitoring or control equipment; (c) telephones or personal digital assistants of any type unless the telephone or personal digital assistant contains a viewable area greater than four inches measured diagonally; or (d) any part of a clothes washer, clothes dryer, refrigerator, freezer, microwave oven, conventional oven or range, dishwasher, room air conditioner, dehumidifier or air purifier.

Because the term “waste” is separately defined in Chapter 5.00, a separate definition of “covered electronic device waste” is unnecessary.

If Metro is unwilling to replace “electronic waste” with “covered electronic device waste,” Schnitzer Steel urges Metro to define “electronic waste” in Chapter 5.00. The

definition should exclude at least those categories of material described in (a) through (d) of the definition of “covered electronic device waste” proposed above. These exclusions would limit the definition of “electronic waste” to include only those materials commonly understood to constitute electronic waste. This will provide certainty to regulated entities and avoid unintended consequences.

D. “Metro Disposal System” and “Metro Waste Management System”

Metro proposes to delete the definitions of the terms “Metro disposal system” and “Metro waste management system.” However, these terms still appear in other portions of the solid waste code. Further, as currently defined, these two terms do not have the same meaning, nor are they synonymous with the proposed definition of “system.”

As one example, the proposed definition of the term “regional transfer charge” is “a fee that pays the direct unit operating costs of the Metro transfer stations. This fee is imposed upon all solid waste deliveries to *Metro disposal system* facilities.” (Emphasis added.) Without a definition for “Metro disposal system” or “disposal system,” it is unclear on which solid waste deliveries Metro would impose the regional transfer charge.

As another example, the proposed definition of the term “regional system fee” is “a fee that pays Metro *waste management system* costs.” (Emphasis added.) The term “waste management system” also appears in Section 5.02.120(a), which provides: “The regional system fee is the dollar amount per ton of solid waste adopted by Council ordinance for the purpose of paying for *Metro waste management system* costs.” (Emphasis added.) Without a definition for “Metro waste management system” or “waste management system,” it is unclear which costs would be paid by the regional system fee.

E. Standard Recyclable Materials

Metro proposes to delete the definition of the term “standard recyclable materials.” This definition is used elsewhere in the solid waste code (e.g., Secs. 5.10.080(a); 5.10.230(a)(2), (b), and (c); and 5.10.240(b)(1)) and should not be deleted.

II. CHAPTER 5.01 (SOLID WASTE FACILITY REGULATION)

A. Section 5.01.010

Metro proposes to revise and expand the purposes of Chapter 5.01. Metro suggests that the changes are meant to incorporate the “six public benefits” from Metro’s Solid Waste

Roadmap. Metro also proposes to revise and expand the purposes of Chapter 5.05 to incorporate the six public benefits (see Paragraph IV.A below). Metro frequently refers to the six public benefits during meetings related to the proposed changes to the solid waste code. Metro does not, however, consistently define or describe the six public benefits. As one example, the proposed description of the six public benefits in Section 5.01.010 is different than the proposed description of the six public benefits in Section 5.05.010. As another example, in a PowerPoint created by Metro for a September 2015 workshop, Metro explained that one of the six public benefits is to “[p]rovide good value.”⁵ However, “good value” does not appear in the Section 5.01.010 or Section 5.05.010.

If Metro is going to rely on a particular set of public benefits to guide solid waste regulation and interpretation of the solid waste code, Metro should clearly and consistently articulate those benefits. Schnitzer Steel understands Metro entertained significant stakeholder input to develop and define the six public benefits articulated in the Solid Waste Roadmap, and they should not be modified to support varying goals.

B. Subsection 5.01.040(a)

1. Single-Stream Recyclers

Schnitzer Steel believes strongly that scrap metal and similarly situated recyclable materials with intrinsic value, well-established markets, incoming material quality guidelines, and outgoing material specifications should be managed as *commodities* rather than subjected to regulation as “solid waste.” The Oregon Legislature defined “solid waste” to mean:

[A]ll *useless* or *discarded* putrescible and nonputrescible materials, including but not limited to garbage, rubbish, refuse, ashes, paper and cardboard, sewage sludge, septic tank and cesspool pumpings or other sludge, useless or discarded commercial, industrial, demolition and construction materials, discarded or abandoned vehicles or parts thereof, discarded home and industrial appliances, manure, vegetable or animal solid and semisolid materials, dead animals and infectious waste as defined in ORS 459.386.⁶

ORS 459.005(24) (emphasis added). That means a material must be either *useless* or *discarded* before it is considered a solid waste under state law.

⁵ Metro, 2015 Metro Solid Waste Code Improvements (Title V) (Sept. 3, 2015), http://www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/Code_workshop_presentation_20150903.pdf.

⁶ The definition excludes certain categories of material that are not relevant to the argument here. ORS 459.005(24).

Schnitzer Steel receives recyclable materials—scrap metal in various forms—that are neither useless nor discarded by the end user. Rather, scrap metal items are typically kept out of the solid waste stream and *sold* to Schnitzer Steel or an intermediate scrap dealer. Schnitzer Steel, in turn, treats that material as a valuable commodity—collecting, sorting, and processing the scrap to meet specific, internationally-recognized specifications, and generally managing the material to maximize its value in the market.

Two of the specific types of solid waste listed in the state definition above are “discarded or abandoned vehicles or parts thereof” and “discarded home and industrial appliances.” ORS 459.005(24). Metro’s definition of “solid waste” includes identical categories. Because Metro’s solid waste definition uses the same language found in ORS 459.005(24), it is logical to interpret these categories in the Metro definition consistent with ORS 459.005(24).

Vehicles, vehicle parts, and appliances are primary types of materials received by Schnitzer Steel. These materials are not useless, discarded, or abandoned; rather, they are valuable materials that have been intentionally segregated from other materials that enter the solid waste stream. The legislature has specifically recognized that certain types of scrap metal, including end-of-life vehicles, vehicle parts, and appliances, *do not routinely enter the solid waste stream*. ORS 459A.010(3).

As a result of these and other considerations, Metro has long recognized single-stream recycling facilities, such as Schnitzer Steel, as a unique category of commercial recycling facility, and has considered them exempt from solid waste facility licensing requirements. Unfortunately, however, the unique character of single-stream recycling facilities is not recognized with a unique exemption that applies only to this type of recycling facility—that is, Subsection 5.01.040(a) does not include a specific exemption for single-stream recycling facilities. Instead, these facilities are subsumed within other, broader exemptions. Single-stream recycling facilities often fall within the exemption applicable to facilities that receive non-putrescible source-separated recyclable materials (Section 5.01.040(a)(3)) or various other exemptions contained in Section 5.01.040(a), but the materials sent to these facilities typically are not “separated” from the waste stream because they never enter the waste stream in the first place.

Schnitzer Steel encourages Metro to take this opportunity to clarify the exemption applicable to single-stream recycling facilities by adopting a single, narrowly tailored exemption that covers all such facilities. This is important because the rationale for exempting these single-stream recycling facilities is specific to these types of facilities. Single-stream recycling facilities like Schnitzer Steel receive a single type of recyclable material (for Schnitzer Steel, scrap metal in various forms). Single-stream recyclable

materials generally have intrinsic value, well-established markets, incoming material quality guidelines, and outgoing material specifications. As such, these types of recyclable materials are managed by both the recycling facility and end user as a commodity, not a solid waste.

Schnitzer Steel suggests the following description for the new exemption: “Facilities that (A) exclusively receive single-stream recyclable materials, and (B) reuse or recycle those materials, or transfer, transport or deliver those materials to a person or facility that will reuse or recycle them.”

Metro would also need to add a new definition for “single-stream recyclable material” to Section 5.00.010. Schnitzer Steel suggests the following definition:

“Single-stream recyclable material” means recyclable material that (i) has been isolated as a single material type (e.g., a specific type of standard recyclable material) for the purpose of recycling, or (ii) is predominantly made up of a single material type for which mechanical processing is necessary to further separate component types of recyclable materials.

2. Incidental Quantity Exemption for Electronic Waste

Metro proposes to require a solid waste license for all facilities that shred, mill, pulverize, or store outdoors any electronic waste (see Section 5.01.050(a)(6)). Schnitzer Steel urges Metro to replace the term “electronic waste” with “covered electronic device waste” (see Paragraph I.C above).

As proposed, the licensing requirement would apply quite broadly to facilities that shred, mill, pulverize, or store outdoors *any* electronic waste, which could arguably include small circuit boards or other electronic components contained inside any appliance with digital controls or a potentially unidentified printer inside a large load of scrap, as examples. This could have the unintended consequence of requiring licenses for facilities that incidentally shred, mill, pulverize, or store outdoors small quantities of electronic waste (or covered electronic device waste). To avoid this unintended consequence, Schnitzer Steel encourages Metro to add the following exemption to Section 5.01.040(a): “Facilities that incidentally shred, mill, pulverize, or store outdoors small quantities of electronic waste [or covered electronic device waste].”

C. Subsection 5.01.080(e)

Under the current solid waste code, if Metro’s Chief Operating Officer (“COO”) fails to grant or deny a license application within 120 days, the license is deemed

granted. Metro proposes to eliminate this requirement and replace it with a process under which the applicant may request the Metro Council to direct the COO to act on the license if the COO fails to act within 120 days.

Metro does not provide adequate justification for this change. The change would reduce the incentive for the COO to expeditiously review and act on license applications. Metro has not identified any instance in which the 120-day deadline has caused the COO to grant or deny a license application that otherwise would have been processed differently. Therefore, Schnitzer Steel opposes this proposed change.

D. Section 5.01.110

The proposed revision to Subsection (a) is confusing when read together with Subsection (d). Proposed Subsection (a) reads: "The [COO] may approve or deny a license renewal of a solid waste facility." As written, this provision suggests that the COO has complete discretion to approve or deny a license. However, proposed Subsection (d) reads: "The [COO] must approve a solid waste facility license renewal unless" Subsection (a) would be more clear if it read: "The [COO] will review a license renewal and approve or deny it consistent with this section."

E. Subsection 5.01.180(g)

Similar to the proposed changes to Subsection 5.01.080(e) (discussed above), under the current solid waste code, if the Metro Council fails to grant or deny a franchise application within 120 days, the franchise is deemed granted. Metro proposes to eliminate the automatic grant of a franchise.

Metro does not provide adequate justification for this change. The change would reduce the incentive for the Metro Council to expeditiously review and act on franchise applications. Subsection (h)(3) already allows for an extension of the 120-day deadline by mutual agreement of the applicant and the COO. This extension process is adequate to address situations in which the Metro Council is unable to act on a franchise application within 120 days. Metro has not identified any instance in which the 120-day deadline has caused the Metro Council to grant or deny a franchise application that otherwise would have been processed differently. Therefore, Schnitzer Steel opposes this proposed change.

F. Section 5.01.280

Metro proposes to modify the COO's authority to adopt and amend rules, performance standards, procedures, and forms. The proposed title of Section 5.01.280 is: "Adoption

and Amendment of Administrative Rules and Performance Standards.” The title would more closely align with the substantive provisions of the section if it read: “Adoption and Amendment of Rules, Performance Standards, Procedures and Forms.” Although the title of Section 5.01.280 makes clear that Metro intends the substantive provisions of the section to apply to both *adoption* and *amendment* of rules, performance standards, procedures, and forms, the section’s substantive provisions refer to *adoption* but not *amendment*. To clarify the scope of Section 5.01.280, Metro should revise the section’s substantive provisions to refer to both adoption and amendment.

The proposed changes to the substantive provisions of Section 5.01.280 include new procedural protections. These proposed changes provide greater protection to licensees and franchisees, but some of the other proposed changes to the section would arguably expand Metro’s rulemaking authority. The proposed changes are discussed in more detail below.

1. Applicability of Rules to Exempt Facilities

Under *current* Section 5.01.132, the COO’s rulemaking authority is limited to issuing “administrative procedures and performance standards governing the *obligations of licensees and franchisees*.” (Emphasis added.) In contrast, *proposed* Section 5.01.280 is ambiguous about whether the COO’s rulemaking authority extends to operators of exempt facilities. Subsection 5.01.280(a) provides: “The [COO] may adopt rules, performance standards, procedures and forms to implement any provision of this chapter. Any rule, performance standard, procedure and form adopted under this section has the same force and effect as any other chapter provision.”

Schnitzer Steel encourages Metro to clarify that the rules, performance standards, procedures, and forms adopted by the COO apply only to licensees and franchisees.

2. Public Notice and Comment

Subsection 5.01.280(b) would require the COO to provide a 30-day public comment period before adopting any rules or performance standards. However, as proposed, this requirement does not explicitly extend to procedures and forms adopted under Section 5.01.280. Because these procedures and forms will have “the same force and effect as any other chapter provision,” the procedures and forms should also be subject to a 30-day public comment period.

Subsection 5.01.280(b) is silent regarding the type of notice Metro must provide regarding the public comment period. Metro should revise the subsection to require notice in a manner reasonably calculated to reach interested parties.

Metro could address these suggestions by replacing the first sentence of Subsection 5.01.280(b) with the following:

Before the Chief Operating Officer adopts or amends a rule, performance standard, procedure or form under this section, the Chief Operating Officer will provide an opportunity for public comment for a period of at least 30 days. Metro will provide notice of the public comment period in a manner reasonably calculated to reach interested parties. The notice will include a brief description of the proposed rule, performance standard, procedure or form; the location at which a person may obtain copies of the full text of the proposed rule, performance standard, procedure or form; the method for submitting comments; and the deadline for submitting public comments.

Schnitzer Steel suggests that Metro make the same change to analogous provisions in Subsections 5.02.170(b) and 5.05.260(b).

3. Public Hearings

Subsections 5.01.280(b) and (c) include requirements related to public hearings. As proposed in Subsection 5.01.280(b), the COO “*may . . . hold a public hearing on any proposed rule or performance standard if the [COO] determines that there is sufficient public interest in the proposed rule or performance standard.*” (Emphases added.) This would vest complete discretion in whether to hold a public hearing with the COO and undermines the procedural protection that a public hearing would provide.

Schnitzer Steel encourages Metro to strengthen this procedural protection by *requiring* public hearings under certain circumstances and expanding the scope of the public hearing provision to cover proposed procedures and forms. Schnitzer Steel suggests replacing the last sentence of Subsection 5.01.280(b) with the following:

The Chief Operating Officer may hold a public hearing on any proposed rule, performance standard, procedure or form if the Chief Operating Officer determines that there is sufficient public interest in the proposed rule, performance standard, procedure or form. The Chief Operating Officer will hold a public hearing if the Chief Operating Officer (i) determines or receives evidence showing that the proposed rule, performance standard, procedure or form could have a material economic impact on a licensee or franchisee, or (ii) receives at least five written requests for a public hearing.

Schnitzer Steel suggests that Metro make the same change to analogous provisions in Subsections 5.02.170(b) and 5.05.260(b).

4. Effective Date

Subsection 5.01.280(d) provides that, unless otherwise stated, all rules and performance standards take effect when the COO adopts them. This does not provide a sufficient opportunity to challenge the rules and performance standards before they become effective. Absent a serious danger to public health or safety, it is unnecessary for any proposed rule, performance standard, procedure or form to take effect sooner than 60 days following adoption.

Schnitzer Steel suggests replacing Subsection 5.01.280(d) with the following:

All rules, performance standards, procedures and forms adopted or amended under this section will take effect 60 days after adoption or amendment by the Chief Operating Officer, unless (i) the Chief Operating Officer specifies an earlier effective date after determining that failure to immediately implement the rule, performance standard, procedure or form would create a serious danger to the public health or safety, or (ii) the Chief Operating Officer specifies a later effective date.

Schnitzer Steel suggests that Metro make the same change to analogous provisions in Subsections 5.02.170(d) and 5.05.260(d).

5. Interim Rules and Performance Standards

Subsection 5.01.280(e) would allow the COO to circumvent the public notice and comment process when adopting interim rules and performance standards. To adopt an interim rule or performance standard, the COO must find that “failure to act promptly will result in serious prejudice to the public interest or the interest of an affected party.” This is a vague standard and arguably creates a lower threshold than the “serious danger” standard contained in other sections of Chapter 5.01.

Schnitzer Steel suggests replacing Subsection 5.01.280(e) with the following:

Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (d) of this section, the Chief Operating Officer may adopt an interim rule or performance standard without prior public notice or comment or opportunity for a public hearing only if the Chief Operating Officer finds that failure to act immediately will result in serious danger to the public health or safety.

The Chief Operating Officer must explain, in writing, the basis for adopting the interim rule or performance standard. Any rule or performance standard adopted pursuant to this subsection takes effect upon adoption and expires no later than 180 days from its effective date.

Schnitzer Steel suggests that Metro make the same change to analogous provisions in Subsections 5.02.170(e) and 5.05.260(e).

G. Subsection 5.01.290(a)

Subsection 5.01.040(c) provides that certain exempt activities and facilities are subject to Section 5.01.290, which relates to inspections and audits. This authority is intended to allow Metro to inspect and audit certain exempt activities and facilities for the limited purpose of confirming that those activities and facilities qualify for the claimed exemption. Schnitzer Steel recommends that Metro add the following sentence at the end of Subsection 5.01.290(a) to clarify the relationship between Subsection 5.01.040(c) and Subsection 5.01.290(a): "The Chief Operating Officer is authorized to inspect, audit, or otherwise investigate activities and facilities described in Subsections 5.01.040(a)(3) through (a)(9) only to confirm that such activity or facility is exempt under Section 5.01.040."

H. Subsection 5.01.320(f)

This subsection relates to the effect of Metro's revocation of, or refusal to renew, a franchise or license. As proposed by Metro, this subsection would read: "If Metro revokes or refuses to renew a franchise or license, all franchisee or licensee rights in the franchise or license become void." The phrase "or refuses to renew" should be deleted from this subsection for at least two reasons. *First*, Section 5.01.320 relates to the suspension, modification, and revocation of licenses and franchises, not the refusal to renew a license or franchise. *Second*, as written, subsection (f) is inconsistent with subsection 5.01.340(b), which provides that the COO's refusal to renew a license does not become effective until Metro affords the franchisee or licensee an opportunity for a contested case hearing (unless necessary to avoid serious danger to the public health or safety).

III. CHAPTER 5.02 (DISPOSAL CHARGES AND USER FEES)

A. Subsection 5.02.050(a)

Metro proposes adding the following sentence to Subsection 5.02.050(a): "'Source separated recyclable material' has the same meaning as defined in ORS 459.005." This

statement is not correct because ORS 459.005 does not define “source separated recyclable material.” The term is, however, defined in Section 5.00.010.

B. Subsections 5.02.060(a) and 5.02.080(f)(4)

References in these subsections to “enhancement fee” should be replaced with “community enhancement fee” to align these subsections with Metro’s proposed changes to definitions in Section 5.00.010.

C. Section 5.02.170

See proposed changes to this section in Paragraphs II.F.2 through II.F.5 above.

IV. CHAPTER 5.05 (SOLID WASTE FLOW CONTROL)

A. Section 5.05.010

Metro proposes to revise and expand the purposes of Chapter 5.05. Metro suggests that the changes merely incorporate the “six public benefits” from Metro’s Solid Waste Roadmap (similar to the proposed changes to Chapter 5.01). However, the six public benefits listed in Chapter 5.05 are not identical to the six public benefits listed in Chapter 5.01. (See Paragraph II.A above for further discussion regarding this issue.)

B. Subsection 5.05.020(c)

Metro proposes to revise the description of the authority under which it regulates under Chapter 5.05. The current solid waste code states that Metro is exercising its authority under ORS 268.317 and ORS 268.360. Metro proposes to replace the references to those specific statutory sections with a generic reference to ORS chapter 268. This is arguably a substantive change because ORS 268.317 is limited to solid and liquid waste *disposal* powers and ORS 268.360 relates to Metro’s authority to enact and enforce ordinances. In contrast, other sections of ORS chapter 268 would grant broader powers to Metro (e.g., ORS 268.310(6) authorizes Metro to “[e]xercise jurisdiction over other matters of metropolitan concern as authorized by [the Metro] charter”). If Metro intends to rely on statutory grants of authority beyond ORS 268.317 and ORS 268.360, Metro should do so explicitly and provide an adequate justification for the exercise of broader statutory authority.

C. Subsection 5.05.050(a)

This subsection provides an exemption from the general requirement to obtain a non-system license in order to transport, or cause to be transported, solid waste generated

within Metro to any solid waste facility or disposal site. The exemption applies to “non-putrescible source separated recyclable materials that are either: (i) reused or recycled, or (ii) transferred, transported or delivered to a person or facility that will reuse or recycle them.” As currently drafted, it is somewhat unclear at what point the exemption begins to apply. However, the clear intent of the exemption is that it applies to source separated recyclable materials from the point of source separation, provided the materials *will be* reused or recycled or transferred, transported, or delivered to a person or facility that will reuse or recycle them. Metro should revise this subsection to ensure it is implemented as intended.

Metro could clarify the intent of the exemption by adding a sentence to the end of Subsection 5.05.050(a) that states: “This exemption applies from the point of source separation, provided the materials are ultimately: (i) reused or recycled, or (ii) transferred, transported or delivered to a person or facility that will reuse or recycle them.”

D. Subsection 5.05.080(b)(6)

This subsection lists the factors the Metro Council may consider in deciding whether to remove a facility from Metro’s designated facilities list. Metro proposes to add a catchall factor: “Any other factor the Council considers appropriate.” This factor is broader than necessary to accomplish the purposes of Chapter 5.05. At a minimum, the catchall factor should be limited to “Any other factor *necessary to accomplish the purposes of this chapter.*” (Emphasis added.)

E. Subsection 5.05.150(b)

This subsection relates to the conditions the COO may impose on a new or renewed non-system license. Metro proposes to add language that would allow the COO to “impose conditions on the issuance of a new or renewed non-system license for non-putrescible waste as the [COO] considers necessary under the circumstances.” This grant of authority is more broad than necessary to accomplish the purposes of Chapter 5.05, and Metro has not provided sufficient justification for such a broad grant of authority. A more limited grant of authority would allow the COO to “impose conditions on the issuance of a new or renewed non-system license for non-putrescible waste as *necessary to accomplish the purposes of this chapter.*” (Emphasis added.)

F. Section 5.05.260

See proposed changes to this section in Paragraphs II.F.2 through II.F.5 above.

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V. CONCLUSION

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments to Metro and appreciate the role Metro plays in regulating the solid waste management and disposal system for the region. We look forward to continued discussions regarding how to ensure Metro can achieve its regulatory objectives without placing unnecessary burdens on the recycling industry.

Please contact me at 503.265.6339 to discuss any of the comments provided in this letter.

Respectfully,

SCHNITZER STEEL INDUSTRIES, INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mathew J. Cusma', with a stylized flourish at the end.

MATHEW J. CUSMA
Senior Environmental Manager

cc: Mr. Tom Hughes, Metro Council President