



600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Memo

DATE: June 26, 2018

TO: Roy W. Brower, Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup Program Director

FROM: Hila Ritter, Solid Waste Authorization Coordinator *[Signature]*

RE: Issuance of Renewed Solid Waste Facility License No. L-003-18 for Environmentally Conscious Recycling, Inc.

Attached for your signature is renewed Solid Waste Facility License No. L-003-18 for Environmentally Conscious Recycling, Inc. (ECR), a material recovery facility located at 12409 NE San Rafael Street (Metro District 1). This memo provides background information on the applicant's request and recommends that Metro issue a renewed license to ECR.

BACKGROUND



ECR site, located at 12409 NE San Rafael St. in Portland.

The applicant (ECR) is a Metro-licensed facility that accepts and processes mixed non-putrescible (dry) waste for material recovery. The facility also accepts source-separated wood waste for delivery to facilities with industrial boilers for use as hogged fuel.

ECR is a locally-owned company that has operated under a Metro license since 1986. ECR's current license¹ expires on June 30, 2018.

¹ Metro Solid Waste Facility License No. L-003-13

On February 28, 2018, ECR submitted an application to Metro requesting the renewal of its license accompanied by payment of the application fee of \$300. The facility did not seek authorization for any new activities. Current operations would remain the same under the proposed renewal.

Under Metro Code Section 5.01.080, the proposed license is to be approved or denied by the Chief Operating Officer (COO). On October 9, 2017, the COO delegated authority to the Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup (SWICC) Director to determine whether to approve or deny these types of applications. As such, the SWICC Director is authorized to grant this license renewal.

PUBLIC NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

On April 9, 2018, Metro issued public notice of the license application and provided an opportunity for the public to submit comments. Public notice was mailed to about 795 property owners and residents located near the facility. Notice was also posted on the Metro website and e-mailed to a list of Metro-area stakeholders that have a general interest in solid waste issues. The public comment period ended on May 9, 2018. Metro received six comments regarding the license application. The comments that Metro received during the notice period and the applicant's responses to those comments are summarized below. The full comments are attached.

In response to the public notice, Metro received four comments in support of the proposed license renewal. These commenters generally described ECR's efforts to maintain their property, equipment, and the surrounding streets and described the business as a community benefit. A commenter in support of the business also suggested the onsite driveway should be improved.

The other two comments expressed concerns regarding the facility. These commenters cited concerns with the volume of traffic, noise, unpleasant smells, and airborne debris - both dust and litter, generated by ECR's operations.

Applicant response to comments: ECR prioritizes its neighbors and responds to any complaints received. It employs full time staff and equipment responsible for cleaning inside and outside the facility daily. This includes daily litter patrols, the use of a water truck and wagon to suppress dust, and a street sweeper as needed.

Metro response to comments: The proposed license requires ECR to operate in a manner that: 1) controls and minimizes the generation of dust, airborne debris, litter, and odor and prevent it from migrating beyond the property boundaries and 2) provide adequate vehicle accommodation including on-site vehicular traffic, not queueing on public streets, and adequate off-street parking and 3) maintain access roads to allow orderly vehicular traffic. ECR is also required to implement established operating procedures for addressing these issues at the facility. Metro staff will continue to monitor the facility to ensure that it maintains compliance with its requirements.

COMPLIANCE HISTORY OF THE APPLICANT

Metro has conducted 32 inspections of ECR's facility during the term of its license. ECR is currently in compliance with Metro's requirements and has not had any significant compliance issues during the term of its current license. Metro did not issue any Notices of Violation or take any enforcement

actions at the facility during that time. In addition, DEQ staff has reported that there were no enforcement or compliance issues associated with this site during that time.

Staff finds that the facility has a good compliance history and plays an important role in the region's solid waste recovery efforts. As such, it is in the public interest to renew ECR's license as described in this staff report.

METRO CODE RENEWAL CRITERIA

Metro Code Section 5.01.110(d) states that:

The Chief Operating Officer must approve solid waste facility license renewal unless the Chief Operating Officer determines that the proposed renewal is not in the public interest. The Chief Operating Officer may attach conditions or limitations to any renewed License.

The proposed license would become effective after the current license expires on June 30, 2018. The proposed license carries forward the same authorization that ECR holds under its current license. The applicant did not request any new authorizations.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends issuing renewed Solid Waste Facility License No. L-003-18 to ECR authorizing it to accept and process mixed dry waste for material recovery. The proposed license becomes effective on July 1, 2018, and expires on June 30, 2023. A copy of the proposed license is attached for your signature.

HR
Queue
Attachment

Hila Ritter

From: Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 10:14 AM
To: 'Terrell Garrett'
Subject: RE: Public Notice: Environmentally Conscious Recycling (ECR)

Hello,

Thank you for your comment. Metro will respond to comments in the staff report, which will be available online as an update to the [public notice webpage](#) after the close of the public comment period.

Thanks,
*Hila

Hila Ritter

Solid Waste Authorization Coordinator
Property and Environmental Services

My gender pronouns: she, her, hers.

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503-797-1862

From: Terrell Garrett [mailto:greenwaybusiness@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2018 10:04 AM
To: Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup <SWICC@oregonmetro.gov>
Subject: Re: Public Notice: Environmentally Conscious Recycling (ECR)

Hila,

Please place this letter of support of renewal for both ECR and Best Buy.

Thanks,

Terrell Garrett

On Wed, Apr 11, 2018 at 4:23 PM, Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup <SWICC@oregonmetro.gov> wrote:

Hello,

You are receiving this message because you may have interest in the Environmentally Conscious Recycling (ECR) material recovery facility, and/or receiving updates about solid waste and recycling.

Metro has issued a public notice regarding the following solid waste license renewal:

- Environmentally Conscious Recycling (ECR) located at 12409 NE San Rafael St. in Portland, seeks a renewed license to receive and process dry waste to recover recyclable materials. The facility also accepts and processes clean wood waste for delivery to mills for use as boiler fuel. Metro is sending out notifications of the opportunity for public comment to addresses adjacent to the facility, see attached. ECR's license will expire on June 30, and it has submitted a complete application to Metro for a license renewal with no changes to its authorization.

Metro staff will evaluate the license application and all comments received. The Metro Chief Operating Officer (COO) will decide whether to issue or deny this license unless the Metro Council chooses to consider it.

Metro has established a web page with information on the license application on Metro's website at www.oregonmetro.gov/solidwastepublicnotices. For more information, or to provide comment, contact Hila Ritter at hila.ritter@oregonmetro.gov by **May 9**.

If you no longer wish to receive these kinds of messages, please let me know and your email address will be removed from the distribution list.

Thank you.

Hila Ritter
Solid Waste Authorization Coordinator
Property and Environmental Services

My gender pronouns: she, her, hers.

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Hila Ritter

From: Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:56 PM
To: 'Anatoli Babin'
Subject: RE: ECR

Hello,

Thank you for your comment. Metro will respond to comments in the staff report, which will be available online as an update to the [public notice webpage](#) after the close of the public comment period.

Thanks,
*Hila

Hila Ritter
Solid Waste Authorization Coordinator
Property and Environmental Services
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From: Anatoli Babin [<mailto:anatolibabin@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 11:56 AM
To: Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup <SWICC@oregonmetro.gov>
Subject: ECR

To whom it may concern,

I have lived in NE Portland next to ECR for nearly 12 years now. All this time ECR has produced a lot of noise, dust, traffic, and unpleasant smells. All the semi trucks coming in and out are loud, and they create traffic because they are too big for the two lane street (San Rafael) that ECR is located on. The constant traffic turns a peaceful neighborhood into a busy place. Additionally the employees use the aforementioned street as parking and they create hazardous driving conditions due to low visibility when turning onto San Rafael. This problem is extremely noticeable on streets adjacent to San Rafael such as NE 125th Ave and NE 126th Ave. Especially during the summer time the dust that is produced is at an all time high. It travels around the neighborhood settling on cars and lingers in the air that people breathe. In addition to the dust the smell that is produced is sour and at times nauseating.

In my opinion this company should not be located in a neighborhood that contains a church, two schools, and a public park. ECR is a company that would be better suited outside of city limits. I doubt that anybody living around ECR is happy with this business.

In conclusion I would like to thank Metro for providing residents with the ability to submit comments regarding ECR.

Sincerely: Anatoli Babin

Hila Ritter

From: Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:55 PM
To: 'Jo Meyertons'
Subject: RE: ECR license renewal comments

Hello,

Thank you for your comment. Metro will respond to comments in the staff report, which will be available online as an update to the [public notice webpage](#) after the close of the public comment period.

Thanks,
*Hila

Hila Ritter
Solid Waste Authorization Coordinator
Property and Environmental Services
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From: Jo Meyertons [mailto:jomeyertons@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 2:25 PM
To: Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup <SWICC@oregonmetro.gov>
Subject: ECR license renewal comments

I moved to 11945 NE Eugene St, about 2 blocks west of ECR, in 2014. I have seen a near constant stream of plastic debris flowing directly from the ECR all year long, and a heavy concentration of dust created by the many trucks at ECR during the dry months. This debris often gets caught in my trees so that I can't even clean it up, and is made worse when the east winds kick up.

My neighborhood is struggling to improve and I believe ECR in the neighborhood is making this effort more difficult and less clean. We deserve clean air and a reasonable expectation of litter, and for that reason I believe ECR should move to a less populated area.

----- Jo Meyertons, EdD

Hila Ritter

From: Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 10:16 AM
To: 'Mark Jones-Orak'
Subject: RE: ECR

Hello,

Thank you for your comment. Metro will respond to comments in the staff report, which will be available online as an update to the [public notice webpage](#) after the close of the public comment period.

Thanks,
*Hila

Hila Ritter
Solid Waste Authorization Coordinator
Property and Environmental Services
My gender pronouns: she, her, hers.
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Portland, OR 97232-2736
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-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Jones-Orak [<mailto:911palm@centurylink.net>]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 7:11 AM
To: Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup <SWICC@oregonmetro.gov>
Subject: ECR

They are great. They should me made to improve their driveway to the dump sites if they are allowed to renew. It is terrible. Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

Mark Jones-Orak

Hila Ritter

From: Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:56 PM
To: 'Sherri James'
Subject: RE: ECR License Renewal

Hello,

Thank you for your comment. Metro will respond to comments in the staff report, which will be available online as an update to the [public notice webpage](#) after the close of the public comment period.

Thanks,
*Hila

Hila Ritter
Solid Waste Authorization Coordinator
Property and Environmental Services
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From: Sherri James [mailto:sherri.james@pcschoools.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 7:58 PM
To: Solid Waste Information Compliance and Cleanup <SWICC@oregonmetro.gov>
Subject: ECR License Renewal

To Whom it Concerns at METRO,

This communication relates to the application for renewal of license for Environmentally Consensus Recycling (ECR), located on 122nd/NE San Rafael Street. As a neighboring business, we have found ECR to be very responsive and professional in business matters with us. They maintain their property and the public street in front of their business, appropriately managing debris and equipment from their operations. We support the renewal of their license.

Thank you,
Sherri James

--

Sherri James, M.ED. Admin

Portland Christian Schools

Jr/Sr High School Principal

12425 NE San Rafael St. | Portland, OR 97230

Phone: 503.256.3960 Ext 259 | Fax: 503.256.2773

www.pcschools.org

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Hila Ritter

From: Hila Ritter
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 5:01 PM
To: 'Tom Badrick'
Cc: Ron G
Subject: RE: Environmentally Conscious Recycling (ECR)

Hello,

Thank you for your comment. Metro will respond to comments in the staff report, which will be available online as an update to the [public notice webpage](#) after the close of the public comment period.

Thanks,
*Hila

Hila Ritter
Solid Waste Authorization Coordinator
Property and Environmental Services
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From: Tom Badrick [mailto:badrickt@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2018 9:36 AM
To: Hila Ritter <Hila.Ritter@oregonmetro.gov>
Cc: Ron G <ronglanville@gmail.com>
Subject: Environmentally Conscious Recycling (ECR)

Good morning Hila

We are writing in support of this application. ECR has been a good neighbor and community member. In addition to maintaining their facility well, they have helped cleaning up along their street which has until recently been a regular location of illegal camping (motor homes, cars). They have also been a valuable resource for our neighborhood clean ups.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions

Thank you

Tom Badrick and Ron Glanville

Tom Badrick is Chair of the Parkrose Heights Association of Neighbors. Our eastern-most boundary is directly across NE 122nd from ECR's facility.

Ron Glanville is Chair of Russell Neighborhood Association. ECR is within the Russell boundaries.



Environmentally Conscious Recycling

May 25, 2018

TO: Hila Ritter
Metro
600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland OR 97232
503-797-1862
Hila.Ritter@oregonmetro.gov

Hila,

Thank you for providing us with the comments submitted to Metro regarding our license renewal. ECR has been recycling material at its current location for more than 32 years now. Our neighbors are our highest priority and we have addressed any complaints we received. ECR has full time personnel responsible for cleaning inside and outside of our facility daily, collecting any debris even debris generated by neighbors and the homeless. We have a water truck and water wagon to help keep any dust down. We purchased a street sweeper 3 years ago to aid in keeping the facility and roads clean. We continue to upgrade the facility as growth allows, to improve our facility and environment around us.

Best Regards,

Vern Brown
Vice President
503-680-0690 cell
503-253-0867 office
vern@ecrcycling.com