



CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™
General Services Department

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Solid Waste Advisory Committee
DATE: August 10, 2018
SUBJECT: Transfer Station – Dump Bodies

Recommendation

Accept this report on “Dump Body” trucks and trailers at the Concord Transfer Station.

Background

The City of Concord Transfer Station is a City-owned, privately-operated transfer station located at 77 Old Turnpike Road. The operator, Casella Waste Systems, recently disallowed “dump body” style trucks and trailers from dumping their contents into the below-grade dumpsters following the identification of the practice as unsafe by Casella management.

Discussion

On August 7th 2018, the Solid Waste Advisory Committee held a meeting and heard a presentation by David Allen, Regional Manager of Casella Waste on the change. In his presentation, Mr. Allen discussed the safety issue specifically by illustrating that a backhoe had been being used as a “backstop” of sorts by the transfer station personnel to prevent the spillage of materials into a roadway used by the general public. In Casella’s view this is a safety issue that is unacceptable as it places the Operator in direct danger and the transfer station was not designed to accommodate this type of activity. Other alternatives were looked at on site but no solutions presented themselves.

Mr. Allen also went on to detail that in light of the change, Casella has extended users a \$25/ton discount on the tip fee at the Allenstown Transfer Station it operates which is located 4 miles away.

In discussion that followed the presentation, the committee unanimously acknowledged the fact that the practice is unsafe and that legitimate safety concerns exist for both the Operator of the backhoe as well as the general public and the prudent thing to do is stop the practice. The committee also feels that while the inconvenience of having to travel an additional four miles is not ideal, the action is appropriate and justified in light of the safety hazard.

The committee further thanks Mr. Allen for the presentation and complimented the positive customer interactions Casella employees have provided residents with over the years.