



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Staff Report

Report Title: Landfill Management Report March 2025

Date: Mar. 3, 2025

Report Number: PW-2025-10

Department: Public Works

File Number: C11 PW25

Prepared By: Cory Dulong, Manager of Environmental Services.

Attachments: Cleanfarms Letter, BioCover ADC

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report PW-2025-10 prepared By Cory Dulong, Manager of Environmental Services.

Background:

Cleanfarms

Since the fall of 2021, the Huron Landfill has accepted agricultural film plastics through a program operated by Cleanfarms with funding from the Government of Canada. Initially, the landfill could accept bagged bale wrap, bunker covers, silage covers and bale twine and Cleanfarms would collect the material. The program changed in 2024 to only including bale wrap.

On January 20, 2025, the Township was informed by Cleanfarms, that the collection of bale wrap was ending since the Government of Canada was no longer funding the program. See the attached Cleanfarms Letter. We are in the process of scheduling a final collection of the material we have received so far.

Township staff are planning to continue to accept bale wrap as we investigate alternative collection programs. One potential receiver that we have been in contact with is Switch Energy, which is located in the Clinton area.

Landfill Daily Cover

The Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) for the Huron Landfill requires the application of cover material on a daily basis. As a result of the challenges we have had completing this task with our own equipment, we began contracting this work last year.

In the summer months, we are finding that this work is costing us approximately \$5,000 per month, which is significantly more than we anticipated. Therefore, Township staff are looking at alternative methods that would save on cost, time and prolong the life of the landfill by using less of the licenced volume.

One option we are currently researching is called BioCover. See attachment, *BioCover ADC*. This method would require the use of a trailer that we would use to mix the

product with water and apply to the active fill area. This is a similar process to hydroseeding a lawn.

Discussion/Analysis/Overview:

Cleanfarms

Switch Energy accepts various products including bale wrap, bunker covers, silo bags, shaving bags, fertilizer bags, salt bags, insulation bags, baler twine, super sacks, and woven feed bags. Township staff have reached out to Switch Energy and are waiting for more information regarding the collection and disposal process.

Landfill Daily Cover

BioCover is a biodegradable and non-toxic alternative that is applied 5mm thick which is equivalent to the 150mm (6") thickness of soil that is required to meet our ECA. Over time, BioCover breaks down saving space and time within the operations of the landfill. We are in the initial stages of investigating the BioCover concept to determine if this is a feasible option.

We will be testing out the product through a demo from the supplier first. If the demo is successful, we are looking at leasing a trailer for an extended trail through various weather and site conditions.

Financial Impacts:

The Cleanfarms program was operated at no cost to the Township, so this material was accepted at no charge. Township staff are in the process of determining what this program will cost going forward and determine if it will be feasible to continue at no charge for disposal.

Daily cover is included in the 2025 Operating Budget and we are anticipating that the new process will result in long term cost savings.

Performance Measurement:

As of Feb. 2024, the Huron Landfill accepted 4,633 kg of agricultural plastics.

Strategic Area:

- Embrace a thriving rural lifestyle
- Enhance Municipal Service Delivery
- Prepare for Inclusive Growth
- Ensure Financial Stability

Strategic Goal: Strive for continuous improvement and increased efficiency

Respectfully Submitted By:

Cory Dulong, Manager of Environmental Services.

Report Approved By:

Jodi MacArthur, Chief Administrative Officer