
Nova Scotia Solid Waste
Resource Management
Regional Chairs Committee

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Chair

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Donnie MacDonald

REGION 2b:

Robert Parker

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Peter Muttart

REGION 6:

Wayne Thorburne

REGION 7:

Linda Gregory
Vice Chair

August 9, 2023

The Honorable Tim Halman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Province of Nova Scotia
PO Box 697
Halifax, N.S. B3J 218

Dear Minister Halman:

Re: Biodegradable Packaging Review

At the June 29, 2023 meeting of the Nova Scotia Solid Waste Resource Management Regional Chairs Committee, the following motion was made:

MOVED BY WAYNE THORBURNE AND SECONDED BY ROBERT PARKER THAT A LETTER BE WRITTEN TO THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE, REQUESTING THAT THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDER BANNING BIODEGRADABLE AND COMPOSTABLE PACKAGING IN NOVA SCOTIA.

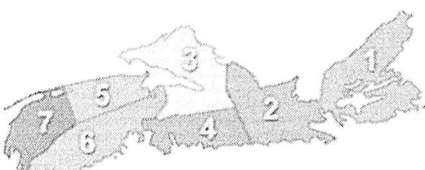
MOTION CARRIED

This motion was the result of a discussion regarding problematic, plastic-like biodegradable and compostable bags and packaging, which are appearing in composting facilities across Nova Scotia.

These products are marketed as compostable, implying they can be accepted in all composting systems. In reality, they cause confusion for waste collection and public education. This material often ends up disposed of in landfills, at a cost to the taxpayer who expected it to be diverted.

There is also concern that brand owners will further seek packaging alternatives such as compostable plastic to avoid having to pay into Packaging and Printed Paper recycling programs.

P.O. Box 895, Kentville, NS B4N 4H8
NSRegionalChairs@gmail.com



The Committee is requesting that your department consider restricting the sale of plastic-like biodegradable and compostable packaging in Nova Scotia to further support waste diversion

Your attention and that of your department is respectfully requested in this important issue.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Gregory".

Linda Gregory, Vice, Chair

Nova Scotia Solid Waste-Resource Management Regional Committee

CC. Deputy Minister Lora MacEachern, Nova Scotia Environment & Climate Change

Andrew Murphy, NSECC

Juanita Spencer, NSFMC CEO

Nova Scotia Solid Waste Resource Management Regional Chairs Committee