



**NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES**

January 28, 2019

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David Devenne
Chair, Municipal Joint Services Board, Lunenburg Region
131 North St. PO Box 209
Bridgewater, NS
B4V 2W8

This letter will be sent electronically with a hard copy to follow via mail.

Dear Mayor Devenne:

RE: EPR AND THE SWRM EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS STUDY

Thank you for your letters of November 1st and January 14th. Your first letter requested that AECOM Canada Ltd.'s report on the Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Solid Waste Resource Management System be placed as a priority for NSFM members to discuss as soon as possible. Your second letter re-emphasized the point that there should be a comprehensive discussion among all municipalities to address the findings of that report.

You will be pleased to know that the NSFM executive met with the Honourable Gordon Wilson, Minister of Environment, to discuss this very topic during our Fall Conference in early November. At our meeting, Minister Wilson indicated that it would be important for municipal leaders to have a detailed understanding of the contents of the efficiency and effectiveness study before changes are made to our waste management system.

NSFM distributed the efficiency study to all our members, to all CAOs and Clerk-Treasurers, and to the AMANS listserv. We highlighted the importance of becoming familiar with the study and encouraged Councillors and CAOs to contact their local solid waste staffers to discuss the study in detail. We also encouraged our elected representatives and municipal administrators to provide feedback on the study to NSFM.

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NSFM has yet to hear any specific requests as the result of our distribution of the study. However, we know that our distribution campaign has resulted in meaningful and ongoing discussions in several areas of the province. We are hopeful that some of these discussions may evolve, and perhaps transform some of the suggestions from the study into NSFM resolutions, particularly the improvement of the collection of data related to solid waste.

In your letter dated January 14th you also ask for an update on progress to date with respect to discussion with the Solid Waste Management Regional Chairs Committee (SWMRCC) and Nova Scotia Environment regarding this report. Our staff regularly attend SWMRCC meetings and have worked with members of that committee on an ongoing basis for almost two years, and the topic of the efficiency study has been very much a part of our work with the committee over the past months.

The NSFM executive is also anticipating an upcoming meeting with the Minister of Environment, and at that meeting we intend to discuss these issues, as we did during our November meeting with the Minister.

If you would like to have further discussions with NSFM on these matters, please do not hesitate to contact me at jspencer@nsfm.ca.

Sincerely,



Juanita Spencer
Chief Executive Officer, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

Cc: The Honourable Gordon Wilson, M.L.A., Minister of Environment
Councillor Michael Ernst, Chair, Region 6 Committee