

Nova Scotia Environment (“NSE”)

Environmental Assessment Approval

Approval Date: *Original dated August 8, 2008*

Modification of Biomedical Waste Treatment and International Waste Treatment Facility

Stericycle Inc., Proponent

**Burnside Industrial Park, Halifax Regional Municipality,
Nova Scotia**

The Modification of Biomedical and International Waste Treatment Facility (the “Undertaking”), proposed by Stericycle Inc. (the “Proponent”), in Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia is approved pursuant to Section 13(1)(b). This Approval is subject to the following conditions and obtaining all other necessary approvals, permits or authorizations required by municipal, provincial and federal acts, regulations, by-laws, guidelines, policies or standards before commencing work on the Undertaking. It is the responsibility of the Proponent to ensure that all such approvals, permits or authorizations are obtained before commencing work on the Undertaking.

This Environmental Assessment Approval is based upon the review of the conceptual design, environmental baseline information, impact predictions, and mitigation presented in the Registration Information.

Terms and Conditions for Environmental Assessment Approval

1.0 General Approval

- 1.1 The Environmental Assessment Approval for the project is limited to the project as described in the registration documents. Any proposal by the Proponent for expansion, extension, modification or relocation of any aspect of the project from that proposed in the registration documents must be submitted to the Environmental Assessment Branch for review and may require an environmental assessment.
- 1.2 The Environmental Assessment Approval shall expire within two years of the date of its issuance unless the Proponent commences work on the

Undertaking by the end of the two year period, unless granted a written extension by the Minister.

- 1.3 The Proponent shall not transfer, sell, lease, assign or otherwise dispose of this approval without the written consent of the Minister. The sale of a controlling interest of a business or a transfer of an approval from a parent company to a subsidiary or an affiliate is deemed to be a transfer requiring consent.
- 1.4 The Proponent shall implement all mitigation and commitments in the Registration Document, unless approved otherwise by NSE.

2.0 Materials to be Treated

- 2.1 The Proponent, as part of the application for amendments to the Part V Approval under the *Environment Act* must provide, for review and approval by NSE, a Waste Management Plan which summarizes:
 - a) all waste to be handled, transported and treated and its classification under applicable legislation, guidelines or codes of practice;
 - b) applicable legislation and regulations for handling, transporting and treating each class of waste; and
 - c) steps and procedures to be implemented to ensure each class of waste is handled and transported in accordance with legislative and regulatory requirements.
- 2.2 The Proponent must not handle animal waste, unless otherwise approved by NSE.
- 2.3 The Proponent must handle only the types of waste indicated in the Registration Documents, unless otherwise approved by NSE.
- 2.4 The facility must only treat yellow bag, biomedical waste as described in the Registration Documents, originating from within the Atlantic Provinces, unless otherwise approved by NSE.
- 2.5 As part of the application for amendments to the existing Part V Approval under the *Environment Act* the Proponent must provide the following information:
 - a) details on specific handling and treatment measures for dental waste; and
 - b) details on volumes of specific dental wastes including any segregated waste streams.
- 2.6 The Proponent must not collect, accept or store any dental waste until a

recycling facility that is acceptable to NSE has been identified and has confirmed capacity to recycle hazardous components of the dental waste.

3.0 Treatment Process

- 3.1 The Proponent must treat biomedical waste using the technology described in the Environmental Assessment Registration Documents. Any deviation from this technology or process must be approved in writing by NSE.

4.0 Disposal of Treated Waste

- 4.1 The Proponent, as part of the application for amendments to the Part V Approval under the *Environment Act*, must provide the NSE Central Region Office with confirmation of acceptance of the treated solid waste streams by an approved municipal landfill.

5.0 Facility Operation

- 5.1 The Proponent must obtain amendments to the Part V Approval under the *Environment Act* for operation of the facility.
- 5.2 All discharges from the site must meet the NSE requirements.
- 5.3 The Proponent, as part of the application for amendments to the Part V Approval under the *Environment Act*, must provide inspection and monitoring programs for the following:
- a) incoming waste;
 - b) refrigeration units;
 - c) autoclave process conditions;
 - d) verification of autoclave treatment effectiveness;
 - e) verification of reusable container decontamination;
 - f) radiation levels;
 - g) liquid effluent sampling of the sanitary sewer discharges;
 - h) air emissions monitoring; and
 - i) landfill bound waste.
- 5.4 The Proponent must provide details on the handling capacity of the facility, including the treatment capacity of the autoclave, the capacity of waste storage and refrigeration areas.
- 5.5 The Proponent must screen all incoming wastes for radiation.
- 5.6 The Proponent must maintain an acceptable backup power supply to run refrigeration units and the autoclave, or an alternate acceptable

contingency.

- 5.7 The Proponent must perform on-going validation testing of the autoclave performance.
- 5.8 The Proponent must maintain a computerized waste tracking system which automatically tracks wastes from the point of arrival through to final disposal.

6.0 Public and Worker Safety

- 6.1 The Proponent must ensure all staff are trained in accordance with the 1992 CCME “Guidelines for the Management of Biomedical Waste in Canada. The Proponent must maintain a plan for public and worker safety measures, that includes:
 - a) a comprehensive two-week training program for all personnel working in the receiving and processing areas of the facility;
 - b) training in St. John’s Ambulance First Aid and CPR, Workplace Hazardous Material Information System (WHMIS), Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, contingency plans, the operations and maintenance manual and the terms and conditions of environmental approvals; and
 - c) arrangements for all workers, who have the potential to be exposed to waste which includes blood or blood products or who are at risk of sharps injury, to receive full immunization against Tetanus and Hepatitis “B” before biomedical waste is handled at the facility. Immunization of new workers shall commence immediately upon employment.

7.0 Transportation

- 7.1 All drivers transporting biomedical wastes to the facility must be certified and trained in transportation of dangerous goods.
- 7.2 All vehicles are to be secured when biomedical waste is present or being transported. All vehicles are to have daily inspections.

8.0 Public Consultation

- 9.1 The Proponent must maintain a complaint response procedure.

9.0 Contingency Planning

- 9.1 The Proponent, as part of the application for amendments to the Part V

Approval under the *Environment Act*, must provide for review and approval a contingency plan as per the requirements as outlined in the NSEL Contingency Planning Guidelines (September 2004).

- 9.2 The Proponent, as part of the application for amendments to the Part V Approval under the *Environment Act*, must provide for review and approval an Emergency Response Plan. This plan should cover, but not be limited to, incidents such as equipment breakdowns, fires, explosions, loss of power, alternate backup disposal and storage, and labour disputes.

Original Signed By

Mark Parent
Minister of Environment