

STAFF REPORT: Planning Committee



REPORT TO: Planning Committee
MEETING DATE: February 02, 2009
REPORT NO.: PL.09.11
SUBJECT: Proposed New Regulation to Implement the Cosmetic Pesticides Ban Act, 2008
**PREPARED BY: Peter Tollefsen
Director of Planning**

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Planning Staff Report No. PL.09.11 entitled “Proposed New Regulation to Implement the Cosmetic Pesticides Ban Act, 2008”; and

THAT Council indicate to the Minister of the Environment that the Pesticide Regulations be delayed to enable development of scientific criteria as the basis for these regulations.

B. Background

Bill 64, The Cosmetics Pesticides Ban Act, was passed by the Province of Ontario in 2008 to amend the existing Pesticides Act, the purpose of which is to ban the use of some pesticides through regulations. Ontario Regulation 914 is the current General Regulation under the Pesticides Act. There is a proposed new regulation to implement the Cosmetic Pesticides Ban Act. The major components include:

1. New Classes of Pesticides;
2. Banned or Restricted Pesticides;
3. Exemptions to the Ban
4. Pesticide Storage and Fire Department Notification Requirements;
5. Notice signs.

Cosmetic pesticides are those used for domestic lawn and garden care. The proposed regulation was posted on the EBR (Environmental Bill of Rights) for comment until December 22, 2008. The Regulation is back under review at the Ministry of the Environment to go to the Cabinet for approval sometime this spring.

At the December 17, 2008 Agricultural Advisory Committee (AGAC) meeting discussion arose under New Business on this proposed new Regulation. Information was submitted from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture outlining some concerns (attached to the AGAC Meeting Notes).

The Committee requested: "THAT the Committee requests Council to indicate to the local MPP that the Town supports a delay in this pesticide regulation to enable scientific study".

Staff would agree that more scientific study is required to further detail the cause and affect of banning some pesticides as well as further clarification and understanding of the restriction criteria prior to the approval of the Regulation. Staff would suggest that Council express this concern to the Minister of the Environment.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

Goal #3 – *"Preserving and enhancing natural and environmental features, and cultural heritage of the community"*.

D. Environmental Impacts

Not at this time

E. Budget Impact

None

F. Attachment(s)

None

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Tollefsen, Director of Planning

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