

Sent via email: Robert.hughes2@veolia.com

31st August 2016

Separate Collections Advice and Guidance letter

Veolia ES UK Ltd – CB/DU95537

Dear Mr Hughes,

We have observed that at Veolia, Trefforest Industrial Estate on 26th July 2016 Veolia ES UK Ltd does not appear to be providing separate collections for waste paper, metal, plastic and glass in accordance with the requirements of the Waste Regulations (England and Wales) 2011.

We would like to remind you that since 1st January 2015 waste collection operators including private companies, social enterprises and local authorities are required by statute to provide their customers with separate collections for paper, metal, plastic and glass. This is necessary to improve the quality of recycled material by reducing contamination at the point when the recyclable material is collected. This applies to wastes from all sources, industry (including construction and demolition), commerce (including retail, hospitality and offices), charities and households.

If two or more of these four materials are collected in a mixed or comingled form, the waste collection operator needs to demonstrate that it has assessed whether the recyclable materials it collects and the outputs from the ensuing sorting process are of the required quality for the receiving reprocessing industries (the "Necessity Test"), and that it is not technically, environmentally or economically practicable (TEEP) for it to collect waste paper, glass, plastics and metals separately.

As a minimum we expect waste collection service providers to –

1. Provide a co-mingled recyclable materials collection service in circumstances where separate collection does not appear practicable;
2. Avoid fully co-mingled collection systems which include both paper and glass;
3. Ensure their commercial customers have a residual waste bin for non-recyclable materials;
4. Ensure their commercial customers know what materials are recyclable and how the material is to be presented for collection;
5. Undertake regular checks of recycling bins for contamination and provide feedback to customers in order to maintain or improve the quality of material collected.

Collection service providers who wish to offer a co-mingled service which combines paper and glass must provide us with evidence to demonstrate that the quantity and quality of waste recycled is not significantly less than that which would result from separate collection.

Once the four waste materials for recycling have been separately collected either through separate collections or a comingled collection followed by the necessary materials sorting process at a Material Facility, the regulations require the materials to be kept separately and not mixed with other wastes or other materials with different properties.

Natural Resources Wales is the enforcing authority for these Regulations (the Waste Regulations (England and Wales) 2011) and we may choose to serve Notices to enforce the requirements. Failure to comply with a Notice served under the separate collection requirements constitutes an offence.

Guidance on the Necessity test and the TEEP process is published by Welsh Government document titled '*Guidance on the Separate Collection of Waste paper, metal, plastic and glass*':

http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/epq/waste_recycling/publication/guidance-on-the-separate-collection-of-waste-paper-metal-plastic-and-glass/?lang=en .

Yours faithfully,



Laoni Tye

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