

westvancouver

ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORTATION

750 E 7TH STREET, WEST VANCOUVER, B.C. V3V 3L3
TELEPHONE: 604-925-7020 FACSIMILE: 604-925-3968

(15)

June 16, 2009

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Dear ()

Your May 26, 2009 letter to Mayor and Council regarding the recycling of fluorescent light ballasts has been referred to me for reply.

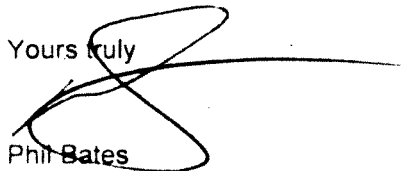
The North Shore Transfer Station (NSTS) is operated by Wastech Services under contract to Metro Vancouver. As you correctly point out, the fluorescent lights and ballasts accepted at the NSTS are put in with the general garbage and go for disposal. At the moment residential quantities of these items are not banned or prohibited materials at the various Metro Vancouver transfer stations.

We can tell you, however, that the Provincial Government will be expanding its recycling regulation so that on July 1, 2010 there will be a "Take-Back" program similar to the one in effect now for televisions, computers, printers, etc. Residents will be able to take their used tubes and ballasts to a drop-off facility on the North Shore for recycling.

We have determined that in addition to NuLife Industries in Aldergrove, they can be taken to Edmonds Recycling at 7471 Edmonds Street in Burnaby. They suggest you call them first at 604-530-9235. For other questions concerning hazardous wastes we respectfully suggest you contact the provincial recycling hotline at 604-732-9253.

In the meantime, if you wish to pursue this further we suggest you contact Metro Vancouver.

Yours truly



Phil Bates
Manager, Engineering Services
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May 26, 2009

The Mayor and Council
District of West Vancouver.

Dear Ms. Goldsmith Jones,

I have discovered that our transfer station puts fluorescent light ballasts into the general garbage and therefore the landfill. A ballast contains about one kg. of steel, and a tar like substance that may be carcinogenic. May I suggest that the Transfer Station collect these and then take them to New Life Industries in Aldergrove. It would seem better than burying them in Cache Creek.

Sincerely,

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