

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 26-5592 AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER TO ISSUE A NEW NON-SYSTEM LICENSE TO VERIS INDUSTRIES, LLC FOR TRANSPORT AND DISPOSAL OF NON-RECOVERABLE SOLID WASTE, INCLUDING PUTRESCIBLE WASTE AT THE SPOKANE REGIONAL WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITY LOCATED IN SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

Date: March 30, 2026
Department: Waste Prevention and Environmental Services
Meeting Date: April 16, 2026

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Presenter if requested: Hila Ritter
Length: Consent agenda

ISSUE STATEMENT

All solid waste generated within the Metro jurisdictional boundary must be transported to a designated facility, or to another approved destination under a non-system license, for processing or disposal. Veris Industries, LLC (Veris) has applied for a new non-system license to transport non-recoverable waste, including putrescible waste, to a non-system facility pursuant to Metro Code Chapter 5.05. Veris is part of Scheider Electric, a global technology company specializing in energy management and automation located at 12345 SW Leveton Drive, Tualatin, OR 97062.

ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt Resolution No. 26-5592 to authorize the Chief Operating Officer (COO) to issue a new non-system license (No. N-177-26) to Veris authorizing it to transport up to 500 tons per calendar year of non-recoverable solid waste, including putrescible waste, to the Spokane Regional Waste-to-Energy facility (Spokane WTE).

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

If adopted, Resolution No. 26-5592 would authorize the COO to issue a non-system license to Veris to transport Metro area waste to the Spokane WTE facility for disposal. The proposed license will begin on May 1, 2026, and end on December 31, 2028.

POLICY QUESTION(S)

Should Metro Council approve a non-system license authorizing Veris to transport waste generated in the Metro jurisdictional boundary to the Spokane WTE facility for disposal?

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

1. Adopt Resolution No. 26-5592 and authorize the Chief Operating Officer to issue a new non-system license (No. N-177-26) to Veris to transport Metro area solid waste to a non-system facility.

Authorizing a non-system license for Veris will help Metro ensure that solid waste generated inside the jurisdictional boundary is transported to an appropriate destination and properly managed when it leaves the region. A non-system license also enables Metro to effectively monitor and enforce its solid waste requirements such as reporting and collecting fee and tax payments.

2. Do not approve Resolution No. 26-5592 and deny a non-system license to Veris to transport Metro area solid waste to a non-system facility.

If Council does not adopt this resolution, Veris will not be authorized to transport solid waste to Spokane WTE for disposal and would need to transport the waste to a designated facility.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that Metro Council adopt Resolution No. 26-5592 to issue a non-system license to Veris to transport Metro area waste to the Spokane WTE facility.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

A non-system license is required for any person to transport, or cause to be transported, any solid waste generated within the Metro jurisdictional boundary to any non-system facility for processing or disposal. The Metro Council may approve or deny an application for a non-system license to transport putrescible waste to a non-system facility and consider any recommendations resulting from the COO's review of the application. If Metro Council approves, then the COO will issue the non-system license.

A non-system licensee must report to Metro the amount of solid waste that it delivers to the non-system facility each month. The licensee must also remit to Metro the requisite regional system fee and excise tax for each ton of waste transported to the non-system facility. A new non-system license has an initial maximum term of three years, with two-year renewal terms thereafter.

On January 6, 2026, Veris submitted a non-system license application to Metro to transport industrial solid waste that is non-recoverable including, product packaging, empty product containers, and restroom and lunchroom waste generated at its Tualatin facility, to the Spokane WTE facility for disposal, as it is the closest solid waste incinerator located near the Metro region. Although non-recoverable waste is generally disposed of at a landfill designated by Metro Council as part of Metro's solid waste system, Veris seeks to transport waste to an energy recovery incineration facility to advance its business sustainability goals. Veris previously transported this waste to Reworld Marion waste-to-energy facility in Brooks, Oregon until it closed in 2024 as described further in the background section of this report.

Known Opposition

There is no known opposition to the proposed non-system license.

Legal Antecedents

Metro Code 5.05.040 prohibits any person from utilizing a non-system facility without an appropriate license from Metro. Metro Council will consider the factors described in Section 5.05.140 when determining whether to approve a non-system license application. An analysis of those factors and other pertinent information is included as Exhibit B to Resolution No. 26-5592.

Financial Implications

The issuance of this non-system license will not impact Metro's budget. Upon issuance of this NSL, Veris will be responsible for reporting and remitting requisite fees and taxes to Metro monthly.

BACKGROUND

Veris is a manufacturing company that produces HVAC (heating, ventilating, and air conditioning) system controls and monitoring meters. Veris is located at 12345 SW Leveton Drive in Tualatin, OR and has been in operation at this location since 1999. Veris has a robust sustainability program and

seeks to become a zero-waste-to-landfill company. All materials undergo internal source separation to recover recyclable materials from waste prior to disposal.

Veris held two prior Metro non-system licenses to transport non-recoverable solid waste generated at its Tualatin facility to Reworld Marion (formerly Covanta) in Brooks, Oregon for disposal through incineration.

NSL No. N-177-17 became effective on May 1, 2017. On January 2, 2019, Metro issued a Noncompliance Advisory Letter (No. NAL-413-19) to Veris for failure to submit timely reports and payments as required in the NSL. Metro subsequently revoked the NSL effective July 31, 2019, after Veris repeatedly failed to submit required monthly reports and payments despite notice and corrective direction. Veris later attributed these failures to internal communication issues following the unexpected death of the employee responsible for administering the NSL.

In February 2020, Metro subsequently issued the second NSL, No. N-177-20, authorizing Veris to transport waste to Reworld Marion. Metro terminated the NSL in October 2021 when Reworld Marion became a designated facility. In December 2024, Reworld Marion closed and since that time Veris has used the franchised hauler to transport its waste to an in-region transfer station.

Veris participated in a pre-application conference with Metro on August 11, 2025, remitted the \$500 application fee on August 26, 2025, and submitted a complete NSL application on January 6, 2026. It seeks authorization to transport up to 75 tons per calendar year of non-recoverable solid waste commingled with putrescible waste, including restroom and lunchroom waste generated in the Metro region to the Spokane WTE facility. Spokane WTE is the closest incineration facility to the Metro region and is Veris' preferred option to meet its landfill diversion goals. Staff recommend increasing the tonnage limit to 500 tons to allow for any fluctuation in business need for this type of disposal.

ATTACHMENTS

None