

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 25-5518 AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER TO ISSUE A NEW NON-SYSTEM LICENSE TO EATON CORPORATION 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: October 13, 2025
Department: Waste Prevention and
Environmental Services
Meeting Date: October 30, 2025

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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. Eaton Corporation (Eaton) is a power management company that designs and manufactures customized electrical power equipment at its two facilities located at 10955 SW Avery St., Tualatin, OR, and 26850 SW Kinsman Rd., Wilsonville, OR. It has applied for a new non-system license to transport putrescible waste to a non-system facility pursuant to Metro Code Chapter 5.05.

ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt Resolution No. 25-5518 to authorize the Chief Operating Officer (COO) to issue a new non-system license (No. N-212-25) to Eaton authorizing it to transport non-recoverable solid waste, including putrescible waste, to the Spokane Regional Waste to Energy facility (Spokane WTE).

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

If adopted, Resolution No. 25-5518 would authorize the COO to issue a non-system license to Eaton to transport up to 500 tons per calendar year of non-recoverable solid waste, including putrescible waste, to the Spokane WTE facility for disposal. The proposed license will begin on November 1, 2025, and end on October 31, 2028.

POLICY QUESTION

Should Metro Council approve a non-system license authorizing Eaton to transport up to 500 tons per calendar year of non-recoverable solid waste, including putrescible waste, generated in the Metro jurisdictional boundary to the Spokane WTE facility for disposal?

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

1. Adopt Resolution No. 25-5518 and authorize Eaton to transport Metro area solid waste to a non-system facility

Authorizing a non-system license for Eaton 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 adopt Resolution No. 25-5518 to authorize Eaton to transport Metro area solid waste to a non-system facility

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

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that Metro Council adopt Resolution No. 25-5518 to issue a non-system license to Eaton 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 after the Chief Operating Officer reviews the application. If Metro Council approves, then the Chief Operating Officer 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 June 13, 2025, Eaton submitted a non-system license application to Metro to transport waste generated at its Tualatin and Wilsonville facilities to the Spokane WTE facility for disposal. Eaton is a power management company that specializes in custom product configurations such as motor control centers, low and medium voltage assemblies, medium voltage control, and medium voltage systems. Both of the Eaton facilities generate general miscellaneous non-recoverable waste including office, restroom, and cafeteria waste. The Tualatin facility also generates industrial processing waste including a small quantity of drip-dried 5-gallon containers that previously held chemical components. Eaton previously transported this waste for disposal at Reworld Marion (formerly Covanta Marion) in Marion County under a non-system license (No. N-170-16) that was issued in 2016 and later under a Designated Facility Agreement with Reworld Marion in 2021. Although this waste is generally disposed of in a landfill, Eaton seeks to transport the waste to an energy recovery facility as a part of its business sustainability goal. The Spokane WTE is the closest municipal solid waste incinerator located near the Metro region.

Legal Antecedents

Metro Code Section 5.05.040 prohibits any person from transporting solid waste generated within the Metro region to a non-system facility without a valid, Metro-issued non-system license. To determine whether to issue a non-system license, Metro Council must consider the factors described in Metro Code Section 5.05.140 as set forth in the staff analysis and information included as Exhibit B to Resolution 25-5518.

Financial Implications

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

Known Opposition

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