

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 25-5530 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING NON-SYSTEM LICENSE (NO. N-028-25) ISSUED TO EPSON PORTLAND, INC. TO INCLUDE TRANSPORT OF PUTRESCIBLE WASTE TO THE SPOKANE WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITY FOR DISPOSAL.

Date: October 14, 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

Epson Portland, Inc. seeks a change of authorization to its current non-system license (No. N-028-25) that authorizes the transport of non-putrescible waste to the Spokane Waste-to-Energy (WTE) facility located in Spokane, Washington, to also include putrescible waste generated at its site. Metro Code Section 5.05.160 states that Metro Council will determine whether to approve or deny a non-system license application for putrescible waste.

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve Resolution No. 25-5530 to authorize the Chief Operating Officer to amend Non-System License No. N-028-25 to include putrescible waste generated at Epson Portland, Inc. located at 3950 NW Aloclek Place in Hillsboro, Oregon.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Approval of this resolution will authorize Epson Portland, Inc. to transport up to a total of 500 tons of solid waste, including non-putrescible and putrescible waste, to Spokane WTE for disposal.

POLICY QUESTION(S)

Should Metro Council approve amending Non-System License No. N-028-25 to authorize Epson Portland, Inc. to transport putrescible waste generated at its site to the Spokane WTE for disposal?

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

1. Adopt Resolution No. 25-5530 as proposed to authorize the Chief Operating Officer to issue an amended non-system license (No. N-028-25A) to Epson Portland, Inc. to include putrescible waste.

Approval of Resolution No. 25-5530 will authorize the Chief Operating Officer to amend the current non-system license for Epson Portland, Inc. to transport up to a total of 500 tons per calendar year of solid waste, including industrial non-putrescible and putrescible waste, to Spokane WTE for disposal.

2. Amend the resolution to establish different non-system license conditions than those recommended by staff.
3. Do not approve Resolution No. 25-5530. If this resolution is not approved, Epson Portland, Inc. will not be authorized to transport putrescible waste to Spokane WTE for disposal.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that Metro Council adopt Resolution No. 25-5530 to approve a change of authorization for Epson Portland, Inc. and authorize the Chief Operating Officer to amend Non-System License No. N-028-25 to include putrescible waste generated at Epson Portland, Inc. A red-line version illustrating the changes of the proposed amended non-system license is included as Attachment 1 to this staff report, and a clean draft version of the proposed amended non-system license with changes incorporated is included as Exhibit A to Resolution No. 25-5530.

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 disposal. A non-system license allows Metro to closely monitor the region's solid waste to ensure it is transported to authorized facilities and properly managed.

On July 30, 2025, Epson Portland, Inc. submitted a change of authorization application to Metro to include putrescible waste in its non-system license. This was the only change requested by the applicant. The current tonnage limit and term of the license would not change under the proposed amended non-system license.

Known Opposition

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

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. Metro Council must consider factors described in Section 5.05.140 when determining whether to approve a non-system license application, as set forth in the staff analysis and information included as Exhibit B to Resolution No. 25-5530.

Financial Implications

The proposed amended non-system license will not impact Metro's budget. If approved, Epson Portland Inc. will continue to report all solid waste transported to Spokane WTE and remit to Metro the requisite regional system fees and excise taxes due at the time of disposal.

BACKGROUND

Epson Portland, Inc. is a US manufacturing company of Japan's Seiko Epson Corporation, a multinational electronics company and one of the world's largest manufacturers of printers and information-and-imaging related equipment. Epson Portland, Inc. is located at 3950 NE Alcolek Dr, Hillsboro, OR 97124 and has been in operation since 1985.

Epson Portland, Inc. has held a series of Metro non-system licenses from 2000 to 2021 to transport industrial non-putrescible waste (including defective and counterfeit ink cartridges) and putrescible waste (including restroom and general plant waste) generated at its facility to the Reworld Marion (formerly Covanta Marion) facility for disposal. In October 2021, Reworld Marion became a Metro Designated Facility and a non-system license was no longer required to transport waste to that facility after that time. However, Reworld Marion has since closed and is no longer accepting waste.

Epson Portland, Inc. obtained Non-System License No. N-028-25 from Metro on May 1, 2025 to transport up to 500 tons annually of industrial non-putrescible waste including defective ink cartridges and bottles to Spokane WTE for disposal. The current non-system license covers only

non-putrescible waste and was approved by the Chief Operating Officer pursuant to Metro Code Section 5.05.150. Epson Portland, Inc. now seeks to amend its current non-system license to also include putrescible waste such as restroom and lunch room waste generated at its site. Non-System License decisions for putrescible waste are determined by Metro Council pursuant to Metro Code 5.05.160.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Non-System License N-028-25A with Red-Line