



**WRITTEN QUESTIONS FORM**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Session, 65<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**  
**Legislative Assembly of PEI**

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Question number: 50	Question date: March 13, 2018
Question asked by: Jamie Fox, Member for Borden-Kinkora	
Question asked of ( <i>department</i> ): Communities, Lands and Environment	
Question answered by ( <i>Minister</i> ): Hon. Richard Brown	Date answer received by Clerk's Office: MAR 21 2018 Office Use Only

**QUESTION:** What guidelines or regulations are in place to protect the environment and the ground water from liquids such as petroleum products, anti freeze, break fluids and heavy oils from entering the ground and said ground water, from any vehicles stored, parked or deemed decrepit or derelict at a facility or site issued a permit by the Department or the Province of Prince Edward Island to store or maintain such said vehicles?

**ANSWER:**

For the past four years, individuals who operate an automotive or scrap metal recycling facility have been regulated under the Materials Stewardship and Recycling Regulations. These regulations replace the outdated *Automobile Junk Yards Act* which lacked any sort of environmental protection measures in regards to managing fuels, oils, and other chemicals found in automotive salvage.

Environmental standards in the Materials Stewardship and Recycling Regulations were drafted to coordinate with requirements of the Canadian Automotive Recyclers Environmental Code (CAREC). This code places a high emphasis on vehicle "de-pollution" prior to recycling end-of-life vehicles. An operational standard in these regulations requires all hazardous materials such as oil, antifreeze, refrigerants from cooling systems, and mercury containing switches to be removed prior to vehicles being crushed. Gasoline or diesel fuel is required to be removed from vehicles or equipment prior to it being stored on these licensed sites.

In 2016, the End-Of-Life Vehicle Sector Council lauded PEI for being one of only three provinces who adopted vehicle de-pollution standards directly into regulations. Other provinces operating under best management practices or volunteer guidelines have reached out to PEI to explore their regulatory model. Industry representatives of the Canadian Automotive Recyclers Association are pleased with PEI's high standard of environmental protection in how these sites are operated and managed.



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Question asked of (*department*): Communities, Land and Environment

Question answered by (*Minister*):

Date answer received by  
Clerk's Office:

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**QUESTION:** Are any checks or environmental tests conducted of the ground and or soil at a facility or site issued a permit by the Department or the Province of Prince Edward Island to store or maintain vehicles stored, parked or deemed decrepit or derelict , to determine the amount, of any or the presence of leaked liquids such as petroleum products, anti freeze, break fluids and heavy oils into the soil and ground water?

#### ANSWER:

Inspections routinely occur at all licensed automotive and scrap metal recycling facilities to ensure compliance with permit requirements and that drained fluids are stored properly, etc. Soil testing is not conducted at these sites by Department staff however there has been some environmental clean-up work done at these sites when ownership is transferring and financing is required. Any spills that occur at these properties are also to be reported under the requirements of the *Environmental Protection Act*.

The Department does maintain records of these properties for future purchasers to be aware of the possible presence of contamination in the surface soils. For example, if a site closes with all vehicles removed, the use of the property as an automotive salvage yard is recorded in a database so that any individual without prior knowledge of the property can be made aware of its condition should they conduct an environmental records review.