

**IN THE MATTER OF A DEPOT PERMIT APPLICATION
FOR CHANGE OF LOCATION
IN RELATION TO THE VALLEY BOTTLE DEPOT
SUBMITTED TO THE BCMB APRIL 28, 2021**

DECISION OF THE BCMB

I. INTRODUCTION

This is the decision of the Beverage Container Management Board (“BCMB”) with respect to a Depot Permit Application for Change of Location (the “Application”) on behalf of the Valley Bottle Depot (“Valley Depot”).

For the reasons set out in the decision, the Application is granted.

II. BACKGROUND

The Valley Depot has operated at its current location in Hinton for many years. In the Application, the Valley Depot requested the application fee be waived on the basis that its current building was deteriorating, and all funds were needed to build a new location as a solution. The BCMB determined that the fee would not be waived due to the administrative work done by the BCMB in relation to the Application to date.

The Valley Depot is requesting a relocation from the existing location to a proposed location 1.5 kms away. The closest depot to the proposed location is in Jasper, 68 kms away.

In the Application the Valley Depot expressed their intention to improve their service by improving the set-up at the new location to divide the queuing for line-ups and add a new service counter. The Valley Depot acknowledged complaints in the past about line-ups at the Valley Depot and that the BCMB had approached the Valley Depot on several occasions to suggest a set-up change to mitigate line-up issues. The BCMB has had no complaints logged in relation to this issue over the past few years, but the owner advised that she had gotten some complaints about wait times directly from customers during this time.

The last Depot Inspection Report from October of 2020 identified a deficiency in the receipts issued by the Valley Depot as it was waiting for its Point of Return (POR) system to be installed. The BCMB Compliance Officers noted an approximate wait time of 10 minutes. No other compliance issues were noted.

The Applicant indicated in the Application that the new location will have easy customer access by vehicle and by foot, more building space for storage and operations and a loading area that will not interfere with customer line-ups as does the current loading area. Valley Depot advises that there will be no interruption in local service because operations will continue at the current location until the new building is complete and ready to open its doors to the public.

The BCMB required the permit holder to publish a public notice of the Application. A public notice was published, and submissions were allowed for a 30-day period. No submissions were received from the public or other depots.

III. THE DEPOT BY-LAW

Applications to relocate an existing depot are governed by the By-laws passed by the BCMB, and in particular the Depot By-law.

The BCMB permitted the Valley Depot to apply for relocation and considered the application in accordance with section 6.5 of the Depot Bylaw, which provides as follows:

6.5 If the Permit Holder submits a relocation application in accordance with section 6.4, the decision whether or not to grant the relocation application is in the sole discretion of the BCMB taking into consideration:

- 6.5.1. Whether the proposed location is within close proximity of the existing location and members of the public currently served at the existing location could reasonably be expected to continue to do business at the proposed location;
- 6.5.2. Whether the relocation is in the best interests of the industry and public;
- 6.5.3. Any considerations raised by material received during the notice of application period in Section 6.6 of this By-law.
- 6.5.4. Any other criteria the BCMB considers relevant in maintaining a viable Container recovery system.

IV. DECISION AND REASONS

As noted previously, the proposed Depot location satisfies the Depot By-law proximity requirements. Because the Valley Depot is the only depot in Hinton, the proposed location is inside of its current service area. Comparing the current and proposed locations, the BCMB is satisfied that members of the public currently served by the existing location could reasonably be expected to do business at the proposed location.

The BCMB also notes the proposed changes to the size and layout of the proposed location which are intended to improve customer service and decrease wait times. The BCMB considers this to be in the best interests of the industry and the public.

The Valley Depot has operated in Hinton for a number of years and its continued operation is consistent with the BCMB's goal of maintaining a viable Container recovery system in the Province.

Having considered the matters outlined above, the BCMB is of the view that the Application should be granted.

V. CONCLUSION

The Application for relocation is granted.

Dated this 3rd day of August 2021.

Sincerely,



Brent Campbell
Director, Operations
BCMB