

EXHIBIT C

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Standing room only at Berwick scrap metal shredder hearing: Board makes no decision on license

BERWICK, Maine — A standing-room-only crowd of residents asked questions and raised concerns Thursday at the second Planning Board public hearing on a proposed Route 236 scrap metal shredder.

The meeting was designed as a way for several new members of the board to further evaluate the proposal as well as listen to public concerns.

Among the aspects of the project — which involves a locomotive engine-powered machine designed to shred old cars and other metal — that continue to cause uneasiness in a small group of residents is the influence the equipment will have on noise, pollution and traffic in the industrially zoned residential area.

Those concerns echoed many that have been raised since last summer during other meetings about Berwick Iron and Metal Recycling's application for a conditional use permit at its 106 Route 236 site.

No decision was made by the Planning Board Thursday night, and the board must approve the conditional use permit before the shredder can be operated on the site.

There is no timeline for that decision, although alternate board member Mary Gagnon said Thursday night she and her colleagues will likely wait until the state Department of Environmental Protection grants Berwick Iron and Metal a solid waste processing license — which is also required before the shredder can be operated.

That license is currently under review, according to Tom Harmon of South Berwick-based Civil Consultants, the firm representing Berwick Iron and Metal during presentations.

Harmon said the business has already found, though, through various studies and the construction of various preventive structures the shredder and its engine will be below local and state-mandated thresholds for noise, pollution, traffic and other regulated environmental impacts.

Berwick Iron and Metal has also received an air emissions license from the state, although Harmon said Thursday there has been an appeal submitted to the state about that document. The state is due to discuss the appeal in about two weeks, according to a state letter submitted this week to the Planning Board.

The diesel-powered engine and shredder have been on the site since last summer, but the shredder hasn't been run due to the lack of the state license and local conditional use permit. The engine was run for a short period of time at about 2 p.m. on Dec. 11 to test and

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calibrate the machine, although it hasn't been run since, according to Rob Brenna, one of Berwick Iron and Metal's owners.

One issue which again came to light Thursday and consumed a large portion of the debate was the facility's frontage.

The issue was raised in an Oct. 7 meeting, and since that time Berwick Iron and Metal has changed its proposal a couple of times to satisfy local zoning ordinances and requirements.

Berwick Code Enforcement Officer Jim Webster said Thursday the most recent change, which involves a proposed ownership swap of small sections of land between Berwick Iron and Metal and its eastern abutter, is an acceptable change which makes both properties comply with local zoning ordinances and doesn't affect any operations at 106 Route 236.

There were no additional hearings scheduled as of Thursday, and it was unclear when and if Berwick Iron and Metal and its representatives would come back before the Planning Board before members take action on the conditional use permit application.

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