



## **Virginia Peninsulas Public Service Authority**

**VPPSA announced the termination of its curbside recycling contract with TFC. Below are some FAQs to help explain the decision and what happens now.**

### **What is VPPSA announcing today?**

The VPPSA Board of Directors voted to terminate its curbside recycling contract with Tidewater Fibre Corporation (TFC), effective Sept. 30, 2025, due to significant performance deficiencies.

That means TFC will no longer serve as the curbside recycling provider for James City County, York County, the City of Williamsburg, and the City of Poquoson starting next Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2025.

### **Why is contract termination necessary?**

In February of this year, VPPSA noticed unusually high billing and customer service tickets for the month of January. After reviewing TFC's weighing, billing, and record-keeping practices, VPPSA notified TFC that the review determined TFC was not in compliance with the contract on multiple provisions. VPPSA has also provided recommendations for corrections, but TFC did not implement VPPSA's recommendations nor its own corrective actions to achieve compliance.

After seven months of issuing recommendations and proposing corrective actions, VPPSA has determined the most responsible path forward is termination of the contract. With termination, we can explore recycling solutions that fit the needs of each community and ensure proper compliance and accountability as quickly as possible.

### **Did TFC offer any corrective actions?**

TFC did not offer any contract amendments or corrective actions that reasonably addressed the noncompliance issues identified by VPPSA and an independent auditor. VPPSA proposed a corrective action plan and a restated contract to TFC. TFC rejected this proposal while at the same time demanding an increased rate from the Authority. TFC has also called for a renegotiated contract that limits oversight and charges a higher rate. VPPSA believes those terms to be unacceptable, leading to our decision for termination.

### **Why is the effective date so soon?**

In an effort to resolve VPPSA concerns regarding overbilling, incorrect counts, and reported weights, and insufficient practices, VPPSA proposed a corrective action plan and a restated contract to TFC. TFC rejected this proposal while at the same time demanding an increased rate from the Authority. TFC has also called for a renegotiated contract that limits oversight and charges a higher rate and notified VPPSA that they would terminate the contract Oct. 1 if VPPSA and TFC could not come to a mutually acceptable

agreement. VPPSA has elected to terminate the contract with TFC on its own terms to provide greater certainty to the localities as they work to provide recycling solutions for their communities.

**VPPSA is working to find recycling solutions for the four communities that were involved in the curbside recycling program. What solutions could we expect?**

VPPSA is committed to helping our member communities with their waste diversion programs. The VPPSA Board of Directors is actively discussing the recycling needs for each community, identifying where needs align, and pursuing solutions that responsibly address them.

**What is VPPSA? Who are the board members?**

VPPSA stands for Virginia Peninsulas Public Service Authority, which is a regional waste authority. Its member jurisdictions are the Cities of Williamsburg, Hampton, and Poquoson, and the Counties of James City, York, Mathews, Middlesex, Essex, King and Queen, and King William. The VPPSA Board of Directors is made up of representatives of each of the member localities.

**What is the future of VPPSA?**

Though the curbside recycling contract for James City County, York County, the City of Williamsburg, and the City of Poquoson has been terminated, VPPSA provides other services to its 10 member communities. VPPSA is also committed to finding new recycling solutions for the four communities affected by the contract termination. A collaborative, regional strategy for waste diversion enables effective long-term planning for solid waste management to reduce landfill waste and promote environmental sustainability.

**What happens to the carts?**

It is currently unclear how your recycling bins will be handled. Please check your locality's website for updates.

**Will I receive a refund for recycling?**

Every community is different when it comes to whether and how they charge for curbside recycling. Please check your locality's website for more information.