



WASTE MANAGEMENT

A Community Information Bulletin Regarding:

**Waste Management and State of NH Department of
Environmental Services Consent Agreement**

Decree resolves complex regulatory issues and is an important step forward in continuing the company's commitment to the communities it serves, and protecting the environment.

On February 28, 2006, Waste Management was pleased to announce that it had reached an agreement in the form of a Consent Decree with the State of New Hampshire, Department of Environmental Services (DES) pertaining to regulatory issues between the Company and the State relating to the operation of its Turnkey Recycling and Environmental Enterprises (TREE) facility in Rochester, NH. By entering into the Consent Decree WMNH both the company and that state avoided costly and time-consuming litigation. It also allows the Company to move forward with installation of certain facility improvements that will significantly mitigate landfill odors.

As major component of the Decree, Waste Management will implement a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP), which will provide \$1,200,000 in funding to the University of New Hampshire for a proposed landfill gas to energy project. The funding will be used for a program to convert landfill gas extracted from its TREE facility into Green Energy for use at University facilities in Durham, NH. Landfill gas is a renewable energy produced from the decomposing waste in a modern landfill.

Additionally, as part of the Decree the Company will provide \$100,000 SEP funding to the cities of Rochester and Dover for use in local air pollution mitigation projects such as clean fleet programs, renewable energy projects, energy efficiency projects, school indoor air quality studies, or other environmentally related programs.

Company officials noted that the Decree brings a final conclusion to a nearly two year, highly complex regulatory dispute. “We are pleased that the Consent Decree resolves these regulatory issues; and allows the Company to continue to make improvements at the Facility and invest in the community through substantial investment in the proposed UNH landfill gas to energy project as well as, air pollution projects in Rochester and Dover.” said Alan Davis, of Waste Management, Post Collection Manager for the Turnkey landfill in Rochester. Davis noted that the U.S. Department of Energy ranks UNH in the top five percent of research campuses for energy efficiency making them a “natural partner in this exciting and innovative program.”

Davis also noted that beginning in the summer of 2004 the Company voluntarily undertook a 4.5 million dollar engineering and construction program at the facility to address issues related to landfill odor. Also, the nationally recognized consulting firm of Brown & Caldwell was hired by the State Department of Environmental Services to undertake an investigation of the facility and the company. The firm concluded in its’ September 2004 investigation report that Waste Management was utilizing and in some cases exceeding the best practices in the industry to resolve the odor issues at the Rochester facility.

“We are proud of our landfill operation and the Waste Management employees at the site and we have been working very hard with our neighbors, regulators and our host community for nearly two years to further improve a facility that is already nationally recognized for its innovation and commitment to preserving and protecting the environment”, said Davis. “While this process is certainly ongoing, the items that we are implementing under the Consent Decree will help to further reduce bothersome landfill odor incidents to the benefit of our neighbors, customers and the communities we serve,” he added.

Other Consent Decree Elements Highlights

The Consent Decree contains a number of items the company believes will be helpful in its operations, and importantly, allow it to maintain its strong commitment to protecting the environment and serving the community, such as;

- New procedures for the acceptance of municipal bio solids.
- Revising the Landfill Gas Collection and Control System Plan.
- Preparing an annual Odor Control Evaluation Report.
- Installing two new landfill gas flares to combust landfill gas and reduce landfill odors.
- Modifications to the site's Landfill Gas Collection and Control Plan that include greater monitoring , record keeping and reporting requirements
- Establishment of new air emissions limits for control devices.
- DES approval to submit application for permitting extension of the landfill.
- Increasing frequencies of critical well monitoring and surface maintenance.

The Community Advisory Committee

Davis noted that individuals interested in learning more about community and neighborhood issues and the landfill can contact the Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC is a volunteer advisory group created in 2004 at the request of Waste Management to more fully address community issues associated with Turnkey Recycling and Environmental Enterprises (TREE). Information about the Community Advisory Committee as well as ongoing activities at TREE can be found at the committee's website at www.treecac.com.

Important Note:

This Informational Bulletin is only intended as a brief overview of some key items and issues contained in the Consent Decree between Waste Management and the DES. Complete details regarding the Consent Decree, as well as a copy, may be obtained by contacting the Department of Environmental Services in Concord, NH.

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