State Solid Waste Management Plan Subcommittees - April 24, 2007





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Subcommittees

- Solid Waste Database Management Systems
- Source Reduction and Recycling
- Statutes and Regulations Reform
- Organics Recycling and Composting
- Construction and Demolition

SW Database Management Systems (Use)

Need comprehensive and accurate data for:

- Projections and related planning and program evaluation;
- Assurance of compliance of statutes, regulations, and permit requirements;
- Measure progress towards goals, objectives and targets;
- Business decisions (for example building/expanding SW facilities and mfg facilities using recycled feed-stocks);
- Calculating environmental benefits of source reduction/recycling.

SW Database Management Systems (Background)

- 1980s DEP starts tracking SW disposed at CT RRFs and some landfills;
- 1990s DEP develops comprehensive reporting system and computerized data base;
- CT CGS, regulations, and SW permits require: municipalities, some scrap metal processors, owners and operators of SW disposal facilities, SW TS, recycling and composting facilities, and C&D VRF to report SW and recycling data.

Database Management Systems (Reporting)



SW Database Management Systems (Design)

- Data base designed to track CT generated solid waste, recycled and disposed;
- Can aggregate data by town, region and state-wide for MSW; and
- Can aggregate data state-wide for C&D.

SW Database Management Systems (Completeness)

- Status of the completeness of data:
 - MSW disposal complete w/exception of some MSW transfer out-of-state;
 - Recycling data not as complete (town of origin needs more be be more accurate)
 - RRF ash residue disposal data complete;
 - C&D waste reporting incomplete;
 - Beneficial Use of SW not currently tracked.

Database Management Systems (Issues)

- A small number of waste haulers identify as an issue confidentiality;
- Some duplicative reporting;
- Reporting requirements unduly burdensome;
- Inadequate DEP resources for data base mgmt and analyses.

Database Management Systems (Priorities)

- Minimize the reporting burden for municipalities and others;
- Require the collection of data necessary to support the goals of the Plan;
- Ensure that the data base can provide for:
 - Solid waste management planning and evaluation;
 - Assessment of environmental and economic benefits of recycling and source reduction;
 - Private investment in recycling, composting and/or reuse businesses.

Source Reduction and Recycling

- 1986 Mandatory Recycling Act established the Municipal Recycling Program in CT.
- 1989 Regulations established list of materials required to be recycled by 1991.
- CGS Goal to recycle 25% and to further reduce waste disposal by an additional 15% by the year 2000 by source reduction or additional recycling.
- Currently, CT's MSW recycling rate is estimated at 30%.
- State's SWMP identifies a 58% MSW disposal diversion rate by the year 2024.
- CT will need to double the current MSW disposal diversion rate.

Source Reduction

- Most challenging integrated solid waste management option.
- Barriers: consumerism; related information not readily available; increase in shipping and packaging materials; not an issue of concern to many; little in way of incentives for reducing waste.
- Opportunities/Priorities:
 - Promote change in business & industry;
 - Change purchasing practices;
 - Change manufacturing practices;
 - Change practices in the construction industry.

Recycling (State designated list)

- corrugated cardboard;
- glass food containers;
- metal containers;
- newspaper;
- high grade white office paper (non-residential);
- scrap metal;
- Pb-acid storage batteries;
- Ni-Cd rechargeable batteries;
- crankcase used oil;
- leaves; and
- grass clipping (disposal ban).

Recycling (Law)

- Requires separation or provision for separation of state mandated recyclables by everyone who generates them;
- Prohibits haulers from knowingly mixing the separated mandated recyclables with other solid waste;
- Requires municipalities to make provision for separation, collection, processing and marketing of designated recyclables.

Recycling (Barriers)

- Available resources;
- Failure to comply with state and local recycling laws;
- Failure of State and municipalities to enforce recycling requirements;
- Reported recycling data not always complete or accurate;
- Reduced public awareness and concern over waste management and recycling;
- State permitting process perceived as overly cumbersome;
- Issues directly affecting the viability of markets;
- Lack of incentives for recycling businesses or processors to locate in CT;
- Lack of program models for small businesses.

Recycling (Opportunities/Priorities)

- Enhance CT's Beverage Container Law;
- Increase efforts to educate consumers re/waste management;
- Establish incentives (i.e., PAYT) to divert more MSW from disposal;
- Provide sufficient resources;
- Strengthen regional coordination and cooperation;
- Streamline the recycling facility permitting process;
- Streamline BU General Permit process;
- Identify innovative waste diversion programs and develop models;
- Build capacity for markets; and
- Strengthen enforcement.

Solid Waste Statutes and Regulation Reforms

- Statutes and regulations re/solid waste permitting and enforcement activities must be evaluated and amended as necessary.
- Regulatory definitions and requirements must reflect and support the goals of the SWMP.
- Prioritize creation of regulatory incentives and removal of regulatory barriers to support the goals of the SWMP.

Solid Waste Statutes and Regulation Reforms

- Short-term approaches: i.e., expand list of mandatory recyclables; integrate priority reforms from other SW Advisory Committee findings and results.
- Long-term approaches: i.e., comprehensive update of statutory and regulatory structure.

Organics Recycling and Composting

- EPA estimates that food scraps account for 12% of MSW waste stream;
- CT currently recovers only a small portion;
- SWMP identifies a potential of 100,000 tons/year of source separated organic materials.

Organics Recycling and Composting (Barriers)

- Difficulty in siting facilities;
- State regulatory requirements and fees;
- Lack of knowledge by generators about opportunities and benefits of composting.

Organics Recycling and Composting (Opportunities/Priorities)

- Increase the recycling and composting of organic wastes, especially source separated food residuals, generated by the institutional, commercial and/or industrial sector;
- Identify similar innovative programs and model efforts;
- Strengthen regional coordination and cooperation;
- Establish incentives;
- Assess state permitting and regulatory requirements; and
- Build capacity for market development and use of products.

Construction and Demolition

- C&D waste is generated from two major activities:
 - Building construction, renovation, and demolition;
 - Highway/road construction and demolition.
- Most of CT C&D waste is disposed only 7% recycled (% does not include clean fill).
- SWMP increase source reduction, reuse, recycling, composting and beneficial use of various components of C&D waste stream.
- SWMP increase disposal options for that waste that cannot be source reduced, reused, recycled, or composted.

Construction and Demolition (Barriers)

- Possible toxicity of some components of demolition waste stream;
- Limited markets for waste associated with C&D activities;
- Lack of incentives to reduce waste associated with C&D activities;
- Lack of in-state disposal capacity;
- Incomplete data regarding the amount and types of C&D wastes generated; and
- State definitions.

Construction and Demolition (Priorities)

- Amend State definitions;
- Promote the adoption of C&D waste prevention strategies;
- Maximize reuse, recycling and beneficial use of C&D waste;
- Improve markets for products manufactures from recycling or beneficial use of C&D waste;
- Improve and maintain a C&D infrastructure;
- Use existing SWF as efficiently as possible for recovery and disposal;
- Develop in-state lined bulky waste landfills.

Subcommittees - Leads

- Database Management Systems Judy Belaval – 4th Floor Room 4D
- Source Reduction and Recycling Diane Duva – Phoenix Auditorium
- Statutes and Regulations Reform Robert Isner –4th Floor Room 4B
- Organics Recycling and Composting KC Alexander – 3rd floor Russell Room
- Construction and Demolition Frank Gagliardo – Phoenix Auditorium

Subcommittees – Work Outline

- Define goals.
- Summary of existing conditions.
- Identify opportunities.
- Stakeholders.
- Plan to address the issues.
- Timeframe.
- Funding.