

<p style="text-align:center">MEETING NOTES Regional Solid Waste Plan Advisory Committee *Public Meeting – 5-Counties</p>

INTRODUCTION

At the beginning of each individual County Public Meeting, Dave Minnear from L.R. Kimball and Terry Keene from Barton & Loguidice introduced the presenters for the session and presented a Powerpoint summary presentation of the draft Regional Plan (attached). An Executive Summary of the Plan was handed out to each attendee (attached). The summary of the presentation given is as follows:

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL PLAN

Dave introduced himself and explained the 5-county plan and what has taken place over the past two (2) years. We are currently in the 90-day Public Planning period and public meetings are taking place in each of the five (5) counties. This Regional Plan is larger in geographic extent than any Plan developed in the Commonwealth previously, and includes 5 counties (Montour, Columbia, Union, Snyder and Lycoming). Lycoming County is the lead county for administrative organization, although, as this process went along, each county had equal input regarding decision-making. The Steering Committee ultimately directed the Consultants' work. Dave discussed who was on the Stakeholder Committees and briefly reviewed the roles of each Consultant.

Dave reviewed the plan goals and explained that he gathered the historic plans and summarized them, and mentioned that this plan needs to work for ten (10) years for all five (5) counties, so the updated plan needs to fit the criteria and meet the needs of those involved. We gathered feedback from a wide variety of Stakeholders in order to understand and implement this process. All five (5) stakeholder groups indicated that they wanted to see more recycling. Enhancing more recycling will have great benefits to every area in this Region.

One of the goals of the PADEP is to increase recycling, and each plan had a 35% goal in their previous plans. As is typical across the Commonwealth, we found that the tonnages from all counties went down over the past 9 years, although the recycling effort increased. This is generally because of the transition from glass to plastic bottles, and the dramatic difference in weight, such that an increase in the number of bottles recycled actually results in a net decrease in weight. The Plan strives to improve the quality of life to the service areas, as well as securing the waste streams, such that we have adequate capacity to handle the amount of waste and recycling for 10 years.

Dave noted that there are slight differences between urban and rural solid waste issues, and that the 5-counties involved here are similar (both urban and rural areas) so the trends have similar patterns. We don't expect to see the patterns changing dramatically in the future.

The primary need for recycling enhancements would be for new drop offs, or upgrades, mainly in Snyder County. All three (3) Material Recycling Facilities (MRFs) in the

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Region do a good job and can handle the current capacity, but over the course of 10 years, additional facilities would be recommended.

Most of the municipalities in the Region require municipal solid waste (MSW) collection by Private Subscription, although there are documents in the appendices for municipalities to use for bidding purposes, if they choose to get more involved in MSW collection.

One of the main regulatory requirements is to secure solid waste capacity for the next 10 years. As established in the Plan, contractual arrangements were recommended, with an initial five year commitment and a five year extension. Thirteen landfills/disposal sites responded to the Solicitation of Interest (SOI) and all met the minimum requirements; so we are recommending that contracts be initiated with each respondent. Facilities that meet the requirements of the SOI but did not originally submit a response can do so after this Plan is approved.

The second component to the SOI process was transfer stations. We requested that all transfer stations that propose to accept waste from the Region agree to take waste only to the 13 approved disposal sites, and four (4) transfer stations agreed to use these facilities. The Mifflin County transfer facility currently has a contractual arrangement with a landfill that did not respond to the SOI; however, as soon as the Plan is approved, they will submit a request to add that facility to this Plan.

TIMELINE (see attached presentation)

The public comment period ends on July 15, 2012. The Consultants then need to modify the plan to reflect the comments, and then resubmit it to the Steering Committee. The Steering committee then will send it to the Commissioners in each county for their approval. Each municipality in each County will then have 90-days to ratify the Plan. The Steering Committee will then perform a final review and approve the Plan, then the Plan will be sent to the PADEP for approval, after which the Region will have a one-year implementation period to adopt the program.

PUBLIC COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

In each County Public Meeting, after the summary presentation of the Plan, the floor was then opened up to comments, questions and answers, as follows:

COMMENTS – COLUMBIA COUNTY

Date of Meeting:	10:00 A.M., Tuesday, June 12, 2012
Meeting Location:	Commissioners Conference Room 26 West First Street, Bloomsburg, PA
Meeting #:	Public Meeting #1 – Columbia County
Attendees:	See Attached Sign-In Sheet

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Robert Hivish of Berwick Borough said it was a great idea and wishes more counties did this. Robert worked with Luzerne County prior to this and felt that there was a lot more interaction here. Robert asked that if the disposal sites signed the capacity agreements and they can reach the projections and numbers but they don't, what happens at that point. Dave Minnear responded that between the 13 recommended sites, most likely we will far exceed necessary capacity. We are currently looking at having 3 times the anticipated capacity, so if we fall short in some areas, we should still meet the capacity.

Megan commented that the Lycoming County Landfill is currently adjacent to the prison property, and they are working to capture methane in order to power the prison. That facility also uses prisoners to work in the landfill. Megan has received several questions regarding putting food waste in the garbage disposal or into the garbage for methane generation. It was recommended to send it to the landfill for methane use (at least until a composting facility is available that can accept food waste).

The Mayor of Briar Creek Borough asked if the municipalities would need to adopt an ordinance. Dave said that there are model ordinances included in the plan so that municipalities can use them for things like open burning, etc. If municipalities request state funding for some programs, PADEP will require them to have an ordinance not to burn recyclables.

COMMENTS – MONTOUR COUNTY

Date of Meeting: 1:30 P.M., Tuesday, June 12, 2012
Meeting Location: Montour County Courthouse
29 Mill Street, Danville, PA
Meeting #: **Public Meeting #2 – Montour County**
Attendees: See Attached Sign-In Sheet

Jerry Ward, Commissioner in Montour County, asked where the money comes from to sustain the programs listed in the presentation. Terry commented that that was a good question since DEP only allows optional participation by disposal facilities, and administrative fees are not allowed. Jerry Ward commented that it's hard to understand since there are now things like energy credits available. Terry Keene commented that there may be some opportunity under government to fund these types of programs but he's not sure. Jerry Ward asked that if the administrative fee was allowed, would the County be responsible for that.

Betsy Hack asked what it entails to present the Plan to the Commissioners. Terry Keene commented that we list the comments, review and discuss them and then when approved, they get put in the plan. Terry Keene stated that it would be recommended to advertise the meeting to approve the plan. Dave Minnear commented that the County would have to ratify by ordinance. Jerry Ward commented that they could possibly review it by the July meeting and then advertise it for the August meeting, in order for the comments.

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Commissioner Jerry Ward commented that it seemed as though the Stakeholder group arrangement must have worked because everyone was able to come out to those meetings and voice their opinions, which is probably the reason that there is not a large turnout at these public meetings.

COMMENTS – UNION COUNTY

Date of Meeting: 4:00 P.M., Tuesday, June 12, 2012
Meeting Location: Training Room, Union County Government Center
155 North 15th Street, Lewisburg, PA
Meeting #: **Public Meeting #3 – Union County**
Attendees: See Attached Sign-In Sheet

No public comments were made.

COMMENTS – SNYDER COUNTY

Date of Meeting: 1:30 P.M., Wednesday, June 13, 2012
Meeting Location: Snyder County East Building
713 Bridge Street, Selinsgrove, PA
Meeting #: **Public Meeting #4 – Snyder County**
Attendees: See Attached Sign-In Sheet

Debbie Wolfe from Snyder County stated that she has received no comments on the Plan; however people from the County have asked her to summarize the plan for them. Commissioner Malcolm Dirk said he does not need to advertise if it's a resolution but if it's an ordinance it needs to be advertised.

Debbie Wolfe said that she thought the five counties have to all agree and approve the regional plan before it can go into effect. Terry Keene commented that there is a 50/50 rule where 50% of the population of the five county Region has to approve it before it can be implemented. Terry also stated that if a municipality does not respond, it is deemed approved.

Commissioner Malcolm Dirk stated that he has not heard anything from any of the waste haulers so that is a good thing.

COMMENTS – LYCOMING COUNTY

Date of Meeting: 6:00 P.M., Wednesday, June 13, 2012
Meeting Location: Commissioners Board Room, Lycoming County Exec Plaza
330 Pine Street, Williamsport, PA
Meeting #: **Public Meeting #5 – Lycoming County**
Attendees: See Attached Sign-In Sheet

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Janet Hall, a Lycoming County citizen, complimented the information presented and said that a lot of work has gone into recycling. She appreciates the fact that we looked into ways to upgrade recycling. Janet read a personal statement at this meeting:

“In regard to the continued dumping of solid waste in Pennsylvania, which originates in neighboring states, I am deeply concerned with this practice. I feel Pennsylvania has an particularly exceptional environment and continued acceptance of massive amounts of solid waste from other states will adversely affect our state’s quality of environment. We don’t want to be known as the “dump state”. One only has to travel South on Route 15 from Williamsport and pass the county landfill and smell the absolutely obnoxious odor that exists in that vicinity. An artificial mountain has been created, but certainly not by the materials our existing gorgeous mountains were. Will this new mountain sustain the pressures of time that our original ones have? We have plenty of trash of our own to dispose of without soliciting disposal from other states. This practice may be a money winner to some, but to some of the rest of us, it is folly to possibly destroy the very thing that makes our state so outstanding and that is, our most beautiful and delightful environment. It certainly is our responsibility to protect our environment whenever we can. There will always be intrusions of one kind or another on its integrity, but the minimization of such should be a serious and critical concern to us. Consideration and care should, and must be given to future generations of Pennsylvanians to inherit the splendid atmosphere which has been handed down to us. Whenever a future disaster can be avoided, certainly every bit of energy should be applied to do so. Please, let us not spoil what beauty and good fortune we have by continuously exploiting our proximity to the problems of other states. Many of the projects we label as progress turn out to have far reaching ramifications that are not discovered until it is too late. Every ounce of wisdom and care should be applied when it comes to dealing with our environment. The world’s population continues to contrive every sort of destructive device at a uncompromisingly rapid rate. It is high time that we look around and take notice of what we have, and then take every action necessary to protect and deal with its existence wisely instead of rushing in for the sake of a few more bucks. Yes, it is fine to develop our natural resources with much consideration and care given to the protection of our environment while the development is occurring. But to simply destroy features with no other reason than to dump mountains of garbage that original in other states is dispicable.”

Each of the issues presented in this discussion were adequately addressed by Steve Tucker, followed by some additional comments from Terry Keene, Megan Lehman and Dave Minnear, and then by a response from Mike Crist representing the Clinton County Landfill.

Janet’s basic issue was concern about the importation of waste from out-of-state, resulting in huge volumes of waste and filling the local landfills too rapidly.

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Steve explained that the Lycoming LF does not accept out-of-state waste, and Mike said the same about Clinton LF. Steve also noted that both of the Public landfills are working to improve the air quality around the facilities, that they use state-of-the-art disposal techniques, and that they are capturing the gas generated from the landfills and using that to generate electricity and steam. Terry noted that Lycoming has done a really good job of focusing on creating room for future Regional disposal, as opposed to making the quick buck on imported waste. Janet said that the key from her perspective was to generate more recycling, and Megan said that we all can help by insisting on use of recycled products. She also noted that the 2 large public landfills have replaced numerous illegal dump sites in the Region (and Steve said that there were 1500 “landfills” in the area when he started.) Steve Tucker commented that Landfills continue to add more and more items to the recycling, such as chipboard, junk mail, etc. Megan Lehman said she personally feels that the public can do their part by only buying recyclable material and it helps create the market for those materials.

Dave noted that the Plan that we were discussing was focused on handling waste generated in the Region, not on how the individual landfills choose to address waste materials delivered to them, so this wasn't really an appropriate issue for this Hearing. However, Janet's comments will be included in the Appendices to the Plan.

Mike Crist stated that it was a great presentation and asked about the sustainability fees. He asked if there will be any criteria in the documents about sustainability fees. Dave commented that we created the sustainability list and asked in the RFP how the facilities can help. Dave stated that each facility agreed to help in certain ways. Terry commented that it would probably have to be a separate agreement from the 10-year capacity agreement. Mike said it sounds like it's a different incentive. Dave commented that some facilities said they may not be able to provide money for it but they may be able to accept certain items for free instead. Those types of things will help increase the opportunity for recycling in different ways, as well as for cleanup type activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Johnson
EfficientC