

NOTICE

**The next meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Council
and Recycling Coordinators meeting will be held on:**

Tuesday, JULY 23, 2013

**Location: Essex County Environmental Center,
621 Eagle Rock Avenue
Roseland, NJ, 07068**

Please make every effort to attend.

AGENDA

ESSEX COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
July 23, 2013

- CALL TO ORDER
- OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March meeting canceled
- CHAIRPERSON’S COMMENTS
- COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - ECUA
 - DeFeo Associates
 - Covanta Energy
 - NJDEP
- PLAN AMENDMENTS-
- NEW BUSINESS-
- OLD BUSINESS
- PUBLIC COMMENTS
- PRESENTATION (S)
- ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
ESSEX COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting – MAY 28, 2013

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Essex County Solid Waste Advisory Council was held on Tuesday, May 28, 2013 at Essex County Environmental Center, 621 Eagle Rock Ave, Roseland, NJ. The meeting began at 1:00 pm.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

(See attached sign-in sheet)

The meeting began at 1:00 p.m. and adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Nick Salese Sr. - Vice Chairperson called the Essex County Solid Waste Advisory Council meeting to order at 1:00 PM and thanked everyone for attending.

2. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

The meeting is in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act. Publication of the meeting of the Essex County Solid Waste Advisory Council had previously been made and the public is invited to speak as noted on the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July, 2012 were submitted and approved.

4. CHAIR COMMENTS

Mr. Salese welcomed Wayne DeFeo to the meeting. Mr Salese also discussed the county wide issue of regarding tires, paper shredding and fluorescent bulbs.

Discussion ensued amongst members

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Essex County Utilities Authority

Nicholas Maddaloni stated the ECUA Household Hazardous Waste Day and E-Waste program was held in May. Both events were very successful with over 1200 residents attending the E-waste day and over 1700 attending the HHW Day. Mr. Maddaloni also introduced Mr. Wayne DeFeo from DeFeo Associates to the SWAC members. DeFeo Associates will be assisting the ECUA on recycling and other solid waste issues.

Wayne Defeo Associates./Recycling Agenda

Summary Presented at Essex County SWAC Meeting of May 28, 2013

S-2528 – Bill introduced by Senator Smith that would, according to the statement:

“... provide an exemption from the source separation requirements of municipal recycling ordinances for persons occupying commercial and institutional premises so long as the materials required to be recycled are otherwise recycled in accordance with certain conditions and requirements set forth in the bill. Specifically, the commercial or institutional solid waste generator would be required to provide for the processing of the recyclable materials at a materials recovery facility that is certified by the Department of Environmental Protection as achieving recycling rates consistent with the goals of the Statewide solid waste management plan. In addition, the commercial or institutional solid waste generator would be required to annually provide written documentation to the municipality of the total number of tons recycled from any commercial or institutional waste that is exempted from municipal source separation requirements under to the bill.”

There is significant opposition to this bill from the Association of New Jersey Recyclers (ANJR) on matters of practicality and philosophy. There are ongoing meetings with regard to this including ANJR, the proponents of the bill, Waste Management and the National Solid Wastes Management Association and Senator Smith as needed.

From the Essex County perspective, there are questions related to flow control impacts. At this time the bill is not clear as to how this would work. My best estimate at this time is that the bill would require that counties allow the material to leave the county if like amounts of waste are returned. However, there is no clear doctrine on this.

ANJR's primary opposition is based on the impact that this type of bill would have on the many years of education done to teach about the separation of solid waste from recycling. There are also concerns about the impact on recycling reporting (also not clearly articulated in the bill) and whether or not the materials collected can be sold to markets.

At this point the bill is still being discussed. The early draft is attached for your information. Please note that this is just an introduced copy. There have been no hearings as of yet.

I have also attached resolutions that oppose the bill from other counties for your information. You should draw your own conclusions.

Recycling Tonnage Grant: Impact of Governor's Budget:

With regard to the tonnage grant information, the following memo from Guy Watson should answer the outstanding questions on this matter from a practical matter. In effect, the promise of the DEP is that the grants will continue without interruption.

However, in response to people's concerns about this issue, several communities have issued resolutions and letters in support of leaving the money alone! I have attached these for your use.

ANJR: REA Funding Concerns

We are forwarding the letter below on behalf of NJ's County Recycling Coordinators which expresses their serious concerns over the impact of the State's budget proposal on our recycling grant funding.

Letter from County Coordinator's

Despite the letter from Guy Watson regarding the REA and the State's proposed FY'14 budget, there should still be serious concerns over the impact of the budget proposal on our grant funding. (Mr. Watson's Email of April 24, 2013 c can be found on the ANJR website under "Current Recycling News")

The proposed State budget clearly diverts \$21.6 million of the State Recycling Fund to the General Fund. There is no money (loan or otherwise) going into the Recycling Fund from the General Fund, only money going from the Recycling Fund into the General Fund. The only revenues (besides investment earnings) that will be added to the Recycling Fund balance is the collection of the \$3/ton fee (estimated \$25 million during the FY).

While the NJDEP's statement that it is possible to give out municipal (2011 Tonnage Grant -TG) and county (2013 REA) grants in FY '14 and divert the \$21.6 million to the General Fund may be correct, that diversion will impact the timing of our grants. Depending upon the timing of the transfer of the \$21.6 million from the Recycling Fund to the General Fund, grant delays will begin in either 2013 or 2014. There simply will never be enough monies in the fund going forward to give out those grants in a timely manner.

If the money is transferred at the beginning of FY '14, the balance of the Recycling Fund will quickly drop to a level of less than \$2 million. Past practice of the State has been to delay awarding of grants until enough money is in the Recycling Fund. Because of the low Recycling Fund balance, towns will not receive their 2011 TG until early 2014 (4-5 months later than normal). There then will not be enough money to give the Counties their 2013 REA until mid 2014. If the money is transferred to the General Fund at the end of FY '14, it will be the next year's round of grants that are delayed.

So while the statement that we will receive grants in both FY 14 and FY 15 may be accurate, the fact is that we will receive grants much later than normal. This is especially significant for the Counties. As many may remember, counties had asked to get their grant money in July of each year. They will now be getting it in May/June, but it will be the previous year's grant that is received (2014 grant in 2015, etc.).

ANJR urges interested parties to continue expressing your concerns to your local legislators regarding the taking of the monies from the Recycling Fund. It is disappointing that our recycling monies are again being taken for a purpose unrelated to the original intent of the Recycling Enhancement Act.

Covanta Energy

Hank Asher advised the committee that Wednesday, Thursday and Friday the plant will operating via generators “Black Plant”, June 5th grand opening of the co-generation plant, spoke to the committee regarding mattress shredding equipment that may be used on a trial basis at the plant. Hank presented two containers to ECUA to be used to collect smoke detectors. He received the containers from a company that is willing to collect detectors.

Discussion ensued amongst members.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection

Not present

6. PRESENTATIONS -

None

7. PLAN AMENDMENTS –

None

8. NEW BUSINESS –

None

9. OLD BUSINESS –

None

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS –

None

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at hand, the Chairman entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas Maddaloni – Solid Waste and Recycling Coordinator
Essex County Utilities Authority

