

Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Meeting Summary

June 23, 2016 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

MassDEP, One Winter Street, Boston, MA

Updates from RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts

Lorenzo Macaluso from RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts reported on the morning's Construction and Demolition Materials (C&D) Subcommittee meeting, where RecyclingWorks gathered stakeholder input into Best Management Practices (BMPs) for C&D reuse and source separation, with the goal of improving C&D the C&D reuse and recycling rate in Massachusetts. RecyclingWorks is also engaged in a simultaneous effort to develop BMPs for generators looking to contract with haulers for recycling, organics and trash collection services.

C&D Subcommittee Update and Asbestos Regulatory Amendments

Mike Elliott from MassDEP also spoke on the C&D Subcommittee meeting. MassDEP is focusing on the long-term policy goal of attaining a 50% C&D recycling rate by 2020. The agency is currently reviewing proposals for a C&D Debris market study (to be completed by December 2016) that will characterize the quantity and composition of materials, assess end-market capacity for target materials, evaluate separation and processing advancements, identify barriers, and make recommendations. Mike also elaborated on a proposal for a generic statewide Beneficial Use Determination for the onsite reuse of crushed coated concrete.

In response to EO562, MassDEP has proposed amendments to the asbestos program regulation divided in two phases. In the first phase, MassDEP proposed draft regulatory amendments addressing two narrow sets of issues that were raised by stakeholders during outreach for the regulatory revisions adopted in 2014: streamlining the regulation for asbestos cement pipe (which is highly prevalent in cities and towns) as well as to make technical corrections to 2014 amendments that arose during implementation. The Phase I regulatory amendments are currently proceeding through the public comment period prior to promulgation. In a second phase, MassDEP is considering some broader issues (also raised by stakeholders) that will require additional time for discussion before committing to any regulatory amendments. MassDEP hopes to develop specific proposals resulting from the Phase II Stakeholder Engagement process prior to year end.

Question: *What is the current required size to re-use crushed concrete?*

Answer: *The DCAM BUD requires three inches minus – so this activity would require substantial crushing.*

Recycling Business Development Grant Update

Janice Pare from MassDEP gave an update on MassDEP's Recycling Business Development Grants (RBDG), which are currently expected to award \$1 million to seven businesses following the first round of applications. Eligible entities engage in processing, manufacturing or reuse activities for glass, mattresses, packaged food materials, post-consumer bulky rigid or film plastics. Grants are not intended for incineration or preparation as fuel, feasibility or design work, operation and maintenance costs, collection or brokering activities or staff/consultant time. Grants are capped at \$400,000, with a minimum match of 25% required, and are to be paid in three disbursements: a partial reimbursement for purchase of equipment, a performance-based repayment spread over two years, and a 10% retainer paid at the completion of the grant.

The deadline for the second round of applications is July 15, 2016. MassDEP anticipates issuing another

grant application in Spring 2017, and expects to gather further stakeholder input on potential target materials in fall 2016.

Question: *Would unsold products from supermarkets (sandwiches, pre-made meals) qualify as packaged food or just products directly from manufacturers?*

Answer: *Unsold supermarket products like the ones described can be de-packaged and are eligible.*

Question: *What is actually eligible given the wide range of ineligible activities?*

Answer: *The grants are focused on capital equipment and capital projects. This could include purchasing equipment, building construction or renovation costs, or other site preparation costs.*

Question: *Are grants available for food donation, i.e. transporting food to users?*

Answer: *Only if the project is for management of packaged food materials, otherwise no.*

Soils Management Update

Sarah Weinstein from MassDEP reported on changes to the state's soils management policy, and early results. With many large development projects underway, few in-state outlets for soil, and possible over-management of soil from 21E sites, Section 277 of the FY15 State Budget directed MassDEP to determine the suitability of soil for reclamation of quarries, sand pits and gravel pits, while posing no significant risk to health, safety, public welfare or the environment. The result has been COMM 15-01, a MassDEP policy applicable to quarries, sand pits and gravel pits that want to receive more than 100,000 cy of soil. The policy offers an Administrative Consent Order committing the site owner/operator to a number of site-specific requirements, not only for the management of soil, but also related to stormwater, professional oversight, nuisance prevention and communication with the public, among other stipulations. Soil going to a reclamation facility needs to be characterized so it is known what is present, no new 21E sites are created, and no new dumping grounds are created. Three reclamation projects have been approved to date, with multiple conversations for others ongoing. New ACOs and Soil Management Plans are available at www.reclamationsoil.org.

Question: *Is this just for large projects?*

Answer: *The policy covers quarries, sand pits, and gravel pits that want to receive more than 100,000 cubic yards of soil. Other types of reclamation projects that want to receive more than 100,000 cubic yards of soil can also apply for an Administrative Consent Order. The policy does not govern the management of soil at sites where it is being excavated. 21E continues to cover locations that have been the site of a release of oil or hazardous materials into the environment.*

Evaluating the Impacts of the Commercial Organics Waste Ban

John Fischer from MassDEP discussed a study that MassDEP will be funding to assess the state of food waste management before and after the Massachusetts Commercial Organics Waste Ban was enacted in October 2014. The study will focus on Massachusetts businesses including haulers providing organics collection, processors (compost operators, animal feed operations, AD facilities, etc.), and food banks and food rescue organization, with a goal of assessing job and business growth from 2010 to 2016 based on factors including employment, revenues, capital and equipment investment, customers, induced and indirect impacts. The study will identify planned future growth and investment and generate industry case studies. ICF International has been selected to be the contractor, with an expected completion date of December 2016.

Question: *Does Massachusetts have infrastructure for public space food waste collection like on the West Coast?*

Answer: *While outlets exist for the material, there are a number of factors (financial, educational, etc.)*

that have limited this type of collection. MassDEP's primary focus has been focusing on reducing food waste from larger businesses and institution, though we have provided funding to support several municipal projects to collect residential food materials through curbside collection.