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CRANE

July 12, 2017

The Honorable Judith Judson
Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources
100 Cambridge St., Suite 1020
Boston, MA 02114

Re: APS COMMENTS

Dear Commissioner Judson:

I would like you to know that we support the inclusion of useful thermal energy from waste-to-energy (WTE) into the draft regulations of the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard (APS).

Since 1981, our neighbor, the Pittsfield Resource Recovery Facility, has helped us meet our thermal energy needs; delivering over 200 million pounds of steam a year. The waste-to-energy facility has offset the use of fossil fuel we would have otherwise had to combust to produce steam. As a matter of fact, 70% of the energy used to make paper in our Dalton facilities come from municipal waste, offsetting the use of fossil fuels and their inherent adverse impact on the environment. The relationship between our manufacturing facilities and the WTE plant has provided a reliable source of renewable energy for more than thirty years.

Last March, we were notified that the Pittsfield Resource Recovery Facility would be closing in early 2017 because it became economically unsustainable to continue to operate. This would have had a dramatic impact on our business. Luckily, Covanta and Crane executives and our community leaders came together to ensure that this facility continues to operate.

There are three legs of the plan to keep the facility operating. First, our legislative delegation was critical to passing the provisions of the bill which added WTE for thermal energy into the APS. Then the City of Pittsfield provided \$562,000 in funding which will go towards the establishment of a DEP-mandated Recycling Consolidation Enclosure and other upgrades. In addition, there was a renegotiated contract between Covanta and ourselves. All three of these components have come together to ensure that the WTE plant could remain viable. However, the inclusion of WTE into the APS is the most critical and needs to be finalized.

As you know, Crane & Co., located in Dalton, Massachusetts, and employing 350 people in the Berkshires, has manufactured paper for more than 200 years and has continuously supplied the United States Treasury with its currency paper since 1879. In addition, Crane has been an innovative leader in the protection of the environment since it was founded in 1801.

We thank you for your support and for including WTE in the latest APS draft regulations. We respectfully request that Department move to implement the new regulations as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Richard Rowe
President
U.S. Government Products