

SWAC C&D Subcommittee Meeting
MassDEP – Bureau of Air & Waste
March 19, 2020; 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Meeting Notes:

Recorded by: Mike Elliott

NOTE: Copies of the meeting notes and presentation slides are available on the MassDEP C&D Subcommittee webpage. The MassDEP C&D Subcommittee webpage can be found at the following link: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/news/advisory-committees/cd-subcommittee.html>. Comments can be submitted via email to Mike Elliott at michael.elliott@mass.gov.

The following agenda items were covered during the meeting:

1) Welcome/Introductions

MassDEP welcomed participants in the room and on the webinar.

- Participants on webinar: 40 (as recorded on webinar attendee report)
- Participants reflected a cross-section of stakeholders representing: C&D Processors and Transfer Stations; Waste Haulers; Recycling Processors; Recycling/Re-use End-Markets; Construction Management, Sustainable Construction Consultants, Trade Association Representatives, Solid Waste Management Officials Organization, and State and Municipal Officials

2) C&D Minimum Performance Standard Overview

MassDEP presented an overview of the C&D Minimum Performance Standard:

- The presentation slides can be found on the MassDEP Subcommittee webpage listed above.
- It is worth reiterating that the MassDEP Minimum Performance Standard (MPS) for waste ban compliance by C&D handling facilities is not a new requirement. Rather it simply clarifies, by establishing measurable performance criteria, what facilities need to do to comply with MassDEP's existing waste disposal ban regulations that have been in effect for certain C&D materials since 2006 – separate C&D waste ban materials to the greatest extent possible.
- This will serve to “level the playing field” and ensure that all mixed C&D waste loads will pass through a C&D processor that will adequately separate banned materials as required by the existing regulation.

3) Draft C&D MPS Q&A Guidance Document

MassDEP reviewed a draft Q&A Guidance document pertaining to the C&D Minimum Performance Standard.

- The Q&A Guidance was attached to the webinar presentation on the day of the meeting. It can also be found at the MassDEP Subcommittee Webpage listed above.
- The Q&A Guidance reflects several of the questions that were raised over the past few months when MassDEP announced that it was going to be implementing this guidance.
- During this webinar, one of the major topics of discussion was initiated by the construction management firms who participated on the call. They asked what could they do on the jobsite to help the C&D processors improve their process separation rate. The C&D processors on the call responded unequivocally that the single most significant action that construction management firms could do to improve overall operational performance of the C&D processors would be to source separate gypsum wallboard. C&D processors offered several ideas of how

gypsum wallboard could be packaged and separated in the mixed waste container to make it easier to handle when it arrives at the C&D processor.

- The construction management firms suggested that MassDEP assemble a best management practice guide for construction contractors to improve jobsite source separation of gypsum wallboard.
- A representative of the Bourne Landfill suggested that state should lead by example and require gypsum wallboard source separation on all DCAMM construction projects.

4) **2030 SWMP Update/Proposed Waste Bans**

MassDEP provided an update on the status of the 2030 Solid Waste Master Plan.

- The update emphasized the three proposed new/modified waste ban materials:
 - Commercial organic material (food material)
 - lowering threshold from 1 ton to ½ ton/week
 - Mattresses
 - Textiles

5) **COVID-19 Response Actions**

MassDEP inquired with the C&D Handling Facilities on the call to understand how their business are being impacted and what response actions they have instituted.

- There were many similarities in the shared responses across the industry, including:
 - Need to classify industry as an essential service
 - fuel
 - workers
 - hour of operation
 - *Note: Governor Baker issued an Executive Order on March 23, 2020 that designated essential services that may remain open during the state of emergency declaration declared on March 10, 2020. See <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-essential-services>. Solid waste collection and removal are included in the order as essential services. The Department considers all activities related to the collection, processing, recycling, composting, and disposal of solid waste materials to be covered by this order. The order does not require these operations to be open, but allows for their continued operation during the period it specifies. The Governor also issued an [executive order](#) to provide solid waste and recycling haulers relief from hours of service requirements.*
 - Back-up for disposal volumes
 - Fitchburg
 - Bourne
 - Worker availability
 - HR program (e.g. buy-back vacation hours)
 - Temporary labor
 - Social distancing
 - Increased cleaning of facility
 - Protect ability to export products produced
 - No passing papers at scale-house
 - Vetting visitors to facility

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- Shortage of hand sanitizer and N95 dust masks
- Slowdown in business due to City of Boston Order shutting down new construction projects
- Conducting all business via remote meetings and conference calls
- In addition, a representative of the Bourne Landfill was on the call. He reiterated many of the same concerns, but raised a couple others:
 - Need flexibility to make up hours, shortfalls
 - Need MassDEP to coordinate with MEPA on applicable MEPA requirements

6) Closing/Next Steps

Next meeting of the C&D Subcommittee: The next meeting of the C&D Subcommittee is scheduled for Thursday June 18, 2020.

Respectfully,

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