

REGIONAL SOLID WASTE GROUP  
MEETING SUMMARY  
September 14, 2007

Attendees:

Timothy Freeman, (UNF) and FDEP, 904-298-4150 [timothy.freeman@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:timothy.freeman@dep.state.fl.us)  
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ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY STUDY

Roundtable discussion on each item

Counties to include

See list on proposed scope handout

Add Hamilton (?) to complete geography

Contact all who have not attended regularly (or at all) and get feedback

Scope

Need to add info on why to do this and what the goals are: (examples) Economies of scale, keep control related to our statutory responsibilities, keep waste in the same regulatory area (Florida), control costs in the public sector, political influence of large scale facilities, determine what is in the best interest of the public for economics, environmental protection and other factors, could host fees save small county budgets considering probable changes in tax structure, determine if private sector is a reasonable alternate.

Time frame for projections – 25 years?

Start with inventory of existing facilities, location, type, capacity (cubic yards total, tons per day by permit, tons per day for operational considerations- for example single shift), time frame to reach capacity if used by owner only, proposed facilities (in 07-08 budget to plan, design, permit or construct), long-term plans if any, existing contract time frames.

Identify waste stream by amounts, type and generating location (don't forget cities)

Look at these options as current technologies – bio-reactor landfill, ash landfill, traditional landfill; mass burn WTE, RDF WTE

Look at these options as future technologies – plasma arc, pyrolysis (thermal conversion)

Look at potential impact of governor's non-traditional energy resource plan on solid waste (incentives for developing alternates) landfill gas, wood waste as fuel, WTE, others?

Interview power producers in the region as to their alternate energy plans (GRU, Progress Energy, and FPL?)

Economic feasibility - optimal facility size and waste shed

Serial use of existing before developing new/additional capacity

For new facilities - optimal size (economy of scale), cost to operate, capacity

Optimal locations - close to waste source centroid(s), space, allowed in comp plan, need revenue,

Cost to transport – each included county to closest new facility

Total transportation and disposal cost

Is this a multiple-facility area? How many, of what kind?

Contracting format – funding

Hinkley Center will send their standard agreement for sponsored research

Counties that provide funding have separate agreements with Hinkley Center

Current “standard” funding level for large counties (population over 100,000?) at \$10,000

Small Counties have smaller support requirement (?value)

Counties in the region that do not provide funding now, could be added later

#### MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

Revised draft provided by David Horne for review and comment at meeting/attached

Little discussion at meeting

#### HOT TOPICS

Budget impacts of tax reductions/uncertainty about referendum

Travel restrictions, hiring freezes, general fund looking for support,

Value reductions coming from housing market slowdown will hurt tax revenue regardless

Many looking for alternate funding sources (more assessments)

Super-exemption referendum will be supported by developers and realtors, cities and counties will oppose

Individual homeowner’s selection of % rate cap vs. super exemption unknown

Hernando reduced millage 1.25%, Citrus left as-is, Lake left as-is

Rule revision – probably no real impact on us

Records retention – Is anyone doing electronic vs. paper records? Follow guidelines and have backup

Move-in and move-out weeks in Alachua show huge amounts of usable items disposed, bulky items

Waste exchange programs – Alachua has online program, Lake’s trash-to-treasure with physical location was too popular (discontinued).

Lake County building additional LF capacity – permitting almost done, replacing fuel facility

Alachua resurfaced TS floor with asphalt – working well so far.

Renewable energy push – DEP has energy grants with applications due 10/18, more opportunities coming up.

#### ACTION ITEMS

Rhonda will send us their standard contract format to review and comment upon. Please show to your attorney's office.

Be sure each county is aware of the proposed study, benefits, \$ to support

Ed will contact Pat at Gilchrist County

Susie will contact Jackey at Sumter County and \_\_\_ at Levy County.

\_\_\_ will contact Suwannee and Hamilton County

All to review and comment on the mutual aid agreement.

Next meeting Friday October 19 at 10 a.m. at Marion County Landfill. Lunch will be Sonny's BBQ.

Ken will collect payment while we are there.

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