

Solid Waste Advisory Committee December 14, 2006

Mission Statement: To enhance communication and the working relationship between the Department and the solid waste management facility owners/operators, through the discussion of issues and the exchange of ideas.

Call to Order: Rick Thompson – 1:37 pm, Helena, Montana.

Committee members in attendance: Barb Butler – City of Billings; Clay Vincent – Unified Disposal (Havre); Sherrel Rhys – Lewis & Clark County; Joe Aline – Shumaker Trucking & Excavating; Tom Barth – Fallon County; Steve Johnson – City of Bozeman; and Rick Thompson – DEQ.

Others in attendance: Barry Damschen, Sandra Boggs, Brian Spangler, George Scriba, Mary Louise Hendrickson, Mark Nelson, Pat Crowley, Bob Reinke, and Will Selser.

Review and acceptance of minutes from September 12, 2006.

Solid Waste Issues From Previous Meeting:

MOLO Cost Breakdown – Mike Vogel was unable to attend.

Barb asked who would be teaching the next class. Rick responded that the RFP was sent out 2 weeks prior to the SWAC meeting but there had not been any response to date. Rick explained the RFP deadline was December 30th, so two weeks remained for proposals to be submitted. Barb asked how long each session would be. Rick explained that it depended on the contractor who will be teaching the course. Rick explained that the RFP was sent to most engineering firms that do business in the state. Barb asked for an email to be sent when someone had been selected. Rick responded that Mike Vogel will be sending out notifications to the licensed operators when the agenda and speakers are finalized.

Sherrel thought it would be good to have more than one teacher for this training. She suggested maybe it would be good to have someone from out-of-state.

Rick explained that the thought behind the course is to give participants more than a cursory overview of landfill engineering. At least it will help them in making informed decisions when selecting a landfill engineer.

SWAC By-Laws and Member Replacement:

Mark Nelson – Lake County Solid Waste Manager was selected as the new representative on the SWAC for transfer stations.

Overview of SWP Activities in 1st Quarter:

The SWP goal is to conduct ninety inspections a year. At the end of the 2nd quarter forty-five were completed. There were no major violations in the reporting period. The SWP received six new applications in the 2nd quarter.

George Scriba gave an updated report of solid waste cases currently active in the Enforcement Division.

P2 Program Update:

Brian Spangler

- Dusti Johnson has been working with the Department of Ag and others around the state on the recycling of pesticide containers.
- The College of Great Falls will be using recycled glass in the flooring of a new construction on campus.
- The P2 Program is working with the solid waste program to find markets for bottom ash generated from the Rocky Mountain Power - Hardin Generating Station.
- The 2005 recycling survey was completed. Based on the survey, there was a 18.7 percent recycling rated in the state for that period.

Sandra Boggs

- Scheduled to meet with the University of Montana on E-Waste issues.
- Recently published a recycling manual for the schools.
- Dusti Johnson and Bonnie Rouse attended the state teachers conference in Billings and gave a presentation on recycling.
- Sandra is on the planning committee with Headwaters in Yellowstone Park for the 2007 Yellowstone Conference that will be held in Big Sky in September.

Sandra Boggs also gave her report on the Rural Electronic Waste Recycling Program (REWRP). She reported that there were seven E-cycling events this year as a result of private/ public partnerships. DEQ was able to partner with the local government and non-profit and private businesses. There were events in Whitefish, Kalispell, Butte, Missoula, Sidney, Helena and Bozeman. Sidney and Bozeman had prior events in the past. The numbers have increased in these areas. In 2005 8,000 pounds of electronics were collected. In 2006 over 9,000 pounds were collected.

Another pilot project being considered involves the Gambling Control Division and the Gaming Association. Approximately 15,000 gaming machines will be replaced in the next year. The goal is to find a way to recycle these machines and not just to discard them. Rich Miller with the Gaming Association is interested in finding a way to do a long term financing for the recycling of those machines. Montana would be the first in the nation to do this if he is successful.

Sandra also mentioned a rule change coming on January 29, 2007 from the EPA which defines CRTs as solid waste and not hazardous wastes. Guidelines are being worked on for acceptable electronics recycling.

Sandra also mentioned that there is a bill before the Legislature which is asking to spend State Procard rebate money on funding recycling services. All Procard rebate money presently goes into the general fund.

Sandra recapped the guidelines for electronic recycling by private vendors, stating that those guidelines are listed on the department web site.

Rick noted Sandra or Brian will be invited to the EPA Region VIII Conference in April of next year to talk about E-cycling in Montana.

Legislative Issues:

Rick made reference to the bills that are included in the DEQ A-bills that would have a direct effect on the solid waste program if they are approved.

- HB88 – Solid Waste Exclusion. A house-keeping bill to ensure that coal combustion waste from electrical generator facilities is being regulated by the Solid Waste Program and not several programs throughout the agency. This was House Bill 48 in the last session, carried by Sue Dickinson from Great Falls. It failed in the third reading because of labor concerns. Sue Dickinson will reintroduce this bill.

- HB144 - Infectious Waste. This is another housekeeping bill. When this bill was passed in 1991, the agency in charge of over-seeing this bill was DHES. This bill attempts to give the proper rule making authority to DEQ for infectious waste management i.e. treatment, storage and transportation.

- Mega-Landfill Siting Act. Barb commented that the City of Billings will not be seeking any changes to the Mega-Landfill Siting Act in the 2007 session.

- Barb passed out an Updated Preference List of Bills that are currently on the agenda for the Legislature. LC1860 was discussed.

- The last one on the list, Bill LC0621, was to increase the size of a parcel for disposal of household or agricultural waste from 5 acres to 160 acres.

CRT Rule: Bob Reinke

Bob Reinke discussed the new EPA CRT rule in more detail for the committee.

Announcements / Training Issues: S.W.A.C. will meet again on February 8, 2007 at 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm in the Director's Conference Room 111.

Agenda for the next meeting:

2006-07 Exemption Threshold For Solid Waste Sites – Sherrel Rhys
Rendering in MT and Increased Rendering Wastes in Class II Landfills

Handling of Refrigerators at Solid Waste Facilities
Solid Waste Audit Report
Baled Tire Rules
Mega-Landfill Siting Act – Barb Butler

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.