

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Capital Region Solid Waste Management Partnership**  
**SWMP Steering Committee**

**Date:** 2/10/09  
**Loc:** 445 Delaware Ave.  
 Bethlehem, NY

**Time:** 4:00PM  
**CHA Project No.:** 19283

**Steering Committee:**

Sally Cummings--Environmentalist	David Phaff—CANA
Kurt Larson--NYSOGS	Bill Bruce—City of Albany
Gregg Sagendorph—Town of Bethlehem	Frank Zeoli—City of Albany
Tom Reynolds--NYSDEC	Sean Ward—Green Island
Bob Griffin—Allied Waste	Mark Gleason—GM Watervliet
Mike O'Brien—Albany City Council	
Michael Franchini—Comm Albany County	
Bob Conway—Mayor of Voorheesville	

**Consultants and Others in Attendance:**

Frank LaVardera--CHA	Tom Ellis--CEC
Ken Gallagher--CHA	Barbara Warren--CEC
Suzanne Christopher--CHA	Jim Travers--SCRAP
Bruce Goodall—Town of Schodack	Tim Truscott--Citizen
Eric Mead—Bus. Dev. Manager	Richard Reeves-Ellington--Citizen
Theresa Grafflin--Citizen	Lynn Jackson--Citizen
Tom Casaregola--Citizen	Aimee Allaud--Citizen
Joe Giebelhaus—City of Albany	Bert Schou--Citizen

Introductions were made by each person in attendance.

Ken Gallagher presented a power point presentation with an overview of existing conditions and a summary of proven alternative technologies to land disposal. The presentation has been provided separately. Frank LaVardera noted that the term “proven technologies” was applicable to technologies that have been permitted and are in use in New York State and other northeastern states. He also added that there may very well be other “emerging technologies” that may be suitable for use that were not being present today. Once the Planning Unit receives responses to the Request for Information that will be advertised, potential emerging technologies will be discussed.

As part of the presentation, there was some discussion of the waste generation estimates, and it was clarified that the waste generation estimates and projections includes materials that are recycled as well as material that are disposed. It was also acknowledge that while the SWMP Modification document that has been prepared demonstrates that 1050 tons accurately represents

that amount of waste that is produced in the Planning Unit on a daily basis, some waste leaves the Planning Unit while some waste enters the Planning Unit depending on the operations of the commercial haulers in the area.

Regarding the solid waste facilities in the Planning Unit, Greg Sagendorph confirmed the intention of the Town of Bethlehem to stop accepting C&D Debris at the Rupert Road Landfill site after the end of 2009. A question was asked about how many publicly owned landfills are there in New York State and also if any recycling facilities accept cloth materials. Ken Gallagher will follow up on these questions.

During the presentation on Single Stream recycling, Mark Gleason noted that Waste Management was providing single stream collection to residents of Watervliet, and the City was very happy with the outcome of the program. Bob Griffin noted that Allied Waste is converting a dual stream MRF in the Buffalo NY area to a single stream MRF. He confirmed that it is a capital intensive conversion. Tom Reynolds noted that the DEC is becoming more receptive to single stream recycling.

More detailed information on the cost and tonnage of the Delaware County MSW composting facility was requested. Ken Gallagher will attempt to provide the additional information.

More information was requested on the capital cost and electricity output of the OCRRA Waste to Energy Facility. There was also discussion about the potential toxicity of ash and air emissions from Waste to Energy facilities. CHA will attempt to obtain test data from several facilities in the state.

David Phaff noted that more emphasis needed to be placed on increasing waste reduction and recycling as part of the long term solid waste management plan. It is anticipated that on of the future Committee meetings will be dedicated to ways to increase recycling and waste minimization.

Bill Bruce asked about the RFI. Ken Gallagher received a few comments back on the draft circulated to the committee members after the last meeting. The RFI was finalized and sent out to 13 companies. The ads where sent out as well and responses are due on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Bill Bruce would like the following topics on the next agenda:

- Flow Control
- Administrative Structure

Bill Bruce also discussed the set up of a subcommittee involving several of the large institutional facilities in the area. An individual from SUNY Albany has been identified to participate.

Public comments had a wide verity of questions and thoughts. One commenter indicated that we need waste reduction and landfill ash needs to be looked at more closely. The commenter also suggested that we look into Saratoga landfill, which is not operational. Another commenter asked whether the DEC keeps records of what goes in and out of the solid waste facilities. The commenter then also noted that there was recently an electric generator installed at the Delaware

County facility. Another individual indicated that SUNY Cobleskill gasification is up and running in September with zero admissions. The committee indicated that they are looking at all of these options. Another participant asked if we have procedures in place for further public participation and could we share them. Frank LaVardera indicated that in addition to the input provided by these committee meetings, once a draft plan was formulated, it would be circulated for formal public review and comment. A public participant noted that all those present at this meeting should be provided the meeting minutes. Several individuals voiced their concerns about any consideration being given to the waste-to-energy technology. They feel this technology should not be considered. Another individual asked how many solid waste management plans CHA has completed.