

DEP Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee
Subcommittee on Statutes and Regulations Reform
Meeting Notes: October 23, 2007

In Attendance:

Stakeholders: Lori Vitagliano, David Favalle, Jonathan Bilmes, Jerry Tyminski, Mike Paine, Lois Hager, Rick Papapietro, Matt Calvert

DEP Staff: Robert Isner, Tom Metzner, Kevin Sullivan, Kiernan Wholean.

Discussion:

E-Waste Recycling program update: Tom Metzner (DEP) said that the E-Waste stakeholders advisory committee had its first conference call 10-10-07. The topic was the process for approving recyclers and the discussion went well. The topic for the next conference call 10-24-07 is what costs are reimbursable by the manufacturers. DEP has mailed out the registration forms for manufacturers. DEP is working on a webpage for the E-Waste recycling program. The target start-up date is 10-29-07, and the webpage will include general information, and guidance for recyclers and manufacturers. More guidance is being drafted.

Subcommittee Report to the Advisory Committee: Subcommittee reports are on the agenda for the 11-27-07 Advisory Committee meeting. DEP will draft a report for review and comment by the subcommittee members.

Next Steps: What issues should the Subcommittee try to pursue next?

- Pay As You Throw programs: PAYT is a proven approach and could be the single most effective way to boost recycling rates. State legislative action is needed as there is insufficient political support at the level, due to the common misperceptions that PAYT results in new costs. Regarding the PAYT presentation given earlier that day, members felt that automated collection systems are safer for workers than the bag system examples presented.
- Barriers to effective waste management: detection of low-level radioactive waste in incoming loads at RRFs. Creates delays for the hauler and the RRF while the radioactive source is investigated. Possible solution sought, possibly through DEP Radiation Division, facility permit change or oversight by a certified operator.
- Product Stewardship: tires and glass are among the products receiving attention from stewardship advocates, such as the Product Stewardship Institute. Tires: maybe the existing system in CT is adequate already? Glass: recycling markets are weak for glass due to transportation costs, so approved, in-state beneficial uses are the best alternative. Maybe our existing laws are strong enough to implement stewardship ideas without new laws like the E-Waste Recycling law.

Next Subcommittee meeting: November 27, 2007.