

## **NH Solid Waste Working Group – 5/27/22**

**Subcommittee: Waste Reduction and Management of Difficult Wastes**

**Attendees: Steve Poggi; Karen Ebel; Freda Paris; Greg Leahey (via phone)**

### *SWWG Goals and Tasks:*

- 1 The group discussed the State Solid Waste Management Plan and what would be needed to implement those plans. A review of the documents sent to the SWWG for the February meeting from surrounding states that presented at that meeting.
- 2 Recently passed SB 380 tasks the SWWG with developing recommendations for solid waste management plans to be implemented at the municipal level.
- 3 Discussed the VT Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) and how it works. This prescriptive format would require all NH municipalities to develop a detailed plan which may not be supported by municipal officials. Some ideas could be taken from these SWIPs but all members in the meeting agreed that this detailed format may not be readily accepted by NH municipalities.
- 4 Future SWWG meetings and subcommittee discussions should focus on the draft outline prepared for the NH SW Plan (sent out earlier this week) to help DES staff move this forward.

### *Waste Reduction:*

1. Education programs at various levels will be key to achieving waste reduction.
2. Local solid waste committees in Towns should have waste reduction as a focus, in addition to the management of recycling, collection, and disposal for its residents.
3. NHDES can provide educational tools and information for statewide distribution, agency staffing support and future funding will help facilitate this effort. Much of this may already exist from other sources.
4. Educate purchasing departments; particularly in the municipal and State sectors, on preferred purchasing and procurement focus on reducing packaging and waste minimization.
5. Food diversion and donation was discussed. How can we encourage it in the State, particularly with large generators such as supermarkets and schools?

### *Difficult to Manage Wastes:*

1. The presence of PFAS in a large variety of materials will likely hamper the ability to manage some materials by alternative methods. SHA presented to the larger SWWG group today on the ubiquitous nature of these compounds in a variety of everyday products and waste materials.
2. Evaluate implementing waste bans on items such as mattresses and other materials that have alternative outlets. The subcommittee will reach out to mattress suppliers to determine what they do and what capacity is available for much larger numbers.
3. Reach out to other alternative waste management companies to determine what they need to be successful and to see if they could relocate to the State if there is sufficient supply of materials to support their business.

4. The State should consider requiring large generators to divert materials for processing if an alternative management facility is within \_\_\_ miles of them. Similar to what Mass did initially with large generators of organics (>1 ton/wk.) to start their program.
5. Bulky Waste – Furniture, carpeting, textiles – presence of PFAS in these limit alternatives
6. C+D – recycling exists in NH but source separation at the job site is key to being successful
7. Biosolids – Maine recent ban on land application and composting due to PFAS, limited options exist currently besides landfilling.