



THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Solid Waste Working Group

Karen Ebel, Chair

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Minutes of June 24, 2022 Solid Waste Working Group (SWWG) Room 208C 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03302

Members Present: Chair Karen Ebel, Reagan Bissonnette, Adam Clark, Jim Malley, Greg Leahey, Marc Morgan, Freda Paris, Benjamin Piche, Steve Poggi, Eric Steinhauser, Duncan Watson

Members Present Remotely¹: Brian Patnoe, Lynn Rubinstein

Members Not Present: Sen. James Gray, Rep. Howard Pearl, Matt Hughes, Colin Kelly, Michael Wimsatt

Call to Order:

Chair Ebel called the meeting to order at 10:36 AM

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the May 27, 2022, meeting was approved with a motion by Adam Clark and seconded by Steve Poggi.

Discussion – Draft Outline of NH Solid Waste Management Plan; 2022 Update (SWMP)

SWWG members reviewed each page of the draft SWMP outline (as of June 15, 2022) and discussed their recommendations and suggested edits for the goals and actions. NHDES staff will use subcommittee minutes and the meeting recording to ensure all comments are considered in subsequent revisions. Many suggestions were related to terminology and grammatical changes.

Predominant comments from the SWWG included:

- 1) Referencing more language in RSA 149-M throughout the plan,
- 2) Sharing data about out-of-state waste disposal at NH facilities, and more discussion of how disposal of out-of-state waste influences capacity for NH-generated waste,
- 3) Prioritizing short-term versus long-term actions in the plan,
- 4) Identifying data gaps and developing tools (or using existing tools) to enable public/private entities to measure and track solid waste management data,
- 5) Compiling educational resources and online tools that can be used and shared by state agencies, municipalities, businesses, and institutions to educate the public about how and where to recycle,

¹ Remote attendance necessary due to logistical considerations

Solid Waste Working Group

Minutes

June 24, 2022 – Page 2 of 2

- 6) Highlighting larger sources of PFAS – carpet, furniture, textiles
- 7) Strengthening discussion related to recycling market development and highlighting the need for additional processing infrastructure in NH to support establishment of markets,
- 8) Determining how local solid waste plans, or Solid Waste Implementation Plans (SWIPs), might be used to guide municipal planning efforts,
- 9) Expanding on climate change and environmental justice topics,
- 10) Creating a glossary of terms, and
- 11) Funding – Should the topic be a new goal or an overarching priority?

Reagan Bissonnette shared that the Recycling & Composting Subcommittee discussed reformatting the SWMP to categorize actions by material type rather than by goal. Ms. Bissonnette explained that it could help readers navigate the document, who may only be interested in one waste type. Vermont's SWMP is outlined in a similar manner. Duncan Watson responded that an appendix could be used to indicate where specific material types are mentioned throughout the plan. Chair Ebel agreed.

Discussion of SWMP timeline/future meeting schedule

The group reviewed a tentative outline of upcoming SWWG meetings and public comment period in order to issue the final SWMP by October 1st. Chair Ebel noted that the initial SWWG Report is due November 30, 2022.

Chair Ebel suggested rescheduling the next meeting to either Monday, July 25th or Tuesday, July 26th. The full SWWG will meet from 9:00AM – 12:00PM. Subcommittees will not meet. NHDES staff will distribute a Doodle Poll link to determine which date works best for the majority of the SWWG members.

NHDES Updates

Staff are working to complete the Biennial report.

Legislative Updates

Chair Ebel noted that several bills are pending signature or veto by Governor Sununu, including HB 1454. NRRA compiled a summary of current solid waste bills on their website: <https://www.nrrarecycles.org/news/nh-solid-waste-legislation-updates-2022-session>.

Information on specific bills can be found by searching by bill number and session year on the General Court's Website: http://gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/legacy/bs2016/

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:13 PM.

A recording of this meeting is available at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/4562338161506354945>