

JULIET T. BROWNE jbrowne@verrilldana.com Direct: 207-253-4608

ONE PORTLAND SQUARE PORTLAND, MAINE 04112-0586 207-774-4000 • FAX 207-774-7499 www.verrilldama.com

November 21, 2018

## Via E-Mail and U.S. Mail

Linda J. Butler Licensing and Compliance Specialist, Div. of Technical Services Maine Department of Environmental Protection 17 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0017

Re:

Application for Public Benefit Determination for the Proposed Expansion of the

Crossroads Landfill in Norridgewock, Maine

Dear Linda:

On behalf of Waste Management Disposal Services of Maine (WMDSM), we are providing the following information that supplements the existing Public Benefit Determination Application ("Application").

## A. Recycling

WMDSM currently implements and as part of its Phase 14 project is proposing to expand numerous measures to maximize recycling rates and ensure that waste material from its municipal and commercial customers is reduced, reused and recycled to the extent practicable. See generally steps to be taken as part of the Phase 14 project in the Application at Sections 3.21, 3.22 and 3.23. To further facilitate recycling in the State, WMDSM will host a series of informational meetings for its municipal and commercial customers to (i) gather data on measures its customers are taking to recycle, (ii) identify barriers to recycling, and (iii) explore steps that would facilitate increased recycling. WMDSM expects that these meetings will take place over an approximate 12-month period. Following conclusion of the meetings WMDSM will report back to the DEP with a summary of the results of the meetings and any recommendations developed out of those meetings.

## B. Composting

WMDSM has been meeting with the Farmington Compost Cooperative (FCC), which currently provides compositing services, to explore opportunities to work together to address a short-term space need and expand regional compositing services. The FCC is a joint endeavor of the Sustainable Campus Coalition at the University of Maine Farmington, which promotes sustainability on campus and in the community, Life Enrichment Advancing People (LEAP) Community, which owns the site of a second composting pad, Greater Franklin Food Council, a

Linda J. Butler November 21, 2018 Page 2

network of individuals and organizations interested in promoting healthy food systems in the region, and Gardening Angels, a small organization providing raised-bed gardens and gardening assistance to the elderly and individuals with physical disabilities. To solve a short-term need resulting from the loss of its facility operator, WMDSM has agreed to work with FCC to implement a pilot compost trial at Crossroads during the period December, 2018-April, 2019. Although the final details are still being worked out, students from the University will deliver food waste to the Crossroads facility where it will be used to form active compost piles. Currently, they generate an average of 3-5 tons of collected food scraps weekly. This is a pilot program intended to solve an immediate need facing FCC. It will also be an important building block for WMDSMS's proposed Organics Diversion and Reuse Program, which is described in Section 3.2.2 of its Application.

WMDSM is also exploring other ways to support FCC, including potentially providing infrastructure improvements and equipment that would allow FCC to expand its composting services. WMDSM believes that the continued success and potential expansion of FCC's composting program could play an important role in WMDSM's proposed Organics Diversion and Reuse Program. To that end, WMDSM will continue to collaborate with FCC and support its efforts in this important area.

The additional recycling and composting measures described above will advance the State's waste management goals and demonstrate WMDSM's continued commitment to working with customers and stakeholders to meet the State's waste needs and advance the solid waste management hierarchy.

Thank you for consideration of this additional information, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

building,

Juliet T. Browne

cc: David Burns (DEP) (via email)
Jeff McGown (WMDSM) (via email)
Sherwood McKenney (WMDSM) (via email)
Steve Poggi (Waste Management, Inc.) (via email)
Scott Luettich (Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.) (via email)

Mat Todaro (Verrill Dana LLP) (via email)