



Mid-Connecticut Project Special Committee Regular Meeting January 27, 2010 Draft Minutes

A meeting of the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority Mid-Connecticut Project Special Committee was held January 27, 2010, at the CRRA Trash Museum, 211 Murphy Road, Hartford. Those present were:

Committee members: Donald S. Stein (present by telephone)

Richard J. Barlow
Melody A. Currey
Thomas D. Kirk
Peter W. Egan
Alan J. Desmarais
David B. Damer
Steven N. Wawruck Jr.

CRRA staff:

Marianne Carcio
Paul Nonnenmacher
Michael R. Bzdyra
Ronald Gingerich
Richard Quelle
Virginia Raymond

Public:

John Pizzimenti, USA Hauling & Recycling

Absent were:

Committee members: Susan M. McMullen
Timothy C. Griswold

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2009, SPECIAL MEETING

Mr. Barlow requested that minutes of future meetings reflect more participation in discussions.

4a. REPORT ON CONDITION OF MID-CONNECTICUT PROJECT TRASH-TO-ENERGY PLANT

Mr. Quelle gave a presentation on recent capital projects undertaken at the trash-to-energy plant. The PowerPoint presentation can be found on CRRA's Web site at

http://www.crra.org/documents/public_records/Mid-Conn_Special_Committee/Presentation_on_plant_condition_1-27-2010.pdf.

Mr. Barlow asked how much bypass waste was generated at the plant. Mr. Quelle said the residue rate is about 13 percent, ferrous metals total 1 to 2 percent and bulky waste about 1 percent, so the total could be about 16 percent.

Mr. Kirk said the goals of the capital projects are to improve capacity, increase reliability, increase the plant's life expectancy and reduce the amount of waste that must be exported.

Mr. Barlow asked how many days trash must be exported from the plant. Ms. Raymond said that number has been as high as 50 percent in previous years. He asked where trash is sent when exported, and Mr. Kirk said the destination depends on its price.

Mr. Stein asked whether CRRA has projections for capital expenditures over the next five to 10 years and whether CRRA has performed an analysis of vibration and wear to predict those expenditures. Mr. Kirk said the analysis has been performed and that CRRA has a pro-forma plan through the year 2028.

4b. REPORT ON NEW DISPOSAL TECHNOLOGY BEING STUDIED BY CRRA

Ms. Raymond explained the CRRA Board of Directors and the Metropolitan District Commission had put together a committee to study alternatives to landfilling combustor ash. That effort led CRRA to investigate a new technology for waste disposal proposed by Summit BioFuels, which reduces or eliminates the need for an ash landfill by producing compost and soil amendment that could be sold. A video about the new process is on CRRA's Web site at http://www.crra.org/pages/mid-conn_special_committee.htm.

Mr. Kirk said to date the Summit BioFuels initiative does not appear to promise sufficient cost savings to be worthwhile. Ms. Raymond said CRRA has requested pro-forma financials for a 50,000-tons per year plant that could be used as a demonstration project. Mr. Gingerich noted Summit BioFuels has not yet built a plant in a cold climate.

Mr. Barlow pointed out there could be problems with the compost the process produces due to the possibility it may contain toxins.

Ms. Currey asked how long other Summing BioFuels plants had been in operation. Ms. Raymond said a test facility began operating in Tel Aviv, Israel, in 2001.

Mr. Wawruck left the meeting at 3:29 p.m.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Before adjourning, the committee decided to cancel its February meeting.

The committee agreed to adjourn at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Nonnenmacher
Director of Public Affairs