

## **1. Catalyzing Jobs and Economic Development**

### **1.A. Recycled content in procurement practices**

Expand on existing requirements for state agencies to incorporate recycled content materials into procurement practices, working with the agencies and outside expertise [e.g., federal environmentally preferable procurement guidelines] to develop best practices.

### **1.B. DECD/CT Innovations**

DECD/CI should work with an industry-based knowledge base organization to create incentives that are available to attract, retain, and develop recycling-dependent businesses and jobs concordant with proper allocation of assets.

### **1.C. Conduct a Recycling Economic Information Study to Quantify Industry Value**

A Recycling Economic Information (REI) Study should be conducted to identify and quantify recycling and recycling-based industries in Connecticut, including re-use, repair, re-manufacturing industries, and quantify the value of such industries to the Connecticut economy.

## **2. Reduce Burden on Municipalities**

### **2.A. Promote Product Stewardship**

Continue to promote product stewardship principles and practices that create opportunities for development of infrastructure and jobs, starting with the top five priority materials (i.e., mattresses, carpet, batteries, pesticides/fertilizer, and packaging) as determined by Product Stewardship stakeholder group.

### **2.B. Licensing and/or Registration of Haulers**

License and/or register haulers/collectors at a state or regional level rather than municipal level. Clarify definition of who qualifies as a "collector".

### **2.C. Simplify & Improve Reporting Requirements**

Simplify and improve reporting requirements:

- Move to web-based reporting system by December 31, 2013;
- Eliminate current annual municipal reporting;
- Require permitted MSW and recyclables processing facilities to electronically report monthly to DEEP by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Strive to make data available real time to the public;
- As staffing resources become freed up with the conversion to a web-based reporting system, reallocate resources to focus on enforcement.

## **2.D. More Efficient Collection**

Trash and recyclables collection should be more efficient for municipalities where multiple haulers service the same residential areas. Consider franchising for collection of new curbside materials such as organics. Trash and organics recyclables collection should be organized based on regional and/or geographical efficiencies that lower collection costs and maintain flexibility in collection.

## **2.E. Implement Unit-Based Pricing**

Implement transparent pricing/billing for disposal through a unit-based pricing system, which decouples solid waste disposal costs from property taxes. Possible implementation options include: Incentivized from 2013-2015, and mandatory by 2017. We recommend that beginning in 2013 and continuing for a two-year term, DEEP provide technical (and financial) assistance in implementation. Towns not using unit-based pricing or meeting 58% diversion by 2017 (or not meeting 500/600 pounds per person disposal) may be subject to an increased/additional Solid Waste Assessment. We note that switching the pricing system must be all inclusive, for example, both curbside and transfer station if have mix of collection system in that town. It is also recommended that municipalities consider creating a dedicated enterprise fund to handle materials management-related finances.

## **2.F. Phased regional collaboration**

We recommend that we offer municipalities a regional solid waste management option by encouraging municipalities to form and join standardized regional solid waste management authorities no later than 2020. It is important to understand that by regionalizing we can achieve economies of scale and other efficiencies.

# **3. Invest in Stable and Diverse Infrastructure**

## **3.A. Expand Capacity and Performance of Construction and Demolition Facilities**

Expand the capacity of and improve performance standards for Construction and Demolition (C&D) facilities, principally through private facilities that recover for reuse and recycling to significantly increase diversion.

## **3.B. Incentivize organics composting and/or AD facilities**

Increase the number of organics composting and/or anaerobic digestion (AD) to significantly increase diversion of organic materials. Options may include CEFIA funding, customized permits, and clarified definitions to simplify and streamline permitting process for this Class 1 Renewable Energy source.

### **3.C. Separation of residential organic waste**

When viable and sustainable organic recycling infrastructure is developed, affordable residential composting diversion goals will be established with municipal and regional cooperation.

### **3.D. Increase Solid Waste Assessment**

No recommendation to increase current Solid Waste Assessment from \$1.50 per ton.

### **3.E. Update Solid Waste Assessment**

Update solid waste assessment fee applied to **all** non-recycled MSW effective July 1, 2013 unless the state meets a certain pounds per person disposal rate. This includes MSW transferred for energy recovery at out-of-state waste to energy facilities or MSW disposed at land disposal facilities. Recommend mandating reuse and recycling of construction and demolition (C&D) materials.

### **3.F. Infrastructure Development Bank**

An infrastructure development bank should be created (or expanded) to leverage private financing of materials recovery and energy recovery facilities while creating jobs. Options include:

- New bank focused only on materials management;
- Merge with or expand existing bank (e.g., CEFIA) to include materials management investment;
- State investment through a self-perpetuating revolving loan fund.

### **3.G. Address difficult waste streams and repurpose closed landfills**

Improve management of difficult to manage solid wastes. Develop beneficial use regulations to reflect that materials beneficially used are regulated as commodities rather than as disposed solid waste. Consider re-purposing one or more closed or closing landfills to provide capacity for difficult to manage wastes.