Notice of Scoping for Regional Composting Facility and Recycling Infrastructure

Addresses of possible locations: 38 Maple Street, Kent, CT 06757; 55 South Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877

Municipalities where proposed actions might be located: Town of Kent and Town of Ridgefield

Project Description: Utilizing a grant award from the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) through its MMI Grant Program, the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRA) proposes to site an in-vessel composting unit at the Kent transfer station where food scraps are collected. The in-vessel unit will be solar powered. HRRA believes that municipalities can create a closed-loop sustainable composting system to manage food waste locally, reducing the carbon footprint of offsite disposal and contributing to the waste diversion goals of the state. On behalf of Kent, the HRRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-HRRA member communities to bring their material for processing therefore expanding the municipalities being served beyond HRRA. In addition, food scraps collected from the satellite metroSTOR containers in the Northern HRRA region will be transported to the Kent transfer station, rather than trucking to more distant processing facilities. This infrastructure will improve, expand, and provide waste reduction for organics management services to this part of the region and beyond. In addition, this will significantly reduce the carbon footprint of food scraps collection and reduce the operating cost to the Town.

HRRA also proposes site upgrades at the Ridgefield HRRA Regional Transfer Station that will enable the facility to significantly increase waste collection capacity by expanding the volume and types of waste diverted from the MSW waste stream. These upgrades will make possible designated collection areas for construction and demolition and MSW bulky waste materials, establishing a new regional Reuse Exchange Shop for reusable bulky waste and C&D, expansion of programs for food scraps, cooking oil, plastic film, existing EPR programs for e-waste, mattresses and paint, planned EPR programs for cylinders and tires, and housing a plastic film baler and bales which will support new regional plastic film collection points within the HRRA region.

Project Maps: Click here and here to view the maps of the project locations.

Written comments from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the close of business on: **Friday, June 28, 2025.**

Additional information about the project can be viewed in person at 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT and online at: MMI Grant Program Page

Written comments and/or requests for a public scoping meeting should be sent to

Name: Michael T. Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

If you have questions about the scoping for this project, contact:

Name: Michael T. Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Phone: 860-424-3530

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

Inquiries and requests to view and or copy documents, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, must be submitted to the sponsoring state agency:

Name: Michael T. Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

What Happens Next: The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will make a determination whether to proceed with preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) or that the project does not require the preparation of an EIE under the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA). A Post-Scoping Notice of its decision will appear in a future edition of the *Environmental Monitor*.