



NEWSLETTER

Municipal Review Committee | 395 State Street | Ellsworth, ME 04605 | www.MRCMaine.org

ISSUE 6.3 | October 2017

Letter from Executive Director Greg Louder

With the Fiberright processing facility construction well underway, tracking local weather has taken on a new meaning for the MRC. Unseasonably warm late summer weather has cooperated well with the construction crew's efforts to prepare the site for foundation placement, all which is on track to be complete by or before the end of October. The brilliant display of fall foliage color and the chill in the evening air serves to remind us that weather change is coming and construction progress needs to continue nevertheless.

The next major construction phase beginning in November is the erection and enclosure of the facility steel building, which, mother nature and other factors allowing, is scheduled to be complete by mid-December. This will make way for the installation of the front-end materials recovery processing equipment as soon as possible before the winter solstice. All involved are keenly aware of the importance of getting facility processing equipment installed, commissioned and started up in time to accept and process Joining Member MSW by Monday, April 2, 2018.

Based upon feedback received from a number of Joining Members at the October 4-5 MMA Convention, interest is focused clearly on facility construction progress and the ability of the facility to accept and process MSW by April 2, 2018. This feedback has focused the content of this newsletter as we report on repurposing of the MRC website and preparation steps to consider for the transition to the new facility in April of 2018. As the pace to the new facility commercial operation phase quickens, MRC is also committed to providing you more frequent and in-depth updates from this point forward.

MRC continues its work with all involved to ensure that the Fiberright processing and recycling facility is available to process our MSW as completely as possible as soon as possible. Weather, among other factors, will play a role. Whatever the weather, on behalf of the MRC

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday, October 25
9 AM: Finance Committee Meeting
10 AM: Regular Board of Directors Meeting
Orono Municipal Building
59 Main Street, Orono

ABOUT THE MRC

The Municipal Review Committee (MRC) is a non-profit association of Maine communities led by an elected, volunteer board of directors. For more than 25 years, the member communities of the MRC, now numbering more than 180 cities and towns, have used the PERC waste-to-energy incinerator in Orrington to process their municipal solid waste (MSW). After 2018, the contracts with PERC will expire. The MRC has partnered with Fiberright to offer an innovative solution to recycle and process our MSW post 2018.

Visit www.mrcmaine.org or contact Greg Louder at 207-664-1700 or glouder@mrcmaine.org to learn more about the Municipal Review Committee and to add your name to our email contact list.

JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST & FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

MRC regularly sends updates and announcements by email to those who have signed up for our alerts. We also have active Facebook and Twitter accounts, and we've posted informative videos from recent meetings on our YouTube account. All of these are accessible from the homepage of our website, mrcmaine.org.



Site Progress

Rapid progress is being made at the site; concrete has been poured, and the road is in. **Success is just around the bend!**



Election Underway for New Board Members

The last day for nominations of new members of the Board of Directors is Wednesday, October 18. Candidates receiving the three highest numbers of votes in the upcoming election will fill three seats whose terms expire on December 31, 2017 currently held by Sophia Wilson, Jim Guerra, and Mike Roy. The three-year terms of office will run from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020.

The year 2018 represents a significant transition for MRC member communities. The majority of the MRC member communities chose to remain with the MRC and sign a long-term commitment to MSW disposal at Fiberight. Other member communities have made alternative arrangements. Consistent with the MRC Bylaws, all MRC member communities are eligible to present nominations to the Board of Directors and to cast votes in the upcoming annual election. However, it is prudent to consider the eligibility criteria for serving on the Board of Directors. Elected individuals must be an elected or appointed official, an employee, or legal resident of a Member Community. Thus, any person from a current Member Community that did not commit to MRC/Fiberight would be obligated to notify the MRC Board on April 1, 2018 (3 months thru a 3-year term) that they cease to meet the eligibility criteria. Upon receipt of such notice, the MRC Board, in its discretion, could remove such director.

The MRC Bylaws limit the slate of candidates to the first nine nominations received. Nominees are placed on a slate of candidates for election by a vote of the MRC membership. MRC Board members are elected to serve the membership at large. Current MRC Board members whose terms expire are eligible to be nominated.

An annual election ballot with the final slate of candidates will be prepared and mailed to all MRC Members on or before October 27, 2017. The results of the election will be announced at the MRC Annual Meeting to be held in the second or third week of December 2017.



MRC Supports #MaineRecyclesWeek

November 13th through 18th is Maine Recycles Week (MRW), a statewide event that promotes recycling and the purchase of recycled goods. Use #MaineRecyclesWeek to help build social media awareness on the week. The goal is to educate Maine people on the practice as well as the importance of recycling and the solid waste hierarchy. Schools, municipalities, and businesses are all encouraged to participate in MRW by holding recycling related events. If you're interested in more information go to www.mainerecycles.com or call Shelby Wright of the MRRRA at **592-6432** to learn about how you can help raise public awareness on this important topic.

MRC Website Changes

With the new facility coming in 2018, the MRC is taking steps to redesign its website. Our goal is to improve the site to make it more intuitive and easier for members and the public to find information without having to search through a document landfill (excuse the pun). We will finalize our contract with our website development partner at the MRC Board Meeting later this month. The MRC is seeking ideas and suggestions on how to improve the website. We would love to know what you would like to see. Please send comments to Jessica Anderson at janderson@ces-maine.com.

Joining Members: Are you ready for April 2018?

Ten things to do in preparation for changes in Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) management on April 1, 2018:

- Ensure your hauler knows where to take the MSW you receive and transfer or arrange to have collected and transferred. (I-95 Exit 180, turn south onto Coldbrook Road for about one-half of a mile and turn onto Fiberight Access Road at 348 Coldbrook Road).
- Be familiar with requirements of your Joinder Agreement regarding MSW delivery practices, requirements (what is Acceptable Waste v Unacceptable Waste) and schedules and ensure your hauler is familiar with them.
- Ensure that haulers, businesses and institutions are familiar with any local flow control regulations directing MSW to be delivered to the new Hampden facility.
- Encourage businesses and institutions in your community to direct MSW they generate to the new Hampden facility consistent with your community's Estimated Delivery Amount.
- Clarify, amend or replace MSW collection and hauling contracts consistent with the above.
- Amend or replace solid waste licensing procedures, rules or ordinances to be consistent with the above.
- Communicate local changes! If you plan significant changes for MSW or recyclables collection, transfer and hauling, let the MRC know.
- Prepare now to take advantage of single stream recyclables processing in Hampden. If you arrange for the collection and transfer of or arrange for the receipt and transfer of single-sort recyclables separately from your MSW, manage your contracts to ensure you can direct the collected material to the Fiberight facility as of April 1, 2018.
- Watch those hard-to-manage wastes! Our new arrangements allow for MSW to be delivered to the new facility consistent with historical practice. If you need help managing materials that cannot be accepted, let the MRC know. As we gain operational experience with the new facility, be open to exploring whether certain items, such as tires, glass, and textiles can be managed more efficiently than being delivered to the new facility.
- If you are an Equity Charter Municipality, exercise your option to sell your position in the PERC partnership and get the paperwork to the MRC before December 8, 2017.

MRC AT MMA

Thank you to everyone who stopped by our booth at the

MMA Convention on October 4 & 5 at the Augusta Civic Center. The feedback received focused our reporting efforts about the start of the Fiberight facility construction.



If you have questions about any of the above, or anything not listed above, contact Greg Louder, Executive Director of the MRC, at (207) 664-1700 or glouder@mrcmaine.org.

Continued from pg. 1... Board and myself, we will be here as your resource to support a smooth transition to the new facility, including the management and execution of any interim delivery arrangements should they become necessary.

Sincerely yours,

Greg