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Memorandum

To: Nick Zaic, Cynthia Browning, Stu Hurd, Rob Gaiotti, John O'Keefe, Mark Lourie, Tom Shuey, Karen Dzialo, Chris Reynolds, Dave Kiernan, Nancy Bushika, Dixie Zens and Ryan Thurber

From: Michael S. Batcher

Cc: Jim Sullivan, Andrea Lenhardt, Susan Wright, Paula Kamperman

Subject: Increases in Household Hazardous Waste/Conditionally Exempt Generator Collection costs

Date: November 15, 2021

Our household hazardous waste/conditionally exempt generator waste vendor, US Ecology Burlington, informed me, as well as their other client solid waste management entities for whom they collect, that costs for next year are increasing dramatically. The reasons for these increases are:

- Labor: Labor costs are increasing. In order to staff the events, US Ecology has to pull staff from Albany, NY, Massena, NY, Franklin, MA and Portsmouth, NH.
- Transportation: Transportation rates have increased for both box trucks and tractor trailers.
- Supplies: US Ecology expects that the costs of gloves, poly sheeting, Tyvek suits, poly bags, duct tape, and other supplies will continue to increase significantly.

Table 1 below provides a comparison of the actual costs of each of the three events we held in 2021 with projected costs from US Ecology for 2022. These costs include:

- Disposal Costs: Costs to dispose of the various materials, based on an average increase from 2021 to 2022 of 13%.
- Setup Costs: Costs of US Ecology for staffing, materials, and other costs to hold an event.
- EIS fee: Energy and Insurance fee. Covers fluctuation in diesel pricing and insurance costs. A blanket 13% added to invoice for all US Ecology customers across North America. The fee in 2021 was 11%.

- **E Manifest Fee:** Cost to electronically submit manifests to the EPA. Currently the fee is \$20.00 from US Ecology, but next year the cost may increase to \$40.00.
- **DOT Approved Container:** This is a drum, pail, cubic yard box or other container that is certified to carry hazardous materials. All the contains (with the exception of the PaintCare boxes) are DOT/United Nations approved. PaintCare boxes have an exemption from the UN/DOT regulations. The total cost depends on the number of containers used.

As you can see, I have projected the total costs for all three events to increase from the actual 2021 cost of \$67,103.61 to an estimated \$88,162.05 in 2022 or 31.4%. As a major caveat, I used the total invoiced costs from 2021 and multiplied them by the average increases for disposal. EIS fees are based on the total invoice. Therefore, it is likely that the costs could be larger than I have estimated, depending on exactly what materials are collected. Setup fees are fixed per event and depend largely on the size and number of staff needed. Both the Bennington and Dorset events continue to attract more households each year and need well-staffed crews.

The costs in Table 1 would apply to all three events, but Dorset and Readsboro will occur in FY 2022 to 2023. I would suggest you factor in the additional costs in the budget the board adopted this past October. Table 2 below shows a revised total budget and the allocation per town.

Table 1. Comparison of 2021 HHW/CEG collection costs by event with projected 2022 costs from US Ecology

	Bennington	Dorset	Readsboro	Grand Totals
2021				
Disposal Costs	\$ 21,756.88	\$ 10,046.28	\$ 4,282.52	\$36,085.68
Set-up Costs	\$ 10,250.00	\$ 7,400.00	\$ 5,200.00	\$22,850.00
EIS Fee (11%)	\$ 3,636.26	\$ 1,960.34	\$ 1,051.33	\$ 6,647.93
DOT Approval	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 1,500.00
E Manifest Fee	\$ 20.00			
Total	\$ 36,713.14	\$ 19,781.62	\$ 10,608.85	\$67,103.61
2022				
Disposal Costs	\$ 24,585.27	\$ 11,352.30	\$ 4,839.25	\$40,776.82
Set-up Costs	\$ 15,950.00	\$ 12,650.00	\$ 7,125.00	\$35,725.00
EIS Fee (13%)	\$ 5,406.09	\$ 3,169.05	\$ 1,565.10	\$10,140.24
DOT Approval	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 1,500.00
E Manifest Fee	\$ 20.00			
Total	\$ 47,011.36	\$ 27,546.34	\$ 13,604.35	\$88,162.05
Difference				
Disposal Costs	\$ 2,828.39	\$ 1,306.02	\$ 556.73	\$ 4,691.14
Set-up Costs	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 5,250.00	\$ 1,925.00	\$12,875.00
EIS Fee	\$ 1,769.83	\$ 1,208.71	\$ 513.77	\$ 3,492.31
DOT Approval	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Table 1. Comparison of 2021 HHW/CEG collection costs by event with projected 2022 costs from US Ecology

	Bennington	Dorset	Readsboro	Grand Totals
E Manifest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 10,298.22	\$ 7,764.72	\$ 2,995.50	\$21,058.44
Percentage Change				
Disposal Costs	13.0%	13.0%	13.0%	13.0%
Set-up Costs	55.6%	70.9%	37.0%	56.3%
EIS Fee	48.7%	61.7%	48.9%	52.5%
DOT Approval	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
E Manifest	0.0%			
% Difference of Total	28.1%	39.3%	28.2%	31.4%

Table 2. Revised 2022 to 2023 budget

Town	2020 Population	Share (2020 census)	2022 to 2023 budget adopted October 2021	Revised 2022 to 2022 with new HHW costs ¹
Arlington	2,457	0.0707	\$ 14,793.98	\$ 16,031.23
Bennington	15,333	0.4412	\$ 92,321.10	\$100,042.10
Dorset	2,133	0.0614	\$ 12,847.95	\$ 13,922.45
Glastenbury	9	0.0003	\$ 62.78	\$ 68.03
Manchester	4,484	0.129	\$ 26,993.25	\$ 29,250.75
Pownal	3,258	0.0937	\$ 19,606.73	\$ 21,246.48
Rupert	698	0.0201	\$ 4,205.93	\$ 4,557.68
Sandgate	387	0.0111	\$ 2,322.68	\$ 2,516.93
Searsburg	126	0.0036	\$ 753.30	\$ 816.30
Shaftsbury	3,598	0.1035	\$ 21,657.38	\$ 23,468.63
Stamford	861	0.0248	\$ 5,189.40	\$ 5,623.40
Sunderland	1,056	0.0304	\$ 6,361.20	\$ 6,893.20
Woodford	355	0.0102	\$ 2,134.35	\$ 2,312.85
Total	34,755	1.0000	\$209,250.00	\$226,750.00

For your information, here is the event schedule that we have agreed to with US Ecology. All dates have to be confirmed with the sites.

Bennington (Mt. Anthony Union Middle School) – May 7, 2022
 Searsburg and Stamford (Readsboro AOT Facility) – July 23, 2022
 Dorset (Dorset School) – September 17, 2022

¹ I used \$90,000.00 for HHW contractors keeping other costs for staff time and advertising the same.