

December 4, 2024

ATTN: Edith Pestana Office of Equity and Environmental Justice Office of the Commissioner Department of Energy and Environmental Protection 79 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106/5127

Re: Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan Final Report

Dear Edith,

Please find attached the following items for submission as SCRRRA's Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan Report, regarding the construction of a regional composting facility on SCRRRA's property at 132 Military Hwy (Rt 12), Preston, CT:

- 1. Letter of Tentative Approval
- 2. Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan
- 3. Proof that the Statute's requirements have been satisfied:
 - a. Affidavit of Publication of public notice from the Norwich Bulletin
 - b. Screenshots of public notices published electronically
 - c. Image of public notice sign posted on property
 - d. Summary of public meeting with link to video recording, PowerPoint slides, attendance sign-in sheet, and audio transcript

Thank you for your help and support throughout this process, and for your consideration of this report.

Sincerely,

David Aldridge Executive Director

> Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority 7 Hurlbutt Road Suite O · Gales Ferry, CT 06335 (860) 381-5558 · www.SCRRA.org



portal.ct.gov/DEEP

September 27, 2024

Mr. David Aldridge, Executive Director
The Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)
7 Hurlbutt Rd., Ste. O
Gales Ferry, CT 06335

Re: Tentative Approval of the Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan – SCRRRA Regional Compost Facility - 123 Military Highway (Rt 12), Preston, CT

Dear Mr. Aldridge:

The Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan for the SCRRRA compost volume reduction facility permit was received on August 20, 2024, and revised on September 24, 2024. A review of the public outreach and engagement information submitted in Parts I, II, III and IV satisfy the requirements under Sec. 22a-20a of the Connecticut General Statutes and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Environmental Equity Policy. The date, time and meeting location were confirmed with the Office of Equity and Environmental Justice staff. The Public Information meeting will take place on November 25, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the facility located at the SCRRRA Office at 7 Hurlbutt Road, Gales Ferry. Notice of the meeting will be published in the Norwich Bulletin on November 4, 2024.

The Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan is Tentatively Approved.

Sincerely,

Edith Pestana (electronic signature)

Edith Pestana, MPH

cc. Elizabeth Chuff, Operations Manager Kevin Clements

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer





September 24, 2024

ATTN: Edith Pestana Office of Equity and Environmental Justice Office of the Commissioner Department of Energy and Environmental Protection 79 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Re: Revisions to SCRRRA's Compost Facility EJ Participation Plan

Dear Edith:

Attached please find the Authority's revisions reflecting your review and notations of deficiencies. We have incorporated these revisions in red italics to assist in locating and confirming their inclusion.

The public informational meeting to be held on Monday, November 25th at 6:00 PM will be a robust presentation including SCS Engineers, a PowerPoint presentation, and large format engineered drawings so that the attendees may grasp the full scope of our proposal.

We appreciate your review and notations per the correspondence of September 13, 2024, and look forward to the receipt of a letter of approval.

Sincerely.

David Aldridge Executive Director daldridge@scrrra.org

Elizabeth Chuff Operations Manager echuff@scrrra.org

CC: Winston Averill, Regional Recycling Coordinator, SCRRRA Kevin Clements, WEED, CT DEEP

> Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority 7 Hurlbutt Road · Gales Ferry, CT 06335 (860) 381-5558 · www.SCRRRA.org



Date: September 13, 2024

From: Edith Pestana, EJ Program Admin.

To: Elizabeth Chuff, Operations Manager, Southeastern Connecticut Regional Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)

RE: SCRRA Compost Facility Draft Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan Deficiencies:

Part II: Informal Public Meeting Requirements:

Provide the date and time of the public meeting: Monday, November 25, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

Part II B. (1)

1. Date the notice will be published in the Norwich Bulletin Monday, November 4, 2024

2. Provide the digital/website media sites where the meeting announcement, EJ Public Participation Plan and video recording of public meeting will be posted.

- SCRRRA website: <u>www.scrrra.org</u>
- SCRRRA Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/SCRRRA</u>
- SCRRRA Instagram: www.instagram.com/SCRRRAsocial
- SCRRRA LinkedIn: <u>www.linkedin.com/company/SCRRRA</u>
- Town of Preston website: <u>www.preston-ct.orq</u>
- These posts will also provide instructions for the public to access the Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan and video recording of the public meeting on the SCRRRA website, in addition to all other related public records, at www.scrrra.org/about/public-records.

Part II B. (page 3 of 7) For new permits and facilities only (subsection (b) (3))

Circle and/or visually outline the facility property boundaries on the Map of the Town of Preston and the Town of Preston Assessment Parcel Map - See supporting documents.

Provide the following information on proposed operations:

1. Expected volume of waste to be handled/ processed per day/per month: SCRRRA expects an estimated 1,000 tons of food scraps in the first year. The system shown on the plans can manage about 5,000 tons of food scrap and 7,500 tons of wood chips per year.





2. Number of trucks per day: During the first year, food scrap deliveries may be limited to certain days of the week. About 5 truckloads of food scraps per week will be delivered in the first year, and wood chip deliveries will be about 1-2 trucks per week.

- 3. Days of the week the facility will be in operations: Monday Friday
- 4. Hours per day: 8:00 AM 5:00 PM
- 5. Site Plan showing proposed facility design, buildings, truck entrance, etc. *See supporting documents.*
- **1. Identify the potential environmental and health impacts** by providing a description of how SCRRA will respond, address, and or manage the following public concerns:
 - Will there be signs posting the 3-minute Idling law? <u>https://portal.ct.gov/deep/air/mobile-sources/anti-idling/anti-idling---compliance-and-enforcement</u> <u>and-enforcement</u> Yes, an 18" x 24" highway sign reflecting the 3-minute idling law will be posted at the entrance to the receiving building.
 - Truck traffic study trucks driving through residential areas may be a noise, odor and vibration nuisance. Noise from truck traffic will be minimal due to the limited number of trucks delivering materials. All truck traffic will proceed along the state highway (Route 12) and into the access road (Brewster Road) for both the neighboring ReWorld (formerly Covanta) and the proposed composting facility. There is very limited residential development along Route 12 in the vicinity of the proposed facility.

Cc: David Aldridge, Executive Director, SCRRRA

Kevin Clements, CT DEEP



Building a Regional Composting Facility for Southeastern Connecticut

Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan

Revised: September 24, 2024

Prepared by:

The Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA) 7 Hurlbutt Rd. Ste. O Gales Ferry, CT 06335 (860) 381-5558 www.scrrra.org

SCS Engineers 4 Executive Blvd. Suffern, NY (845) 357-1510 www.scsengineers.com



Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan

Before an applicant files a permit application with the Department, the applicant must submit an Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan (the "Plan") and receive approval for **any affecting facility**, in accordance with <u>section 22a-20a of the Connecticut General Statutes</u> (CGS), *that is proposed to be located or expanded in an* <u>environmental justice community</u>. For definitions and further guidance on the underlying EJ statute, please refer to the Department's <u>Environmental Justice Guidance Document</u>.

If a Plan is required for your project, please complete and submit this form to the addresses indicated at the end of this form.

Once the Department has **tentatively approved** a Plan, the applicant is responsible for fully implementing that Plan. Before the Department issues a Notice of Tentative Determination, the applicant must submit a final report, documenting the implementation of the Plan and receiving Department **Approval**. If any of the information changes that is to be supplied in this form, or in the tentatively approved Plan, the applicant must contact the Office of Equity and Environmental Justice to determine if the initial Plan must be amended.

Please label all supporting documents to correspond with the outline provided in this document, e.g., "Part II A: Project Summary".

Note:

- 1. All submitted plans will be made publicly available.
- 2. All citations herein are to CGS § 22a-20a, Connecticut's Environmental Justice statute. This form is designed to guide applicants in preparing a public participation plan. Applicants should refer to the appropriate statutes and regulations for more detail. It is the applicants' responsibility to obtain and comply with all relevant state, federal, and local laws.
- 3. This form is now in Version 2.0, last edited in January 2024. DEEP welcomes feedback on the usability of the form.

Part I: Proposed Applicant Information

1.	APPLICANT INFORMATION			
	Applicant: Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)			
	Mailing Address: 7 Hurlbutt Rd. Suite O			
	City/Town: Gales Ferry	State: CT	Zip Code: 06335	
	Business Phone: 860-381-5558	ext.		
	Contact Person: David Aldridge	Phone: 860-3	81-5558 ext. 201	
	Email: daldridge@scrrra.org			
Applicant (check one): individual company federal agency, state agency			state agency	\boxtimes
	municipality			
	 If a company, list company type (e.g., corporation, limited partnership, etc.): Check if any co-applicants. If so, attach additional sheet(s) with the required information as requested above. 			
				ested

Part I: Proposed Applicant Information (continued)

2.	. WILL YOUR PERMIT APPLICATION INVOLVE: (check one):					
	A new facility	🗌 A new p	permit	🗌 An	expansion o	f a facility
3.	FACILITY NAME AND LOCATION					
	Name of facility: SCRRRA Compost Facility					
	Street Address or Location Description: 132 Military Hwy (Rt 12)					
	City/Town: Preston		State:	СТ	Zip Code:	06365
	Tax Assessor's Reference: Map 74	Block 12	Lot 132			

Part II: Informal Public Meeting Requirements

Complete this part, identifying the time and place of the proposed informal meeting required by subsection (b)(2) and the methods that will be used to publicize it. Please note that, pursuant to subsection (b)(6), the Department cannot take any action on the applicant's permit earlier than sixty days after the informal public meeting takes place.

A. Identify Date, Time, and Place of Informal Public Meeting

Identify a date, time, and place where an informal public meeting will be held. These proposals must take into consideration the convenience of the residents of the affected environmental justice community (subsection (b)(2)). Be sure to confirm the **date**, **time**, **and place** of the meeting with the Office of Equity and Environmental Justice (860-424-3044 or edith.pestana@ct.gov).

- Approximate Date: Monday, November 25, 2024
- Place: SCRRRA Office, 7 Hurlbutt Road, Gales Ferry, CT
- Time: 6:00 PM

To ensure an effective public meeting, the following is required by the law in subsection (b)(2): schedule meetings at convenient times (i.e., evenings) and locations for community members; Best practices also include: (1) announcing the meeting through community channels, such as church bulletins, local papers and radio broadcasts; (2) announcing meetings in common languages (e.g., Spanish radio or newspaper); (3) providing documentation and speakers in the appropriate languages other than English, if necessary; (4) providing information regarding applicable laws (state and local) with the appropriate contacts.

Provide easy to understand information to community members. Respond to all comments. Be direct, open and honest regarding the expectations and limitations of the proposed facility.

Refer to Part III of this form for information to be presented at the meeting.

В.	lde	dentify Communication Methods by Which to Publicize the Public Meeting		
	1.	. At a minimum, applicants are required to publish notice of the date, time, and nature of the informal public meeting (subsection (b)(4)).		
	 Name of newspaper(s): Norwich Bulletin 			
		• 1	Date(s) notice will be published: Monday, November 4, 2024	
		By law, the notice must be a minimum one-quarter page advertisement in a newspaper having general circulation in the area affected and any other appropriate local newspaper serving such a area, in the Monday issue of a daily publication or any day in a weekly or monthly publication and must include information on how an interested person may review project documents, including a complete needs assessment, alternatives assessment, and environmental impact analysis, as applicable (subsection (b)(4)). In addition, we suggest that a notice should be published in English, Spanish and other prominent language newspapers and media in circulation in the city or town. Contact the Office of Equity ar Environmental Justice at 860-424-3044 for more information on appropriate local and general circulation newspapers. See also attached notice template.		
		The notice must be published not less than 10 days prior to and no more than 30 days prior to the informal public meeting (subsection (b)(4)).		
	2. Other required communication includes (per subsection (b)(2)),		er required communication includes (per subsection (b)(2)),	
			posting a sign on the subject property in English and all other languages spoken by at least 15 percent of the population that reside within a one-half mile radius of the subject facility, subject to any local regulations and ordinances.	
			written notification to all local (alderman, council members etc.) and state elected officials, identified in accordance with Part III. C.1. of this document.	
		posting on electronic media including, but not limited to, the applicant's website, relevant internet websites and social media platforms, provided such notice is readily found by searching for the name of the affecting facility on the Internet (subsections (b)(2) and (b)(4)		
		For ne	ew permits and facilities only (subsection (b)(3)):	
		\boxtimes	Not less than 30 days prior to the public meeting, the written notice is mailed to all residents within 1/2-mile radius of the proposed affecting facility must include the following:	
			Date, time, and location of the meeting.	
			Description of proposed affecting facility.	
			Map including the location of the affecting facility.	
			Information on how interested person may review project documents.	
			Addresses for mailed and internet-based submission of written public comments.	
			The applicant shall provide such notice in writing in all languages spoken by not less than fifteen per cent of the population that resides within such one-half-mile radius of the proposed or existing affecting facility.	

3. Additional communication methods may include the following:			
		written notification to neighborhood and environmental groups—identified in accordance with Part III. C.2. of this document—in English and other languages appropriate for the target audience;	
		Other communication methods:	
		Please specify:	

Part II: Informal Public Meeting Requirements (continued)

Part III: Measures to Facilitate Meaningful Public Participation

At a minimum, each of the following measures must be completed and submitted with this Plan. Please label all supporting documents to correspond with the outline provided in this document, e.g., "Part III A: Identification of Proposed Facility or Proposed Expansion of a Facility".

Α.	Identification of Proposed Facility or Proposed Expansion of a Facility		
	1. 🛛	Identify the potential environmental and health impacts of such facility or the expansion of such facility, i.e., increased air emissions, water discharges, material management issues, etc.	
	2. 🛛	Identify permits and general permits needed for the project by completing the <u>Permit Checklist</u> (DEEP-APP-001A). It is important to complete the Checklist thoroughly to identify to the public what types of Department permits may be needed for such a facility.	
	3🖂	Identify efforts to mitigate the potential environmental and health impacts of such facility.	
	4🖂	Identify any pollution control measures associated with the project.	
	5	Describe the location of the proposed facility with respect to residents and other community members (e.g., schools, parks, where people live, work etc.), including vehicle traffic patterns, noise, hours of operation and proximity to sensitive receptors, which could cause concerns in the community.	
В.	Identifi	cation of Impacted Community	
	1. 🛛	Identify potentially impacted community (e.g., local neighborhood and religious institutions, schools and sensitive receptors such as day care centers and clinics and hospitals, local businesses, community-based organizations and environmental organizations).	
	2. 🛛	Identify community's demographics including age, income, language, population, race/ethnicity, and economic status.	
		Efforts should be made to identify and discuss social and economic conditions as well as the cultural basis for some of the community's concerns and needs.	
	3. 🖂	Identify community(s) planned and existing types of development.	
		Maps may be used to provide information on related environmental considerations. Keep in mind that communities may define themselves in non-geographic ways using cultural and social terms (e.g., retirement center, parks, places of worship, social clubs, etc.). In any given area there may also be multiple overlapping communities and interests.	

Part III: Measures to Facilitate Meaningful Public Participation (continued)

At a minimum, each of the following measures must be completed and submitted with this Plan. Please label all supporting documents to correspond with the outline provided in this document,

C.	C. Identification of Individuals/Groups to Seek and Notify				
	1. Notify town(s) officials in which the affecting facility is proposed to be located or expanded. At a minimum, identify the following:				
	Chief elected official of the applicable municipality: See Supporting Documents				
	City Council and/or Board of Alderman members: See Supporting Documents				
	State representative of the applicable municipality: See Supporting Documents				
	State senator of the applicable municipality: See Supporting Documents				
	Check other individual/groups to notify.				
	local building official.				
	☑ the zoning enforcement officials.				
	∑ local health officials; and				
	\boxtimes any local environmental commission, committee, or officials.				
	For information on municipal officials, please refer to the latest edition of the "State of Connecticu Register and Manual" (<u>https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Register-Manual/Register-Manual/Connecticut-</u> <u>State-RegisterManual</u>), or contact municipal offices.				
	2. Identify the following to notify abutting property owners, neighborhood residents, community leaders, (neighborhood and religious leaders, block watch captains, etc.), key community members; environmental commissions; civic organizations (e.g. Chamber of Commerce); local businesses; environmental justice leaders and organizations; and neighborhood groups.				
	For assistance in obtaining environmental justice and other local contacts in the geographic area of interest, contact the Office of Equity and Environmental Justice at 860-424-3044 or <u>edith.pestana@ct.gov</u> .				
	3. Other (please specify):				
D.	Proposed Outreach Efforts				
	Identify proposed outreach efforts which will be implemented, in addition to the required informal public meeting required covered by Part II of this document.				
	Check proposed outreach efforts as applicable:				
	media outreach (e.g., sign, newspapers, radio, including Spanish language media). Include a copy of the planned publication or broadcast. For a list of alternative media, contact the <i>Office of Equity and Environmental Justice</i> at 860-424-3044 or <u>edith.pestana@ct.gov</u> .				
	open house; facility tours				
	meetings with neighborhood and community leaders, residents, business, etc.				
	Other (please specify):				
E.	Identify Other Measures, if applicable:				

Part IV: Certification

The proposed applicant *and* the individual(s) responsible for actually preparing the Plan must sign the following Certification. Refer to the <u>Environmental Justice Guidance Document</u>. for information on who should sign the certification. An application will be considered incomplete unless all required signatures are provided. If the applicant is the preparer, please mark "applicant" in the spaces provided for the preparer.

"I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto, and I certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of the individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
I understand that a false statement in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense, in accordance with section 22a-6 of the General Statutes, pursuant to section 53a-157b of the General Statutes, and in accordance with any other applicable statute.				
I certify that this form is complete and accurate, as prescribed by the commissioner and without alteration of the text.				
I also certify that a final report, which documents the impleme Department <i>after</i> this Plan has been Tentatively Approved is informal public meeting is held and <i>before</i> the Department iss Signature of Proposed Applicant	ntation of this Plan, will be submitted to the n writing by the Department, 30 days after the sues a Notice of Tentative Determination." $\frac{2/25/2024}{Date}$			
David Aldridge	Executive Director			
Name of Proposed Applicant (print or type)	Title (if applicable)			
\$ignature of Preparer (if different than above)	9/25/2024 Date			
	One metions Manager			
Elizabeth Chuff				
Name of Preparer (print or type)	litie (if applicable)			

Note: Please submit a hard copy of this completed Plan with all supporting documents to:

ATTN: EDITH PESTANA OFFICE OF EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION 79 ELM STREET HARTFORD, CT 06106-5127

Please also send an electronic copy by email to: Edith.pestana@ct.gov

Refer to the <u>Environmental Justice Guidance Document</u>. and cover sheet for completing the final report which must be submitted **after** this Plan has been approved in writing by the Department and **before** the Department issues a Notice of Tentative Determination.

Part I: Proposed Applicant Information

- Map: Town of Preston, Connecticut Planimetric Data and Property Maps Map Number 74
- Map: Town of Preston, Connecticut Assessment Parcel Map Parcel 26-12-132











Part II: Informal Public Meeting Requirements

A. Identify Date, Time, and Place of Informal Public Meeting

- Date: Monday, November 25, 2024
- Place: SCRRRA Office, 7 Hurlbutt Rd Ste O, Gales Ferry, CT 06335
- Time: 6:00 PM

B. Identify Communication Methods by Which to Publicize the Public Meeting

- 1. Notice of the public meeting will be published in the Norwich Bulletin on *Monday, November 4, 2024* (example attached).
- 2. Other required communication (examples attached):
 - a. Sign on the property
 - b. Written notification to all local and state elected officials
 - c. Posting on electronic media:
 - SCRRRA website: <u>www.scrrra.org</u>
 - SCRRRA Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/SCRRRA</u>
 - SCRRRA Instagram: <u>www.instagram.com/SCRRRAsocial</u>
 - SCRRRA LinkedIn: <u>www.linkedin.com/company/SCRRRA</u>
 - Town of Preston website: <u>www.preston-ct.org</u>

These posts will also provide instructions for the public to access the Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan and video recording of the public meeting on the SCRRRA website, in addition to all other related public records, at www.scrrra.org/about/public-records.

- 3. Written notice to be mailed to all residents within a ½ mile radius (*revised example attached*), which will include the following:
 - a. Meeting notice with date, time, location
 - b. Description of the proposed facility
 - c. Maps including the location of the facility
 - d. Information on how interested persons may review project documents
 - e. Addresses for mailed and internet-based submission of written public comments

REVISED NOTICE FOR NEWSPAPER

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Presented by the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)

OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING REGARDING: SCRRRA has proposed construction of a regional composting facility on the land it owns at 132 Military Hwy (Route 12) in Preston. The envisioned facility will create needed infrastructure for the composting of wood chips and food waste from our local communities, much of which is currently disposed of in the regular trash at very high expense. This facility will save Preston, and all SCRRRA's 12 member towns, significant disposal costs, and produce a high quality, environmentally friendly soil amendment to replace manmade fertilizers. The project obtained approval from Preston Planning & Zoning in January 2024 and is currently pending permit approval from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

WILL BE HELD AT: SCRRRA, 7 Hurlbutt Rd Suite O, Gales Ferry, CT 06335

ON: Monday, November 25, 2024

PRIOR TO THE MEETING, INTERESTED PARTIES MAY RSVP ON WEEKDAYS, WITH RESPECT TO ATTENDANCE, TO: office@scrrra.org or (860) 381-5558

THE AGENDA FOR THE INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE:

- 1. General introduction
- 2. Description of the proposed facility
- 3. Operational overview
- 4. Questions and answers

REVISED TEXT FOR SIGNAGE ON PROPERTY

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Presented by the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)

OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING REGARDING: SCRRRA has proposed construction of a regional composting facility on the land it owns at 132 Military Hwy (Route 12) in Preston. The envisioned facility will create needed infrastructure for the composting of wood chips and food waste from our local communities, much of which is currently disposed of in the regular trash at very high expense. This facility will save Preston, and all SCRRRA's 12 member towns, significant disposal costs, and produce a high quality, environmentally friendly soil amendment to replace manmade fertilizers. The project obtained approval from Preston Planning & Zoning in January 2024 and is currently pending permit approval from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

WILL BE HELD AT: SCRRRA, 7 Hurlbutt Rd Suite O, Gales Ferry, CT 06335

ON: Monday, November 25, 2024

PRIOR TO THE MEETING, INTERESTED PARTIES MAY RSVP ON WEEKDAYS, WITH RESPECT TO ATTENDANCE, TO: office@scrrra.org or (860) 381-5558

TO REVIEW PROJECT DOCUMENTS, PLEASE VISIT: www.scrrra.org/public-records

TO SUBMIT WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS, PLEASE WRITE TO US: office@scrrra.org



REVISED LETTER TO ELECTED OFFICIALS

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Presented by the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)

OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING REGARDING: SCRRRA has proposed construction of a regional composting facility on the land it owns at 132 Military Hwy (Route 12) in Preston. The envisioned facility will create needed infrastructure for the composting of wood chips and food waste from our local communities, much of which is currently disposed of in the regular trash at very high expense. This facility will save Preston, and all SCRRRA's 12 member towns, significant disposal costs, and produce a high quality, environmentally friendly soil amendment to replace manmade fertilizers. The project obtained approval from Preston Planning & Zoning in January 2024 and is currently pending permit approval from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.



INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT: SCRRRA, 7 Hurlbutt Rd Suite O, Gales Ferry, CT

ON: Monday, November 25, 2024 at 6:00 PM

PRIOR TO THE MEETING, INTERESTED PARTIES MAY RSVP ON WEEKDAYS, TO: office@scrrra.org - (860) 381-5558

THE AGENDA FOR THE INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE:

- 1. General introduction
- 2. Description of the proposed facility
- 3. Operational overview
- 4. Questions and answers

TO REVIEW PROJECT DOCUMENTS, PLEASE VISIT: www.scrrra.org/public-records

TO SUBMIT WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS, PLEASE WRITE TO US: office@scrrra.org

Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority 7 Hurlbutt Road · Gales Ferry, CT 06335 (860) 381-5558 · www.SCRRRA.org

REVISED POST FOR ELECTRONIC MEDIA



PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Presented by the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)

OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING REGARDING: SCRRRA has proposed construction of a regional composting facility on the land it owns at 132 Military Hwy (Route 12) in Preston. The envisioned facility will create needed infrastructure for the composting of wood chips and food waste from our local communities, much of which is currently disposed of in the regular trash at very high expense. This facility will save Preston, and all SCRRRA's 12 member towns, significant disposal costs, and produce a high quality, environmentally friendly soil amendment to replace manmade fertilizers. The project obtained approval from Preston Planning & Zoning in January 2024 and is currently pending permit approval from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

WILL BE HELD AT: SCRRRA, 7 Hurlbutt Rd Suite O, Gales Ferry, CT 06335

ON: Monday, November 25, 2024 AT 6:00 PM

PRIOR TO THE MEETING, INTERESTED PARTIES MAY RSVP ON WEEKDAYS, WITH RESPECT TO ATTENDANCE, TO: office@scrrra.org or (860) 381-5558

THE AGENDA FOR THE INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE:

- 1. General introduction
- 2. Description of the proposed facility
- 3. Operational overview
- 4. Questions and answers



REVISED LETTER TO RESIDENTS WITHIN ½ MILE RADIUS

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Presented by the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)

OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING REGARDING: SCRRRA has proposed construction of a regional composting facility on the land it owns at 132 Military Hwy (Route 12) in Preston. The envisioned facility will create needed infrastructure for the composting of wood chips and food waste from our local communities, much of which is currently disposed of in the regular trash at very high expense. This facility will save Preston, and all SCRRRA's 12 member towns, significant disposal costs, and produce a high quality, environmentally friendly soil amendment to replace manmade fertilizers. The project obtained approval from Preston Planning & Zoning in January 2024 and is currently pending permit approval from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. *SCRRRA expects the facility to process an estimated 1,000 tons of food scraps in the first year. The system shown on the plans can manage about 5,000 tons of food scrap and 7,500 tons of wood chips per year. During the first year, food scrap deliveries may be limited to certain days of the week. About 5 truckloads of food scraps per week will be delivered in the first year, and wood chip deliveries will be about 1-2 trucks per week. The facility will be open Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. A map and site plan are included for your reference. Our engineering company, SCS Engineers, will be present at the informational meeting to present the engineering and operational logistics, and to answer questions raised by the public.*



INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT: SCRRRA, 7 Hurlbutt Rd Suite O, Gales Ferry, CT

ON: Monday, November 26, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority 7 Hurlbutt Road · Gales Ferry, CT 06335 (860) 381-5558 · www.SCRRRA.org

PRIOR TO THE MEETING, INTERESTED PARTIES MAY RSVP ON WEEKDAYS, TO: office@scrrra.org

THE AGENDA FOR THE INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE:

- 1. General introduction
- 2. Description of the proposed facility
- 3. Operational overview
- 4. Questions and answers

TO REVIEW PROJECT DOCUMENTS, PLEASE VISIT: www.scrra.org/public-records

TO SUBMIT WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS, PLEASE WRITE TO US: office@scrrra.org











Part III: Measures to Facilitate Meaningful Public Participation

A: Identification of Proposed Facility

- Narrative responses provided by SCS Engineers
- CT DEEP Permit Checklist

Subject: Part III A: Identification of Proposed Facility Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)

This narrative addresses Section A under Part III (Measures to Facilitate Meaningful Public Participation). Section A covers five (5) numbered items, as follows:

- 1. Identify the potential environmental and health impacts of such facility or the expansion of such facility, i.e., increased air emissions, water discharges, material management issues, etc.
- 2. Identify permits and general permits needed for the project by completing the Permit Checklist (DEEP-APP-001A). It is important to complete the Checklist thoroughly to identify to the public what types of Department permits may be needed for such a facility.
- 3. Identify efforts to mitigate the potential environmental and health impacts of such facility.
- 4. Identify any pollution control measures associated with the project.
- 5. Describe the location of the proposed facility with respect to residents and other community members (e.g., schools, parks, where people live, work etc.), including vehicle traffic patterns, noise, hours of operation and proximity to sensitive receptors, which could cause concerns in the community.

MEASURE #A.1

Identify the potential environmental and health impacts of such facility or the expansion of such facility, i.e., increased air emissions, water discharges, material management issues, etc.

SCRRRA Response: The potential environmental and health impacts of such facility include:

- Noise
- Dust
- Odor
- Vectors
- Litter

Mitigation measures and pollution control measures, pertinent to these potential impacts, are described below.

Notwithstanding the potential impacts, the overarching goal of the proposed facility is to benefit the region by providing the large-scale infrastructure necessary to divert organics from the waste stream and process them into nutrient-rich compost for the local community. The proposed facility will:

- Establish compost infrastructure that will facilitate diversion of food waste from the waste stream,
- Establish large-scale capacity for organics recycling,
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions created by incineration and trucking of ash out of the region and trucking of purchased soil amendments into the region,
- Sequester carbon in the natural process of composting,
- Provide a local source of soil amendment/fertilizer alternative, some of which will be provided free to environmental justice communities for their community gardens,

Part III A: Identification of Proposed Facility August 14, 2024 Page 2

- Reduce the amount of waste being sent to incinerators and landfills,
- Educate our communities about organics recycling and compost; and
- Save our town's money by lowering waste disposal costs.

MEASURE #A.2

Identify permits and general permits needed for the project by completing the Permit Checklist (DEEP-APP-001A). It is important to complete the Checklist thoroughly to identify to the public what types of Department permits may be needed for such a facility.

SCRRRA Response: Based on a February 28, 2024 pre-application meeting with CT DEEP, programs that will require a permit application/registration are:

- <u>Solid Waste:</u> The application needs to include the prescribed forms; drawings; and, an Operations and Management Plan (O&MP).
- <u>Stormwater:</u> Registration under the Construction Stormwater General Permit, which additionally requires a Stormwater Pollution Control Plan.

These permit applications have been submitted to CT DEEP.

MEASURE #A.3

Identify efforts to mitigate the potential environmental and health impacts of such facility.

SCRRRA Response: There are numerous features incorporated into the proposed facility to mitigate the potential environmental and health impacts, including the following:

• Noise: Noise from truck traffic will be minimal due to the limited number of trucks delivering materials, as noted above. Further, food scrap trucks will unload inside the receiving building. Mixing will also occur inside the building, which will minimize noise. The process relies on static piles with only occasional movement of the materials by a loader. As such, noise from loader operation will be kept to a minimum.

The aeration blower will cycle as directed electronically by a temperature probe within the compost pile. The blower will operate with a variable frequency drive motor, greatly reducing the noise from the blower.

 Odor: All food scrap vehicles will unload inside the receiving and mixing building. Incoming food scrap material will be dumped on to a bed of wood chips to absorb loose water. The food scraps will be mixed with ground wood at a volumetric ratio of 4:1. This will result in a conservatively high ratio of carbon to nitrogen to minimize the potential for odors. The receiving and mixing building is a fully enclosed building, with a concrete floor. Food scraps are unloaded inside the building and immediately mixed with wood chips. Food scraps are not stockpiled for any length of time and are incorporated into the composting process on the day of receipt. No food scrap material will be stored in the building overnight. The ASP system will maintain conditions at optimal levels for temperature and oxygen, minimizing odor generation. The blower is designed for high flow capacity, such that oxygen levels in the ASP bays will remain high and temperatures will be controlled to the optimal range for the microbes (i.e., 130 to 140 F). Most odor-causing compounds are generated and broken down in the first two weeks of the process. A biocover will be placed over the top of the ASP bays to address emissions. The biocover, consisting of unscreened, finished compost or ground wood waste, will be wetted on a regular basis as an additional procedure to reduce emissions. The presence of offensive odors would be addressed by increasing the depth of the biocover over the top of the ASP bays.

While turning of the curing windrows can release odors, ASP windrow composting is an aerobic process not associated with anaerobic biological processes. Turning re-mixes the material in the windrows, aerates, and macerates feedstock pieces allowing better access for microbes to degrade the material. Consistent turning to maintain well managed materials will generate less odors than allowing the piles to sit and possibly become anaerobic.

Should odors be detected, onsite or off-site, the source of the odor will be identified, and appropriate steps will be implemented to eliminate them. Remediation activities may consist of additional aeration, additional capping of exposed materials, removal of materials from the site, or a combination of these techniques. Odor records will be noted in a daily log.

Precipitation will be managed at the site via the collection and containment of contact water and the prevention of ponding of water in areas other than the detention pond. Utilization of water from the detention pond will address moisture throughout the composting process will help to avoid buildup of stagnant conditions that could lead to offensive odors. Potential detention pond odors can be mitigated via additional controls such as oxygenating using aerators or stirring mechanisms.

- Litter: All food scrap vehicles will unload inside the receiving and mixing building. Incoming food scrap material will be placed on a bed of wood chips immediately upon receipt.
- Vectors: The covered and mixed condition of the compost pile will minimize the ability for pests to access the in-process feedstock materials. Further, the mixed materials will quickly attain high temperatures, above 130 F, which will offer little to no appeal for vectors.
- **Visual screening**: A screening berm, 4 to 5 feet high, will be installed on the south perimeter. The berm will be planted with grass.
- **Dust mitigation**: Dust generation will be minimized. Mixing will occur indoors, which will contain and control dust. During dry conditions, stormwater from the detention pond can be used for dust control for the roads and the screening process. Dust control measures will be noted in a daily log.

Part III A: Identification of Proposed Facility August 14, 2024 Page 4

Grinding of woody material will be performed off-site, which will minimize dust and noise generation at the compost facility. Sufficient stockpiles of wood chips will be placed near the receiving building to facilitate mixing with each batch of food scraps.

SCRRRA will inspect all physical facilities on a regular and routine basis, including working surfaces, fences, contact water sump and pump, stormwater pond inlets and outlets, scales, buildings, and other components. Inspections will be noted in a daily log.

Complaints from the public, if any, can be made by calling the SCRRRA main office. Compost staff or office staff will investigate any complaints and maintain records of complaints and remedies.

MEASURE #A.4

Identify any pollution control measures associated with the project.

SCRRRA Response: There are numerous pollution control measures incorporated into the proposed facility, including the following:

- Incoming material receipt and initial processing: The receiving and mixing building is a fully-enclosed building, with a concrete floor. Food scraps are unloaded inside the building and immediately mixed with wood chips. Food scraps are not stockpiled for any length of time and are incorporated into the composting process on the day of receipt. The organic materials (e.g., food scraps, wood chips) are mixed to create a mixture that meets the system's feedstock requirements.
- Site grading: The site will be compacted and graded to a 1.5-2.5% slope, which will prevent ponding of stormwater.
- Stormwater management: Stormwater will be directed into a new stormwater pond and reused in the process to the extent possible. Any excess stormwater will be directed to the existing site stormwater system (i.e., large infiltration basin to the north). Swales are provided on the east and west sides of the facility to prevent stormwater run-on to the compost areas. The east-side swale discharges to the existing infiltration basin, which is consistent with current stormwater management for the existing site.

Other areas within the facility boundary, not covered by concrete or asphalt, will be planted with grass, as an erosion control measure.

• **Contact water management:** For each ASP bay, the concrete pad will be sloped to drain contact water to the aeration trench, which will serve a dual purpose as a below-grade leachate drainage system. In this approach, contact water will be collected from each ASP bay and drained by gravity to a double-walled sump. Contact water will be pumped from the sump to a storage tank located near the receiving building. Contact water from the storage tank will be recycled into the process to increase the moisture content of the feedstocks and will be used preferentially over other water sources.

The concrete floor in the receiving building will be sloped into the building and will be provided with a curb to contain any water. Wood chips will be used to absorb any free water on the concrete floor. No floor drains will be provided in the receiving building.

MEASURE #A.5

Describe the location of the proposed facility with respect to residents and other community members (e.g., schools, parks, where people live, work etc.), including vehicle traffic patterns, noise, hours of operation and proximity to sensitive receptors, which could cause concerns in the community.

SCRRRA Response: SCRRRA plans to construct and operate a new compost facility, at the proposed site, to compost food scraps (targeted feedstock) and wood chips, using aerated static pile (ASP) technology. The site address is 132 Route 12, Preston and is identified as Lot 132, Block 12. The lot is owned by SCRRRA and is 33.67 acres in total. A large portion of the lot is leased to Reworld (formerly known as Covanta) for a waste-to-energy facility. The compost facility is located south of Brewster Road and will occupy about 7.5 acres. The nearest resident and business is about 500 feet from the active compost pad.

The facility will be open to commercial customers only, which will minimize traffic impacts. The general public will not be allowed to use the site for drop-off or pick-up of materials. Public participation (i.e., drop-off of organic materials or pick-up of finished compost) will take place at the existing municipal transfer stations.

During the first year, the facility will likely be staffed for less than 40 hours per week, as it will take time to secure a steady supply of food scraps. Food scrap deliveries may be limited to certain days of the week. As quantities increase, SCRRA expects to staff the facility during typical business hours; i.e., 5 days per week, 8 hours per day.

The aeration blower will cycle as directed electronically by a temperature probe within the compost pile. The blower will operate with a variable frequency drive motor, greatly reducing the noise from the blower.

The proposed facility is not proximate to sensitive receptors, with approximate aerial distances from Google Maps as follows:

- Schools: about 1.25 miles to Mohegan school in Montville and Gales Ferry school in Gales Ferry.
- Hospitals: about 2 miles to Uncasville Medical Center in Uncasville.
- Parks: about 1 mile to Stoddard Hill State Park Scenic Reserve.


Permit Checklist

In Parts I and II, check applicable DEEP permits required for the subject project. Print legibly or type.

Applicant Name: SCRRRA

Location (City/Town): **Preston,CT**

Brief Description of Project: Construction and operation of a SSO composting facility.

Part I: Individual Permit Application and Fee Information

New, Mod. or Renew	Individual Permit Applications	Initial Fees
	AIR EMISSIONS	
	New Source Review	¢040.00
	Revision minor mod	\$940.00
	Title V Operating Permits	nono
	🗌 Revision 🔲 minor mod 🗌 non-minor mod	none
	Title IV	none
	Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR)	none
	WATER DISCHARGES	
	To Groundwater	\$1300.00
	To Sanitary Sewer (POTW)	\$1300.00
	To Surface Water (NPDES)	\$1300.00
	WATER PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT	
	Dam Safety	none
	Domestic Sewage Treatment Works	\$1300.00/
	(For municipal and private sewage treatment facilities discharging to surface waters)	Mod = \$940
	Water Diversion (consumptive) and Registrations	*
	LAND AND WATER RESOURCES	
	Flood Management Certification	none
	Flood Management Certification Exemption	none
	Inland Wetlands and Watercourses	none
	Inland 401 Water Quality Certification	none
	FERC- Hydropower Projects- 401 Water Quality Certification	none
	Water Diversion (non-consumptive)	*
	Certificate of Permission	\$375.00
	Coastal 401 Water Quality Certification	none
	Structures and Dredging/and Fill/Tidal Wetlands	\$660.00
	WASTE MANAGEMENT	
	Aerial Pesticide Application	*
	Aquatic Pesticide Application	\$200.00
	CGS Section 22a-454 Waste Facilities	*
	Disruption of a Solid Waste Disposal Area	\$0
	Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facilities	*
	Marine Terminal License	\$100.00
	Stewardship	\$4000.00
	Solid Waste Facilities	*
	Waste Transportation	*

★ See fee schedule on individual application.

Part II: General Permit Registrations and Requests for Other Authorizations Application and Fee Information

\checkmark	General Permits and Other Authorizations	Initial Fees
	AIR EMISSIONS	
	Diagnostic and Therapeutic X-Ray Devices (Medical X-Ray) Registration	\$190.00/Xray device
	Radioactive Materials and Industrial Device Registration (Ionizing Radiation)	\$200.00
	Emergency/Temporary Authorization	**
	License Revocation Request	\$0
	Other, (please specify):	
	WATER DISCHARGES	
	Comprehensive Discharges to Surface Water and Groundwater	
	Registration Only	\$625.00
	Approval of Registration by DEEP	\$1250.00
	Domestic Sewage	\$625.00
	Food Service Establishment Wastewater	No registration
	Groundwater Remediation Wastewater	
	Registration Only	\$625.00
	Approval of Registration by DEEP	\$1250.00
	Miscellaneous Industrial User	Notification to applicable POTW
	Nitrogen Discharges	No registration
	Point Source Discharges from Application of Pesticides	\$200.00
	Significant Industrial User	
	Discharges > 10,000 gpd	\$6250.00
	Discharges < 10,0000 gpd	\$3125.00
	Stormwater Associated with Commercial Activities	\$300.00
	Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activities	
	<50 employees-see general permit for additional requirements	\$500.00
	>50 employees–see general permit for additional requirements	\$1000.00
	Stormwater & Dewatering Wastewaters-Construction Activities	*
	Stormwater from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)	\$625.00
	Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems Serving Existing Facilities	*
	Swimming Pool Wastewater - Public Pools and Contractors	\$500.00
	Emergency/Temporary Authorization - Discharge to POTW	\$1500.00
	Emergency/Temporary Authorization - Discharge to Surface Water	\$1500.00
	Emergency/Temporary Authorization - Discharge to Groundwater	\$1500.00
	Other, (please specify):	

★ See fee schedule on registration/application.

.

 $\star\star$ Contact the specific permit program for this information.

\checkmark	General Permits and Other Authorizations	Initial Fees
	AQUIFER PROTECTION PROGRAM	
	Registration for Regulated Activities	\$625.00
	Permit Application to Add a Regulated Activity	\$1250.00
	Exemption Application from Registration	\$1250.00
	Dam Safety Program	
	Dam Safety Repair and Alteration: Non Filing	No registration
	Dam Safety Repair and Alteration: Filing – No PE	\$100.00
	Dam Safety Repair and Alteration: Filing – PE	\$200.00
	Dam Safety Repair and Alteration: Approval of Filing	\$250.00
	Notice of High Hazard Dam or a Significant Hazard Dam	\$0
	Diversion Consumptive	
	Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use: Reauthorization Categories	\$2500.00
┝┾┥	Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use: Authorization Required	\$2500.00
	Land and Water Resources	\$1500.00
	Programmatic General Permit	*
	Water Resource Construction Activities	×
	Emergency/Temporary Authorization	**
	Other, (please specify):	
	Minor Coastal Structures	
	4/40 Docks/Access Stairs	\$700.00
	Beach Grading	No reg
	Buoys or Markers	No reg
	Experimental Activities/Scientific Monitoring Devices	No reg
	Harbor Moorings	No reg
	Non-harbor Moorings	\$250.00
	Osprey Platforms and Perch Poles	No reg
	Pump-out Facilities	No reg
	Swim Floats	No reg
	Coastal Maintenance	
	Backflow Prevention Structure	No reg
H	Beach Grading/Baking	No reg
┝┿		No reg
HH-	Calcin Dasini Creatining	
	Coastal Remedial Activities Required by Order	*
	Coastal Restoration	No reg
	DEEP Boat Launch Infrastructures	No reg
	DOT Infrastructures	No reg
	Marina and Mooring Field Reconfiguration	*
	Minor Seawall Repair	No reg
	Placement of Cultch	No reg
	Reconstruction of Legally Existing Structure/Obstruction/Encroachment	*
	Removal of Derelict Structures	No reg registration
h	Residential Flood Hazard Mitigation	*
H	Temporary Access of Construction Vabicles/Equipment	No reg registration
	remporary Access of Construction vehicles/Equipment	No reg registration

★ See fee schedule on registration/application.

***** Contact the specific permit program for this information.

Part II: General Permit Registrations and Requests for Other Authorizations (continued)

\checkmark	General Permits and Other Authorizations	Initial Fees
	WASTE MANAGEMENT	
	Addition of Grass Clippings at Registered Leaf Composting Facilities	\$500.00
	Beneficial Use Determination	*
	Collection and Storage of Post Consumer Paint	\$0
	Connecticut Solid Waste Demonstration Project	\$1000.00
	Construct and Operate a Commercial Facility for the Management of Recyclable Materials and Certain Solid Wastes (Commercial GP)	Initial/Mod Fee
	Asbestos Containing Materials	\$1,250.00/\$ 625
	Ash Residue	\$1,250.00/\$ 625
	Clean Wood: Tier III	\$500.00/\$250
	Clean Wood: Tier II	\$250.00/\$125
	Construction and Demolition Waste: Tier III	\$1,250.00/\$625
	Construction and Demolition Waste: Tier II	\$500.00/\$250
	Non-RCRA Hazardous Waste/Compatible Solid Wastes	\$1,250.00/\$625
	Recyclables	\$500.00/\$250
	Universal wastes/Compatible Solid wastes	\$1,250.00/\$625
	Contaminated Soil and/or Staging Management (Staging/Transfer)	
	New Registrations	\$250.00
	New Approval of Registrations	\$1500.00
	Renewal of Registrations	\$250.00
	Renewal of Approval of Registrations	\$750.00
	Disassembling Used Electronics	\$2000.00
	Leaf Composting Facility	\$0
	Municipal Transfer Station	\$800.00
	One Day Collection of Certain Wastes and Household Hazardous Waste	\$1000.00
	Sheet Leaf Composting Notification	\$0
	Special Waste Authorization	
	Landfill or RRF Disposal	\$660.00
	Asbestos Disposal	\$300.00
	homeowner	\$0
	Storage and Processing of Asphalt Roofing Shingle Waste	\$2500.00
	Storage and Processing of Scrap Tires for Beneficial Use	\$1250.00
	Emergency/Temporary Authorization	* *
	Other, (please specify):	
	REMEDIATION	
	In Situ Groundwater Remediation: Enhance Aerobic Biodegradation	*
	In Situ Groundwater Remediation: Chemical Oxidation	\$500.00
	Emergency/Temporary Authorization	*

★ See fee schedule on registration/application.

 $\star\star$ Contact the specific permit program for this information.

Permit Program Contact Numbers						
Air	860-424-4152	Solid Waste Management	860-424-3366			
Water Discharges	860-424-3025	Pollution Prevention Office	860-424-3297			
Land and Water Resources	860-424-3034	Office of Equity and Environmental Justice	860-424-3044			
Hazardous Waste Management	860-424-3023	Permit Assistance	860-424-3003			

Supporting Documents

Part III: Measures to Facilitate Meaningful Public Participation

B: Identification of Impacted Community

1. The proposed compost facility is in a lightly developed area in the Town of Preston, bordered by the Thames River to the west and the Poquetanuck Cove to the east. The proposed facility is seen as having minimal impact on any nearby entities:

Religious Institutions	None nearby
School & Sensitive Receptors	None nearby
Local Businesses	See supporting docs for Part III C - 2
Community-Based Organizations	See supporting docs for Part III C – 2
Environmental Organizations	See supporting docs for Part III C – 2

2. According to the 2024 Town Profile provided by AdvanceCT (attached), the Town of Preston's demographic information is as follows:

Median Age	42
Median Household Income	\$103,816
Language Spoken at Home	English 96%, Spanish 2%
Population	4,804
Race/Ethnicity	Asian <1%
	Black <1%
	Hispanic/Latino/a 2%
	White 92%
	Other 4%
Economic Status	Poverty rate 1% (see full profile, attached, for
	detailed economic data)

3. The site is lightly developed and is bordered by the Thames River to the west and the Poquetanuck Cove to the east. This geographical profile is an important facet in locating the compost facility at this site. There is light residential development to the south and light commercial development to the east (see attached map).

2024 Town Profile

Preston, Connecticut

General

ACS, 2018–2022	Preston	State
Current Population	4,804	3,611,317
Land Area mi ²	31	4,842
Population Density people per mi ²	156	746
Number of Households	1,786	1,409,807
Median Age	42	41
Median Household Income	\$103,816	\$90,213
Poverty Rate	1%	10%

Economy

Top Industries Lightcast, 2022 (2 and 3 digit NAICS)	Jobs	Share of Industry
1 Construction	268	
Specialty Trade Contractors		51%
2 Admin and Support and Waste Mgt	156	
Administrative and Support Services		92%
3 Accommodation and Food Services	132	
Food Services and Drinking Places		99%
4 Government	95	
Federal Government		63%
6 Retail Trade	62	
Food and Beverage Stores		27%
Total Jobs, All Industries	990	

SOTS Business Registrations Secretary of the State, March 2024

New Business Registrations by Year

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	21	31	40	30	43

Total Active Businesses 313

Key Employers

- Data from Municipalities, 2024
- Swift Innovations LLC
- 2 Olivers Supermarket
- 3 Awnings of Eastern Connecticut
- 4 Piela Electric Inc
- 6 B & B Transportation

Schools

T Department of Education, 2023-24					Matter Even de d'Even statione, 2022 22		
School Districts	Available Grades	Total Enrollment	Pre-K Enrollment	4-Year Grad Rate (2021-22)	Met or Exceeded Expectations, 2022-23	Math	ELA
Preston School District	PK-8	450	41		Preston School District	47%	63%
Statewide	-	512,652	19,530	89%	Statewide	42%	48%

Demographics

ACS, 2018-2022

Age Distribution

-			
Under 10	506	11%	11%
10 to 19	608	13%	13%
20 to 29	617	13%	13%
30 to 39	543	11%	13%
40 to 49	399	8%	12%
50 to 59	757	16%	14%
60 to 69	829	17%	13%
70 to 79	373	8%	7%
80 and over	172	4%	4%

State

Race and Ethnicity

Race and Ethnicity		State
Asian	<1%	5%
Black	<1%	10%
Hispanic or Latino/a	2%	17%
White		92% 64%
Other	4%	4%

Hispanic includes those of any race. Remaining racial groups include only non-hispanic. 'Other includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawalian, Pacific Islander, two or more races.

reston Sta	ate	
12%	77	96%
	12%	reston State 77

State

State

Educational Attainment Preston High School Diploma Only

26 28% Associate Degree 8 15% Bachelor's Degree 14 23% Master's Degree or Higher 14 19%

Housing

ACS, 2018–2022	11001011	otato	
Median Home Value	\$317,800	\$323,700	
Median Rent	\$1,284	\$1,374	
Housing Units	1,991	1,531,332	
	Preston	State	
Owner-Occupied		66	93%
Detached or Semi-Detached		65	93%
Vacant	8 10%		

Smarter Balanced Assessments

Drecton







Preston, Connecticut

Labor Force

CT Department of Labor, 2023 Employed Unemployed

Preston	State
2,276	1,822,090
93	71,113
_	
4 496	

Unemployment Rate Self-Employment Rate* *ACS, 2018–2022 4 4% 10 12%

Catchment Areas of 15mi, 30mi, and 60mi



Access

Preston State

Mean Commute Time * No Access to a Car No Internet Access 25 min 26 min

Commute Mode

Public Transport Walking or Cycling Driving Working From Home *



Public Transit

CT *transit* Service Other Public Bus Operations Train Service

ADVANCEST

CONNECTICUT

* 5 year estimates include pre-pandemic data

Fiscal Indicators

CT Office of Policy and Management, State FY 2020-21

Municipal Revenue

Total Revenue	\$18,175,844
Property Tax Revenue	\$12,172,591
<i>per capita</i>	\$2,505
<i>per capita, as % of state avg.</i>	78%
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$5,574,799
Revenue to Expenditure Ratio	102%
Municipal Expenditure	
Total Expenditure	\$17,854,476
Educational	\$13,096,947
Other	\$4,757,529
Grand List	
Equalized Net Grand List	\$734,092,178
per capita	\$152,872
per capita, as % of state avg.	94%
Commercial/Industrial	7%
Share of Net Grand List	
Actual Mill Rate	26.90
Equalized Mill Rate	16.39
Municipal Debt	
Moody's Rating (2023)	-
S&P Rating (2023)	AA+
Total Indebtedness	\$7,805,000
per capita	\$1,625
per capita, as % of state avg.	60%
as percent of expenditures	44%

Annual Debt Service \$797,453 as % of expenditures 4%

Search AdvanceCT's SiteFinder, Connecticut's most comprehensive online database of available commercial properties. advancectorgistie-selection/ct-sitefinder

About Town Profiles

The Connecticut Town Profiles are two-page reports of demographic and economic information for each of Connecticut's 169 municipalities. Reports for data are available from profiles.ctdata.org

Feedback is welcome, and should be directed to info@ctdata.org.

These Profiles can be used free of charge by external organizations, as long as AdvanceCT and CTData Collaborative are cited. No representation or warranties, expressed or implied, are given regarding the accuracy of this information.





Google Maps

132 CT-12

Proposed Site for SCRRRA Regional Food Waste Composting Facility



Imagery ©2024 Airbus, CNES / Airbus, Maxar Technologies, Map data ©2024 500 ft

Supporting Documents

Part III: Measures to Facilitate Meaningful Public Participation

C: Identification of Individuals/Groups to Seek/Notify

1. Notify town officials in which the affecting facility is proposed to be located or expanded. At a minimum, identify the following:

Entity	Contact Information
Chief Elected Official	Sandra L. Allyn-Gauthier
	First Selectwoman
	allyngauthier@preston-ct.org
	(860) 887-581 ext. 105
City Council Members	Kenneth L. Zachem
	Second Selectman
	kzachem@preston-ct.org
	Gerald W. Grabarek
	Third Selectman
	jgrabarek@preston-ct.org
State Representative	Brian Lanoue
	Brian.Lanoue@cga.ct.gov
	(860) 240-8700
Zoning Enforcement Official	Kathy Warzecha
	Town Planner
	kwarzecha@preston-ct.org
	(860) 887-5581 ext. 109
Conservation & Agricultural Commission	Gary Piszczek
	Chairman
	Hellgate_farm@msn.com
	(860) 885-8433
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission	Len Johnson
	len.johnson48@yahoo.com
	(860) 887-5581 ext. 118
Health Department (UNCAS Health District)	Patrick McCormack, MPH
	Uncas Health District Director of Health
	doh@uncashd.org
	(860) 823-1189 ext.112

2. Identify the following to notify abutting property owners, neighborhood residents, community leaders (neighborhood and religious leaders, block watch captains, etc.), key community members; environmental commissions; civic organizations (e.g. Chamber of Commerce); local businesses; environmental justice leaders and organizations; and neighborhood groups.

	Contact monauton
Abutting Property Owners	See attached list
Neighborhood Residents	See attached list
Local Businesses	See attached list
Civic Organization	Greater Norwich Chamber of Commerce
	Norwich CT 06260
Civic Organization	(000) 007-1047
Civic Organization	President
	Amos Lake Association ($\Lambda I \Lambda$)
	amoslake@gmail.com
Civic Organization	Avalonia Land Conservancy
one organization	PO Box 49
	Old Mystic, CT 06372
	avalonialc@vahoo.com
Civic Organization	Last Green Valley
	203B Main Street
	P.O. Box 29
	Danielson, CT 06239-0029
	mail@tlgv.org
	(860) 774-3300
Environmental Organization	Terri Eickel
	Executive Director
	Interreligious Eco-Justice Network
	8 Doolittle Rd.
	Preston, CT 06365
	<u>terri@irejn.org</u>
	(860) 595-2321
Environmental Organization	Dan Mullins
	Executive Director
	Eastern CI Conservation District
Poligious Organization	Dranton City Congregational Church
	221 Pouto 164
	Dreston CT 06365
	(860) 886 - 7200
	pastortompccc@gmail.com
Civic Organization Civic Organization Civic Organization Civic Organization Environmental Organization Environmental Organization Religious Organization	Greater Norwich Chamber of Commerce187 Main St.Norwich, CT 06360(860) 887-1647Pat MonahanPresidentAmos Lake Association (ALA)amoslake@gmail.comAvalonia Land ConservancyP.O. Box 49Old Mystic, CT 06372avalonialc@yahoo.comLast Green Valley203B Main StreetP.O. Box 29Danielson, CT 06239-0029mail@tlgv.org(860) 774-3300Terri EickelExecutive DirectorInterreligious Eco-Justice Network8 Doolittle Rd.Preston, CT 06365terri@irejn.org(860) 595-2321Dan MullinsExecutive DirectorEastern CT Conservation DistrictDan.Mullins@comcast.netPreston, CT 06365(860) 886 - 7200pastortompccc@gmail.com

Religious Organization	Preston City Bible Church
	293 Route 164
	Preston, CT 06365
	(860) 889 – 6529
	Information@prestoncitybible.org
Religious Organization	St. James Parish
	95 Route 2A
	Preston, CT 06365
	(860) 889 – 0150
	Office@stjamespreston.org

Neighboring Residents and Business to Notify

Site Address	Owner Name	Mailing Address	Mailing City	Mailing State	Mailing Zip
56 ROUTE 12	LABBE VIRGINIA F & TERENCE	56 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
58 ROUTE 12	HARPER RONALD M	58 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
124 ROUTE 12	SAVIN PRESTON LLC	77 STERLING ROAD	EAST HARTFORD	СТ	06108-0000
71 ROUTE 12	71 ROUTE 12 LLC	67 HIGHLAND AVE	NORWALK	СТ	06853-0000
115 ROUTE 12	STUART JOHN N III & ANGELINA	115 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
98 ROUTE 12	CASTLE REALTY LLC	P O BOX 266	STONINGTON	СТ	06376-0000
113 ROUTE 12	PIMENTEL SANDRA A	113 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
118 ROUTE 12	CASTLE BEALTY LLC	PO BOX 266	STONINGTON	СТ	06376-0000
127 ROUTE 12	PERINGER ROBERT SR & MILDRED	16 STUART DR	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
129 BOUTE 12	KOZIOLALBERT IR & ANN - ET AL	127 STRAWBERRY ST	LISBON	CT	06351-0000
131 BOUTE 12	KOZIOL ALBERT IR & ANN - FT AL	127 STRAWBERRY ST	LISBON	CT	06351-0000
132A BOLITE 12	COVANTA SE CONNECTICUT CO	132 BOUTE 12	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
133 BOUTE 12		22 TOWN ST	NORWICH	СТ	06360-0000
135 ROUTE 12		135 BOUTE 12		СТ	06365-0000
136 ROUTE 12	RABOVSKY THOMAS PIR	136 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
130 ROUTE 12		130 NOUTE 12	DESTON	CT	06365 0000
137 ROUTE 12			PRESTON	CT	06365 0000
130 ROUTE 12			DRESTON	CT	00305-0000
139 ROUTE 12			PRESION	CT	06365-0000
134 KUUTE 12			DESTON		0000-0000
140 ROUTE 12	VOCATURA PROPERTIES LLC	55 BROWN SCHOOL RD	PRESION		06365-0000
141 ROUTE 12		141 ROUTE 12	PRESION		06365-0000
142 ROUTE 12		55 BROWN SCHOOL RD	PRESION		06365-0000
143 ROUTE 12		147 ROUTE 12	PRESION	CI	06365-0000
144 ROUTE 12		144 ROUTE 12	PRESION	CI	06365-0000
145 ROUTE 12		145 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
146 ROUTE 12	HATCH CONSTRUCTION LLC	142 MACKIN DR	GRISWOLD	CT	06351-0000
147 ROUTE 12	STARKE KEVIN	147 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
148 ROUTE 12	COTA RONALD D JR & ALANA C	148 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
149 ROUTE 12	STARKE KATHLEEN D	149 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
151 ROUTE 12	CARDOZA RYAN	151 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
153 ROUTE 12	GOING JONATHAN P	153 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
155 ROUTE 12	TIEGS DANIEL C	1221 EAST STRASBURG RD	WEST CHESTER	PA	19380-0000
156 ROUTE 12	HAPPYLAND PROPERTIES LLC	24 ROOSEVELT AVE EXT	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
159 ROUTE 12	HAPPYLAND PROPERTIES LLC	24 ROOSEVELT AVE EXT	PRESTOIN	СТ	06365-0000
153A ROUTE 12	HENAULT KIRA	153A ROUTE 12	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
7 COVE RD	STARKE ROGER A	7 COVE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
10 COVE RD	ALLIN ROBERT V & CYNTHIA S - TRUSTEES	10 COVE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
12 COVE RD	WHITFIELD NICHOLAS	12 COVE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
13 COVE RD	GOLDSTEIN MEREDITH	13 COVE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
14 COVE RD	DUMAIS ARLENE M EST	26926 BETHESDA RD	MILLSBORO	DE	19966-0000
15 COVE RD	KEMP JOHN P	49 SCOTT HILL RD	BOZRAH	СТ	06334-0000
17 COVE RD	CARDOZA JEANETTE M	17 COVE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
19 COVE RD	SMITH FRANK R II & JANE F	6 DRAWBRIDGE WEST	GALES FERRY	СТ	06335-0000
4 DRAWBRIDGE RD	SALERNO GREG	4 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
6 DRAWBRIDGE RD	DOTY DAWN	6 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
8 DRAWBRIDGE RD	LAFRENIERE THOMAS G JR	8 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	0000-0000
10 DRAWBRIDGE RD	GRAMLICH HOLLY L	10 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
12 DRAWBRIDGE RD	MAINE CHARLES L +MILDRED I	12 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
13 DRAWBRIDGE RD	DEVEAU GARY M	13 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
14 DRAWBRIDGE RD	HAYDEN ERIC	14 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
15 DRAWBRIDGE RD	HINTZ REBECCA J	15 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
16 DRAWBRIDGE RD	BIBEAU ROLAND J & BIBEAU SUSAN M	16 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
18 DRAWBRIDGE RD	TOMLIONSON DAVID JR & FUSCO CASSIDY	18 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
21 DRAWBRIDGE RD	VINO KIM JOSEPH & MAIRA JOY M	21 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
23 DRAWBRIDGE RD	NOAH BROWNING	23 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
24 DRAWBRIDGE RD	HAPPYLAND PROPERTIES LLC	24 ROOSEVELT AVE EXT	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
27 DRAWBRIDGE RD	NEW DIGS LLC	79 FOUNTAIN STREET	NORWICH	СТ	06360-0000
29 DRAWBRIDGE RD	FERGUSON WAYNE N	29 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000

30 DRAWBRIDGE RD	DAVISON KENNETH RAYMOND	NA	UNCASVILLE	CT	06382-0000
32 DRAWBRIDGE RD	BARRETT NORMAN A	32 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
35 DRAWBRIDGE RD	YORK RONALD D	35 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
36 DRAWBRIDGE RD	BARRETT NORMAN A	32 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
37 DRAWBRIDGE RD	GARVEY JAMES	37 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
39 DRAWBRIDGE RD	WATROUS PAUL & DOUGHERTY THERESE	39 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
40 DRAWBRIDGE RD	SHEEHAN PAUL E & EKSTROM TAMMY L	40 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
41 DRAWBRIDGE RD	FONTNEAU BENJAMIN C & PROVOST ALYSSA J	41 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
43 DRAWBRIDGE RD	43 DRAWBRIDGE ROAD LLC	23 OVERLOOK RD	GALES FERRY	СТ	06335-0000
46 DRAWBRIDGE RD	OLIVIA JOHN & JANET	46 DRAWBRIDGE RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
19 DRAWBRIDGE RD	ZANARDI DOMINIC	612 18TH AVE	BELMAR	NJ	07719-0000
3 HOLDSWORTH RD	WYNOSKY TIMOTHY	6 CAROLINA DR #16	OAKDALE	СТ	06370-0000
4 HOLDSWORTH RD	WAHL CAROL J	4 HOLDSWORTH RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
5 HOLDSWORTH RD	MOOSE DONNIE G + JUDITH E	5 HOLDSWORTH ROAD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
7 HOLDSWORTH RD	OLONE ROSEMARY C	7 HOLDSWORTH RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
8 HOLDSWORTH RD	HD INVESTMENTS LLC	1 OUINEBAUG DR	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
9 HOLDSWORTH RD	WATSON LISA F	9 HOLDSWORTH RD	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
3 KENDALL RD	WAHLCABOLS	3 KENDALL RD	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
5 KENDALL RD		5 KENDALL RD	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
6 KENDALL RD	COUBBIN JOHN + SANDBA I	6 KENDALL BOAD	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
7 KENDALL RD		7 KENDALL RD	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
9 KENDALL RD	BIBKBECK ANDY & CABOLYN B	9 KENDALL RD	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
			PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
			PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
			DRESTON	CT	06365-0000
			DESTON	CT	06365-0000
			DESTON	CT	06365-0000
			DESTON	CT	06365-0000
28 KENDALL KD		28 KENDALL KD	PRESION		06365-0000
3 PARKER ST		3 PARKER ST	PRESION		06365-0000
7 PARKER ST		7 PARKER ST	PRESION		06365-0000
8 PARKER ST		7 PARKER ST	PRESION		06365-0000
9 PARKER ST		9 PARKER SI	PRESION		06365-0000
		612 181H AVE		NJ	07719-0000
		PU BUX 353	GALES FERRY		06335-0000
12 PARKER ST		12 PARKER ST	PRESION	CI	06365-0000
14 PARKER ST	LABASI EDWARD C + DEBRA A	14 PARKER ST	PRESION	CI	06365-0000
16 PARKER ST		16 PARKER ST	PRESION	CI	06365-0000
6 PEQUOT ST	RILEY GARY W	6 PEQUOT ST	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
8 PEQUOT ST	OCEAN COTTAGES LLC	30 HARRIS FULLER RD	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
1 POINT ST	COLEY DANIEL & ALEXANDRA S	1 POINT ST	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
2 POINT ST	DOW ELIZABETH A	3 POINT ST	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
3 POINT ST	DOW ELIZABETH A	3 POINT ST	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
4 POINT ST	EDDY FRED W & DEBRA S	4 POINT ST	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
5 POINT ST	RYAN EDWARD W	5 POINT ST	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
6 POINT ST	BROWN KEITH	56 WARREN AVE	MYSTIC	CT	06355-0000
8 POINT ST	SANBORN JOHN	8 POINT ST	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
10 POINT ST	SIGGENS DONNA M	1685 ROUTE 163	OAKDALE	CT	06370-0000
12 POINT ST	SIGGENS JOSEPH B JR	12 POINT STREET	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
13 POINT ST	MADRY JACKE & FAYE A	13 POINT ST	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
4 STUART DR	KARASEVICH JAMES & PENELOPE JOY	4 STUART DR	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
6 STUART DR	OLSEN PETER B	10 TYLER DR	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
7 STUART DR	MULLANE CHRISTENE J	7 STUART DR	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
8 STUART DR	POTTER JULIE A	8 STUART DR	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
10 STUART DR	NOVAK RICHARD	10 STUART DR	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
11 STUART DR	CASEY PATRICK J & SUSAN B	11 STUART DR	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
12 STUART DR	HUNTER MICHAEL L	12 STUART DR	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
14 STUART DR	STUART MELISSA & KAISER RYAN	14 STUART DR	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
16 STUART DR	PERINGER ROBERT P SR & MILDRED	16 STUART DR	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
111 ROUTE 12	PRESTON TOWN OF	389 ROUTE 2	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
251A ROUTE 2A	CONNECTICUT STATE OF DOT	79 ELM ST	HARTFORD	СТ	06106-0000
251B ROUTE 2A	CONNECTICUT STATE OF	79 ELM ST	HARTFORD	СТ	06106-0000

109 ROUTE 12	CONNECTICUT STATE OF	79 ELM ST	HARTFORD	СТ	06106-0000
102 ROUTE 12	PRESTON TOWN OF	389 ROUTE 2	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
249 ROUTE 2A	CONNECTICUT STATE OF	79 ELM ST	HARTFORD	CT	06106-0000
54 ROUTE 12	PRESTON TOWN OF	389 ROUTE 2	PRESTON	СТ	06365-0000
132 ROUTE 12	SE CT REGIONAL RESOURCES REC AUTH	132 ROUTE 12	PRESTON	CT	06365-0000
17 STUART DR	STUART WILLIAM SCOTT & GINA MARIE	156 QUERCUS AVE	WILLIMANTIC	СТ	06226-0000

Public Meeting Announcement: SCRRRA Facebook



Public Meeting Announcement: SCRRRA Instagram



Public Meeting Announcement: SCRRRA LinkedIn



Public Meeting Announcement: SCRRRA Website



November 4, 2024:

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Presented by the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)

OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING REGARDING: SCRRRA has proposed construction of a regional composting facility on the land it owns at 132 Military Hwy (Route 12) in Preston. The envisioned facility will create needed infrastructure for the composting of wood chips and food waste from our local communities, much of which is currently disposed of in the regular trash at very high expense. This facility will save Preston, and all SCRRRA's 12 member towns, significant disposal costs, and produce a high quality, environmentally friendly soil amendment to replace manmade fertilizers. The project obtained approval from Preston Planning & Zoning in January 2024 and is currently pending permit approval from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

WILL BE HELD AT: SCRRA,7 Hurlbutt Rd Suite O, Gales Ferry, CT 06335

ON: Monday, November 25, 2024 at 6:00 PM

PRIOR TO THE MEETING, INTERESTED PARTIES MAY RSVP ON WEEKDAYS, WITH RESPECT TO ATTENDANCE, TO: <u>office@scrrra.org</u> or (860) 381-5558

THE AGENDA FOR THE INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE:

- 1. General introduction
- 2. Description of the proposed facility
- Operational overview
 Questions and answers

TO REVIEW PROJECT DOCUMENTS, PLEASE VISIT: www.scrrra.org/about/public-records

TO SUBMIT WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS, PLEASE WRITE TO US: office@scrrra.org

Return to News | Next Post >



Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority 7 Hurlbutt Road Suite O Gales Ferry, CT 06335 860-381-5558

SCRRRA is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, age, or disability in our programs or activities.

© Copyright 2024 Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority. All Rights Reserved.

....



Public Meeting Announcement: Town of Preston Website

Public Meeting Announcement: Town of Preston Facebook

Nancy Smullen November 8 at 8:21AM · 🔇

Public Informational Meeting Announcement

On November 25, 2024, at 6:00 PM, there will be a Public Informational Meeting at SCRRRA's office in Gales Ferry regarding SCRRRA's proposed construction of a regional composting facility on the land it owns at 132 Military Highway (Route 12) in Preston. More info:

https://www.scrrra.org/public-informational-meeting.../



Public Informational Meeting at SCRRRA



...

Public Meeting Announcement: Sign Posted on Property





AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Robin Cano Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority 7 Hurlbutt RD Gales Ferry CT 06335-1463

STATE OF CONNECTICUT, COUNTY OF NEW LONDON

The Bulletin, a newspaper printed and published in the city of Norwich, and of general circulation in the County of New London, State of Connecticut, and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issue:

11/04/2024

and that the fees charged are legal.

Sworn to and subscribed before on 11/04/2024

- l'ima	
Kelgen auf	_
STUCK CULLY	
Notary, State of WI, County of Brown	
979.25	_

My commission expires

Publication Cost: Tax Amount:	\$225.00 \$0.00	
Payment Cost:	\$225.00	
Order No:	10707034	# of Copies:
Customer No:	1380472	0
PO #:		

THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE!

Please do not use this form for payment remittance.

VICKY FELTY Notary Public State of Wisconsin

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Presented by the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)

OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING REGARDING: SCRRRA has proposed construction of a regional composting facility on the land it owns at 132 Military Hwy (Route 12) in Preston. The envisioned facility will create needed infrastructure for the composting of wood chips and food waste from our local communities, much of which is currently disposed of in the regular trash at very high expense. This facility will save Preston, and all SCRRRA's 12 member towns, significant disposal costs, and produce a high quality, environmentally friendly soil amendment to replace manmade fertilizers. The project obtained approval from Preston Planning & Zoning in January 2024 and is currently pending permit approval from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

WILL BE HELD AT: SCRRRA, 7 Hurlbutt Rd Suite O, Gales Ferry, CT 06335

ON: Monday, November 25, 2024

PRIOR TO THE MEETING, INTERESTED PARTIES MAY RSVP ON WEEKDAYS, WITH RESPECT TO ATTENDANCE, TO: office@scrrra.org or (860) 381-5558

THE AGENDA FOR THE INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE:

- General introduction
- Description of the proposed facility
- Operational overview
- Questions and answers

Building a Regional Compost Facility for Southeastern Connecticut Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan

Meeting Summary:

The informal public meeting was held on Monday, November 25, 2024 at 6:00 PM at the SCRRRA office at 7 Hurlbutt Road in Gales Ferry, CT. Approximately 10 members of the community were in attendance. David Aldridge, Executive Director of SCRRRA, and Greg McCarron of SCS Engineers presented information about the proposed facility and responded to questions and concerns from attendees. No questions or comments were submitted in written format.

Link to video recording: https://vimeo.com/1036006846?share=copy (Also available at www.scrra.org/about-us/public-records)

Questions & Answers:

- Will you take in food waste from non-SCRRRA towns? Yes, we expect to.
- From Long Island? No, not economically feasible.
- How will residents get their food waste to the facility? There will be no on-site residential drop-off; we anticipate transfer station drop-off, remote drop-off sites, as well as curbside collection.
- Commercial?

The facility will not have a depackaging system, which will limit large commercial entities. [Reviewed various methods.]

What about incentives?
 Our motivation is to reduce solid waste costs, which should be an incentive. Explained how volume discounts work. Mentioned the intent to provide a PILOT (Payment In Lieu

how volume discounts work. Mentioned the intent to provide a PILOT (Payment In Lieu Of Taxes) to the Town of Preston.

• Will you be taking in biosolids?

We will not take biosolids, manures, or grass clippings. We will take source separated organics (SSO), wood mulch, and leaves.

• Will we be using road millings? It is carcinogenic and we would prefer the use of concrete.

We will use concrete for all mixing and active composting. Current plans are to use asphalt for the windrow curing area (not, don't use recycled road millings).

Will there be any heat recovery?

Not with this design, that is typically done in an in-vessel system.

• What about odors? At times we can smell the incinerator in the summer. We are going to be conservative and use a 4:1 mix to eliminate odors. The wood chip cover acts as a bio filter. We experienced no odor issues with out pilot project, with far fewer controls (no bunkers).

• What about rats? Will there be a rat problem? Vectors (rats, birds, etc.) will not be a problem because the pile is maintained at over 130 degrees during the active composting process; too hot for pests to be a problem. Again, we did not experience problems during our pilot test with fewer controls.

- What about inside the receiving building? The materials are tipped onto a bed of woodchips and mixed upon receipt, and the building will be emptied every day.
- What about leaky garbage trucks? Trucks licensed for food waste must have tight liquid control.
- What about the increase in truck traffic? We have issues with litter from the trucks going to the incinerator.
 Minimal trucks, one or two per day of food waste, one or two 100-yard trailers of wood
- waste per week.
 Have archaeological surveys been done looking for arrowheads, etc.? No, we have already satisfied all zoning requirements.
- Will there be a market for the finished product? We intend to sell the product to local farms (utilizing the USDA subsidy program), landscapers, residents as well as supplying our towns and community groups.
- What about noise?

We will work during regular working hours when the incinerator is open. The aeration equipment is quiet, and we will not be grinding on-site.



Public Informational Meeting Monday, November 25, 2024 6:00 PM



- General introduction
- Description of proposed facility
- Operational overview
- Questions and answers

General Introduction



SCRRRA Member Municipalities



SCRRRA Services

- Solid Waste Disposal Contracts
- Recycling Contracts
- Hauling Subsidies
- Yard Waste/Brush Grinding
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection & Paper Shredding Events

• Recycling programs for:

Alkaline batteries Tires Fluorescent bulbs Electronics Freon Used oil & antifreeze Used oil filters & oily debris Mattresses Fuel cylinders (propane tanks)

In-State Waste Disposal Capacity



Source: CMMS Amendment, CT DEEP, 2023

Out-of-State Waste Disposal



Northeast Landfill Capacity



Projected Northeast Landfill Capacity Through 2050 (ME, MA, NH, VT, RI, CT, NY) Source: CMMS Amendment, CT DEEP, 2023
CT Average Tip Fees



Source: CMMS Amendment, CT DEEP, 2023









Description of Proposed Facility & Operational Overview



SITE PLAN LOT 132 BLOCK 12 TOWN OF PRESTON, NEW LONDON COUNTY, CONNECTICUT

ASP COMPOST FACILITY

OCTOBER 2023

PREPARED BY: SCS ENGINEERS 4 EXECUTIVE BLVD, SUITE 303 SUFFERN, NY (845) 357-1510 PREPARED FOR (OWNER): SOUTHEAST CONNECTICUT REGIONAL RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY 7 HURLBUTT ROAD GALES FERRY, CT 06335

PROJECT ADDRESS: 132 ROUTE 12 PRESTON, CONNECTICUT 06365



ABUTTERS LIST

21-1-12-12M BAVIN PRESTON LLC 77 STEPLING IBJAD BABT HARTFORD	et.	Den ma	26-1-12-10 CASTLE REALTY U.C P-0 BOX 256 STORINGTON	67	86375	36-1-12-122 COVANTA SE CONNEL ISSN PREDAKONT RO N ATLANTA	E - 61 DA	/T 00 1E 410 38305
26-1-13-138 RABOVERT THOMAS ISB ROUTE 12 PRESTON	е.а ст	04285	26-1-12-128 VOCATURA PROPERT NURROWN BCHOOL R PRESTON	881 D C7	NC 10	39-1-12-138 VOC'U REALTY LLC IN EROWN SCHOOL R PRESTON	а ст	86365
26-1-12-542 VOCATURA PROPERT SS BROWN SCHOOL & PRESTON	назі 19 ст	06365	26-1-ORAT-34 HARPYLAND PROPER 24 ROOSEVELT AVE E PRESTON	780 87 67	MINS	25-1-8201-5 POLLARD-JOYCE 5 KENDALL RD PRESTON	c#	MEM5
26.1.X2N1.6 COURDIN JOHN + SANDRA L S KENSALL ROAD PRESTON CT DIDNS		26.1.X2N1.7 DELAGRAZ MENDEZ JORSE LUIS 7 KENSALL RD PRESTON CT 16345			26-1 ABDY & CAROL YN R Brinzeen Andy & Carol yn R 9 Kennall Ro Preston cy Ikans			
28-1-KER1-16 BE CT REGIONAL REEDUNCEE REC PO BOE 187 NORWOOI OT 0008		UN-1-KER1-IN BURKOOS-LLC IN KENDALL RO PRESTON CT ININS			28-12-122 BE CT REGIONAL REQUIRCES REC 3108 PEDRICHT RO HE - 2715 410 ATLANTA GA 36305			

INDEX OF SHEETS						
SHEET NO.	DRAWING TITLE	REVISION				
1	COVER SHEET	0				
2	IMPROVEMENT LOCATION SURVEY	0				
3	ASP COMPOST FACILITY SITE PLAN (FINAL)	0				
4	GRADING & DRAINAGE PLAN	0				
5	EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN	0				
6	DETAILS 1	0				
7	DETAILS 2	0				

PERMIT SET 10/27/23 NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION









- 4. Open windrows
- 5. Screening
- 6. Stockpile

Questions & Answers



To view project documents or submit written questions:

www.scrrra.org/about/public-records





David Aldridge Executive Director daldridge@scrrra.org (860) 381-5558 ext. 201

Public Meeting Video Recording Transcript (Automatically Generated)

I'll go ahead and introduce myself to y'all. I'm Dave Aldridge. I'm the executive director of SCRRRA. I'm pleased you came to our, we like to call this our recycled office. This was, a school, I guess was open in 1963. For a long time, after it was closed, we had our recycling coordinator was officed here, and then the town decided to, do something with the building and turn it into a business incubator.

So they leased out rooms to startup companies, and pretty much filled the building. And there were a number of, of businesses here you might be familiar with, especially right across the street was, printing service. There's a dance studio, a number of things. And it really worked well. And, they ended up selling the building to, a private individual.

And now we're at this end, and we've been here for about seven years, I guess. And, the other the middle of the building, it's all daycares. And then there's some additional businesses at the other end. This has really turned out to be a great place to, great, great place to have our office and and obviously, it's a nice setup for, for meetings and whatnot.

And I particularly like it because I live in Ledyard too. I live over off Iron Street. So, after 30 years of commuting in Big cities and whatnot, I have a 12 minute commute from my office to here. Top speed 35. And I get to go home, see my dog every day at lunch. So I'm, I'm really enjoying it here.

And, I love the community and, I guess we have one more, it's 6:00. So I'll go ahead and get started. So again, I'm Dave Aldridge executive director at SCRRRA. With us is, Greg McCarron, who is with SCS Engineers, the company that has, designed the, the planned facility that we have, Liz Chuff is our operations manager.

Her husband is is filming for us. It's a requirement of DEEP that we record the meeting. So we're not doing anything nefarious here. We're just doing what DEEP's telling us to do. And then the back of the room is Winston Averill, who's our recycling coordinator and expert in all things recycling. So, with that... great.

So what we'll do is I'm going to go through some general information, about, what our plans are, very importantly, why we're doing this. And, and a little background as to who we are and what we're all about. After that, Greg will go through the facility itself and explain to you what it does, how it does it, what all the controls are involved with it.

How it works. And an operational overview. And then and then questions and answers at the end. Although I'd like to keep this fairly informal. So if you have a question as I go along and as Greg moves along, please ask you to go ahead. And you know, let us know. And, and we'll try to answer your questions, effectively.

So for for those of you who don't know us, we're the, Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority, called SCRRRA for obvious reasons. We were formed in the 1980s. To, to manage solid waste, solid waste issues for the southeast region of the state. We have 12, 12, towns. Population served is about 230,000 people.

We manage 100 and about 130,000 tons of trash per year. We manage about 18,000 tons of curbside recycling a year. So our services are actually fairly broad. We hold the solid waste disposal contract. We, currently send our trash to Lisbon, Lisbon facility. We hold the curbside recycling contract that's with Willimantic Waste, which is now a division of Casella.

A very large, New England, waste handling, company. We subsidize what we do. So we actually, through our contracts and through reserves that that we've been able to accumulate and invest over the years.

We actually do what we do for, less money than it cost to actually handle the trash alone. So we subsidize the trash.

Currently, we're paying about \$73 a ton for trash. We charge the towns less than that. We also handle recycling contracts, which, cost about \$65 a ton. Recycling is not free. I think that a lot of people think that it is, but it isn't. And that's at basically no no cost to the communities as well as the other, things that we do here.

So we manage yard waste and brush grinding so we have a large... Well, I'll get to that in a minute. We do that all the transportation to 12 transfer stations in our communities. We manage 12 house or nine household hazardous waste collections, a year at no cost to the, to the residents. We. Our last one was right here at Ledyard high school, just a little bit ago.

We also manage most of what goes into the transfer stations. So we hold the contracts for all of these, all these different, commodities that, that we see are recycled properly. So the reason we're looking at all this, you may have seen in the newspaper about, two years ago, the waste-to- energy facility in Hartford closed.

There were originally about seven facilities, in the state. Wallingford closed. It was a very small facility that closed in 2017, but Hartford was the second largest in the state. And its closure made a really fundamental impact on how on the expense and how we handle waste in the state. The facility had been a coal burning plant, and they retrofitted it back in the 1980s to handle trash.

A lot of the components of that go in, particularly the the generators that make the electricity were 80 years old, and the facility basically just ran out of gas. So it was closed. And what happened is the amount of waste that we, were handling the capacity to handle it was constrained quite a bit. The state never built out enough waste to energy plants to handle everything we do.

They handled about 83% of it. And the rest of that was going out of state with the closure of the Hartford facility, we're now sending, 40% of everything in the state to out of state landfills, and other waste-toenergy facilities out of state, and that's a great expense and a great environmental expense as well.

So here it shows where our trash in the state is headed, because we don't have enough capacity to deal with it ourselves. The, ours here is locally, but the state's in quite a bit of a problem. The next slide, shows you landfill capacity in New England. So we're kind of like the canary in the coal mine, if you will.

We're the first state that's really, really run into the capacity issue. We closed all of our landfills about ten, 12 years ago. But all around New England, you can see landfill capacity is going down. So the the issues that we're facing here in Connecticut today are going to be widespread. And all throughout New England, within the next ten, 15 years, in New England's landlocked, you know, it's not like we're in Texas or Colorado over here, where you've got lots of lots and lots of land.

And you to send it out there and bury it somewhere, we need to deal with it. And the upshot of all of this... is the expense. So a tip fee is the cost to have a truck unload its load on on the tip, they call the tip floor, at a waste-to-energy facility.

So it's when they deliver it before they put it in the incinerator. And it's a per ton charge. So every time that's dropped, you can see in 2012, which costs for about \$60 a ton with the capacity reduction, simple supply and demand, that price, you can see, is up, up over \$110 a ton. There are parts in western Connecticut that are paying \$135 a ton.

And while we hold a contract here, that's very favorable. Like I said, we're paying about \$73 a ton. That contract expires in 2030. So when that happens, we expect to be subject to the same rates to the rest of

the state is paying. And we think in 2030, we're going to go from somewhere around \$80 a ton to about \$145 a ton, a really fundamental change.

And so we're working hard to try to get ahead of that. Now, the state recognized that they have this capacity issue. And basically the strategy that they've developed is we're going to recycle our way out, okay. The the cost to build more facilities to handle the waste is prohibitive. We're talking north of half \$1 billion for a facility.

So what they're they're challenge to to us and to the rest of the state is improve your recycling. Find new ways to divert what you're throwing away. Most of all, try to just reduce the amount of trash. Don't waste so much. So we can stop hauling it. And if you think about it, trash has no value.

So we're taking something that has no value, and we're shipping it on trucks with greenhouse gas emissions all the way to Pennsylvania and Ohio, which really doesn't make any sense. So we're looking at improving recycling. And looking at all the components that make up the trash stream. What appeared to be the lowest hanging fruit be able to deal with was food waste, organics.

Food waste makes up somewhere between 25 and 30% of all the trash we throw away. And if we can pull that out, number one, the it's very wet, so the incinerators will work more efficiently. And B, if we pull it out and do the right thing with it, we can actually recycle it into something that's both beneficial for the community but also beneficial for the environment.

So that's what we decided to tackle right out of the gates. We're also trying to improve our recycling, education and get more recycling pulled out of the waste stream. We're looking at a potential glass program that, can take glass, which is another component. We've we've started diverting textiles. We have you may have seen some new boxes around that say Apparel Impact.

That's, textiles that would have been going into the trash that are being recycled and reused. So we're doing a lot of different things. But tonight we're here to talk about the food waste. So the next so SCRRRA owns 33 acres of land. Where the Preston facility sits, as well as area, all around that from basically the highway to the river, south to, to that this row of trees.

Right, right, right in this section. We when we thought about tackling the food waste problem, the board, which is, I report to the board of directors, it's one person from each town. There are some public works director of some of the town CEOs, the Preston first selectman, mayor Fred from Ledyard, are very involved with this.

So they sent me to composting school and say, what's the best way to do this? And we looked at a technology that we really like for a couple of reasons. And, Greg, will get into the technology, but it allows us to take food waste, mix it with a carbon source and make it what we hope would be a very high grade compost material.

It would be great for local farming, for communities, for garden groups, for home gardeners, a really good, good and valuable product. So we took a look at what could we do with this property. So we already own a horizontal wood grinder, it's this big, big machine here. We take that around to all of our, 12 towns to the transfer station.

So we grind up all the material there. Some of you may go and get some of the resulting mulch. Most towns have it available for free, I know Ledyard actually has it once a year where they, you know, load it out for people and they move quite a bit of it. And it's been great for that.

The mulch itself doesn't have good commercial value because what's in the mulch is whatever people put in the pile at the transfer station. So there could be a there would be a lot of leaves in there. It could be a

lot of dirt in there. There could be. We find all kinds of things. Garden hoses would, might get swept out of the back of a pickup.

You know, it's just a lot of things. And, it makes it not commercially viable to bag up and sell like a Home Depot or a garden center. So we decided to see if we could use this carbon source the mulch, mix it with food waste, and make a high grade compost out of it. So, a few years back, we did a test with Greg's help at the Stonington transfer station, where we did two batches where we took food waste supplied by Blue Earth Compost, hauling Company here in Connecticut, as well as Casella.

We brought in food. Waste was both residential and commercial and nature, and we mixed it with a wood waste. The first batch was four parts wood to one part food. The second batch was three parts wood to one part food waste. We ran it created the compost. It was about a ten week process all through. We sent samples off to the (STA) labs, which is certified by the US Composting Council, and we got, the chemical makeups and the biological makeup, of the, with what we were producing.

At the end of the day, it ended up being a very high grade, very marketable. Very stable, compost, high end, much higher end than what you would go and buy it at a Home Depot. After we made the compost, we donated it to half a dozen, local organic farms. We donated some to, some local garden clubs.

I snitched a little bit myself, and I can tell you I had seven foot tomatoes this year. It worked really well. We had the Ledyard Garden club has a garden behind our building, where they grow food for the, Linda Davis Food bank in Ledyard Center. And they came back with really, you know, rave reviews about how well it worked with, the vegetables.

They were growing. So. So we had a place and we had, we knew that we could do it. So it was really a matter of saying, okay, how do we take this and, and and put a a good facility. On the property that has high controls, that'll produce a really high compost. And the good news is our estimates are that the cost of recycling the food waste will be about half of what it cost to send stuff to waste energy plant.

So we recycle it, We end up with a really great soil amendment. It's useful to the community. And best of all, the process sequesters carbon could actually pulls carving out of the atmosphere, which is a great help as far as reducing greenhouse gases. So I guess the next screen, this is where it gets technical and this is where I stop talking and let Greg take over what we're talking about constructing is something similar to this.

This is a facility in, outside of Syracuse, New York. It's been in existence for the better part of ten years. Very, very effective. Works very well. Even in the Syracuse, winters. This this is, performed very well. What we're going to do is a little bit different from this. And I'll hand it to Greg, who can show you plans of the facility, how it works.

And between us, hopefully we can answer whatever questions you have. Greg. You want to take it from here? All right. So, and good evening, everyone again, Greg McCarron engineers. So we've been working with Dave and his staff, for the past five years or so, specifically on this project. We've worked with, with SCRRRA for close to 15 or 20 years, with the old Montville landfill.

So, so we've we've been in working, relationship with Dave and the staff for some time. You know, as Dave mentioned, anytime. Any questions come up, please feel free to raise your hand, interrupt. And, you know, we can we can talk through any questions that you might have. So, I think there's 3 or 4

These are the engineering drawings that we have prepared. And this, these were submitted to Connecticut Deep, Department of, Energy and Environment. And so we we have received a permit for the

stormwater management aspect of the project. We're waiting on the, approval for the solid waste management permit. So this one should go ahead.

This, I'm going to stop at one of these, but this is kind of an overall site plan. It's fairly busy at this level, so I'll, I'll let Liz want to go on to the next one. This is the the grading and drainage plan. And one more and then I'm going to come back to this.

Well, I guess I can talk from either one of these. And this is the erosion and sediment control plan. So, You know, as Dave mentioned. So we're, you know, this is Route was it 2 or 12 was get confused with, with those numbers, Route 12 out here, this is the, entrance road, Brewster Road into the, Covanta

Now ReWorld Waste-to-energy facility. And so just south of that kind of entrance road, this is kind of an unimproved site right now. So we'll come in here and prove this is fairly flat, fairly level. This there is some, trees. So we'll have to remove some, you know, relatively small trees, brush that sort of thing and grade the site.

The site does right now slope from, from the bottom to top or south to north. And, and there's a big, kind of, infiltration basin that Covanta uses, on their portion of the site. And, and again, this portion apparently drains in there through two culverts across the road. So from a stormwater management perspective, nothing's going to change, so to speak.

And still any, any stormwater is going to run across the site and go into that same basin. I know we're going to talk about some other things coming up, but let's see. If there's anything else just at us at a big site level on the south side, we are planning on putting in a, you know, relatively small screening berm.

That'll be about 4 or 5ft tall. There is there is a wooded area here, and there is a 100ft setback from the property line on the south. So, you know, operations are going to be, you know, setback from there, some residential houses down here to the south. But when we step back from the property line and again, we'll have kind of a screening berm,

What is what we're going to I think it's two slides up from here. The steps. Yeah. What the steps. Yeah. This one. So this is, I'll kind of walk you through the operations. So obviously we're numbered, one through six. And so that kind of again, North is up on this site plan. So the material comes in on the west side, on the left side as you look at it and proceeds, you know, across the page, as it's being in process.

So, so number one is the scale. So everything coming in in terms of a food waste component is weighed on the scale. Okay. So there'll be records, available at the authority's office will know what's coming in in terms of the food scrap component, kind of a full buildout of this facility. It will be about 5000 tons per year of food scraps.

Okay. Initially, that's probably going to be less than that as the program ramps up. It might be about 1000 tons per year, is what we're we're estimating at this point in time. So that's the food scrap component of it. Is that just from the members member towns? Actually, we, we're probably going to open up regionally.

So most of New London county, I know I've been sitting on the southeastern COG, Solid Waste committee, and there's surrounding towns that are really, really interested in doing this as well. But, the most of it will probably be from the 12 towns just because they the problem we have now is there are no other sites anywhere near.

And like I said, as soon as you start trucking something, it gets expensive. So, probably most of what we get will be within a 25 mile radius. So it'll be pretty much the. But you are going to take from outside of that. Yes we will. Does that include taking anything in from Long Island? No, no. At this point in time it's really not economically feasible for that.

We're not we're not going to be doing the hauling piece of that. So, I think the majority of what we'll get will be either from food collected at transfer stations, curbside, collections available. There are several organics haulers setting up shop here. And a lot from commercial entities, restaurants, schools, casinos. Because, maybe I don't know, you know, we don't really do much of anything with them, but, you know, we've got, Conn College, Mitchell College, we've got, Coast Guard Academy.

There's there's quite a bit here. There's a couple convention hotels, but I think a real preponderance of what would come in will probably be right along the coastline, where there's a lot of tourist activity, a lot of hotels and and a lot.

But the average resident, will there be a process? And no part of it on the residents part will take like, all right, I have my food waste. Instead of just throwing it into the general dump and collecting it into a separate thing, what would that look like for the average resident, or is that not even the no, it's actually, we have a pretty, pretty good idea that in the source separation is a really important part, just like it is for recycle, right?

You know, and, no, like I said, I think there will probably be opportunities to have collection at transfer stations. There's a program going on in Ledyard right now. I'm doing it myself. I'm figured, you hypocrite. If I didn't. And, I've got a 12 pound bucket that they gave me, and I've got compostable liners in it, and every Saturday I just bring my dog Beau and I ride up to see Jerry at the transfer station.

There's a bin and we drop it in. Okay? And there's no charge for that. It's pretty much what that would look like. Yeah. And then likely there would be the the. Yeah, you grab the, Black Earth bin? We have curbside pickup in Stonington. Yes you do. It's a it's a, it's a pilot test. That's currently that's in bags, which we're not going to take.

We don't want plastic in this process may happen down the road, but we concern ourselves with microplastics in the process. So we'll be using compostable. But one of the companies we were talking to about coming in and working here is Black Earth Compost. This is a bin that they have for home collection. Okay. And there's also an opportunity that we see, are two companies that make collection bins that are activated via Bluetooth for you from your phone.

So and those have been tested around and around the state. We find it really interesting where you can take and put one of these bins closer, where people would, would naturally be like a grocery store, or maybe the town hall or wherever the place can. More convenient place would be, and you can sign up and once you sign up, your phone has an activation where you can go and put it by the bin, it'll open up the door and you can put your food waste in, but it stays locked so that people can't put other things in there.

So it's very controlled. And that's something else we're looking at. I think the real key is to make it as least expensive and as convenient as we can, because it's an effort, just like recycling's an effort. You know, we're asking you to say, hey, I'm going to take my food waste, and I'm not going to put it in the trash, which is easy.

I'm going to do something else with and we want to make it. And since this weekend. So we're exploring a lot of a lot of different things. What about incentives? We'll see. You know, again, what we're trying to do here is our motivation number one was to get it out of the waste-to-energy, what we're really trying to keep the costs down.

One of the things, one of the ways that we're doing that is by the fact that we're going to own the facility ourselves. Part of the problem with. It is with some of the sites that exist not in eastern Connecticut, but in

other places, is that it's a for profit. And and that cost to drop it off is almost the same as what it costs to drop off trash.

So for us, one of the incentives is we're going to make like drop offs. Things very likely free for the town. It'll reduce the, the amount of trash that they're paying for, that's an incentive. Part of our business plan is that we're going to take this. And, part of our business plan is have a PILOT payment, Payment In Lieu Of Taxes.

So we're going to take the facility and actually put it onto the tax rolls. We're we're nontaxable entity, but we're going to go ahead and set it up so that the town of Preston will be getting a tax base out of this operation. So there are a few things there, that would be expanded, that would be incentives, for me, I can tell you that, you know, in Ledyard I have a 60 gallon trash bin.

I've got a 90 gallon recycle bin. Trash is picked up once a week. Recycling is picked up every two weeks. I'm putting my trash bin out about once every three weeks now, because it's that much less going in. And it doesn't smell. So there there are some things, my guess is we'll probably offer discounts early on until there's density for the hauler.

You know, the hauler, once they come in, you know, if there's 100 typically what Black Earth does I know they'll come in and say they need at least 50 customers when they're 50, customers will be a certain cost. When that goes to say 100 customers, they take their cost down by 10 or 15%. There's another 100 customers. They take it down another 10 to 15% just to get, because their costs are less because there's more pickup with one route.

So, but we're going to be looking into all of that. Part of our plan is before we would operate a facility, once we know, once we get a permit, once everybody here is, is satisfied. Once we've selected somebody to build the plant, we're going to work with a nonprofit out in Massachusetts to do an outreach program where we go out into the communities and we go out to local businesses, and we we basically teach businesses how to source separate, we look for opportunities to do food diversion.

If you look at the hierarchy, the first thing you want to do instead of doing anything with it, if you're not going to eat it yourself, is to divert to someone else. So they can eat it to try to develop better food share programs. After that, you go to an animal feed. If that's available. If not, then you go to composting.

So we're going to try to reduce the amount upfront. We're going to try to use it for better things. And then as a last resort we would be there to do this. So that's the game plan. Once when we get there believe me you'll see it. We're going to be all over the place. So I'm sorry I'm stealing your thunder here.

Greg. Yeah, I no problem. Yeah. So I was saying, you know, we're talking about, you know, the material coming in and the food waste being weighed about 5000 tons per year at full buildout. Just for reference, the the ground wood, Dave showed you the grinder that is operating now within the 12 towns at each transfer station.

So that material, a lot of that is being hauled off at our expense out of out of state at expense. Some of that material is going to come in. It's already pre-ground. In terms of tonnage, it's probably about, 7500 tons of woodchips per year as part of the process. Is that going to be your only source of organics for you?

That's. Well, the food is organic. The wood is organic. So, you know, in composting terms, the food is your nitrogen source, the woodchips is your carbon. So the classic. Well, the reason I ask for because in the, in the region not too long ago, if anyone is aware of Agriblends, they were promised to do the same thing up in Voluntown/Sterling.

And then they got caught mixing sewage sludge and heavy metals in with. And then people got those bags for free and they get distributed throughout southeastern Connecticut. So that's why I ask you, there'll be there will be no biosolids. Human or animal. And we're not going to bring in cow manure, and certainly not horse manure.

Horse manure a lot of times because of the where they get the feed, will have persistent herbicides and pesticides in it. So, I mean, you'd put your compost out to grow your vegetables and kill all your vegetables. So we don't want any biosolids. And, we'll just I mean, just so you know, we were promised kind of the same thing in the area, and something else happened down the road, you know?

So we're we're a public entity. That's not going to happen. I guarantee we're not going to take grass clippings for the same reasons as the horse feed Because there could be, things that people put on their lawns could get into this. We're not going to take that. It's going to be food waste the wood waste and very likely, leaf waste, which is a faster break down carbon source.

So it might help the process. And what do we have? Or we're going to hire somebody with a lot of experience to operate this. And those mixtures will really be determined by the operator. I'm not the one to sit here and tell you that, but there will be no biowaste, absolutely not. Would cardboard be a carbon source?

It could be. It could be. I mean, if it's if it's, I mean, there's a higher, better used to actually recycle cardboard, but say, yeah, if you had a greasy pizza box. Absolutely. No. I was wondering if it was expensive to get rid of or if you were if it was expensive for you guys to get rid of cardboard.

Well, it's, it's part of a mix that that goes in our, our, our, mixed recycling up to Willimantic Waste. Like I said, we're, we're paying we're paying somewhere in the neighborhood of \$60 a ton right now to to do that. Yeah. It's, but you couldn't use cardboard in a process like this. You could use some.

But to divert it. Right. It but we would much rather have a recycle. We'd rather pay to have a recycle the best, highest and best used. And we prefer to have the, the, the things that we're trying to get out of the waste stream like the food waste we prefer to. That's what we're really trying to get with our, you know, nitrogen source.

And don't you need to mix it with a carbon source? Yeah. That's going to be the wood waste. Yeah. So much wood waste that's available. So, you know, even the material that we're talking about using is out. You know even we generate like 40,000 yards of wood waste and it's a lot. So there's no shortage of that. And no, which is actually fairly rare because a lot of compost operations, they have a hard time getting the carbon.

But in our case we've got I mean, we're shipping it off to Rhode Island at this point. And so we'll actually be saving a little bit of money by diverting it here and again, making a great product and helping the environment. So yeah. And so our mix and just a touching on the compost science. So you know the classic incoming ratio we want is is 30 to 1 carbon to nitrogen.

And so so those are tons coming in 5000 food, 7500 roughly wood, that's on a a tonnage and a weight basis. Once we go past the scale, everything else is done on a volume basis okay. So so on a volumetric basis. So as that material comes in its weighed, comes around this loop here and load it back into a receiving building.

So the food is going to be, you know, dumped or tipped onto that, the floor of the receiving building, a concrete floor in a enclosed building will have a bed of woodchips on the floor so that material, as it

comes out is going to land on the woodchips or mix in more woodchips from a volumetric perspective, now it's 3 to 1, 4 to 1, woodchips to food.

I thought I read somewhere and somewhere in the facility process you were going to use, road millings. Well, road millings would be asphalt millings. So that's that's the base just in the some of the general areas we're talking about using that. But okay, let's go ahead. My concern about that is if it's exposed to rainwater, then we all know that that material is carcinogenic and probably should not be used.

So if you're going to pour more cement, I would personally would prefer to see more cement used than instead of road buildings, because if they're exposed to rainwater, it's going to leach down into the soil and and kill off what's underneath it. Yeah. And go back down into the groundwater. So the to me the key here is a receiving building will be a concrete floor.

And then the ASP bays, Aerated Static Pile base with material is processed and a lot of decomposition happen. That's that. Those are concrete floors as well. You know, where we get into the curing windrows and some of the screening areas? You know, we are proposing asphalt milling. So, like I said, I have at least asphalt roads that, that we drive on every day.

So it's up for discussion. Still, this is into the, into the. Well, that's why I brought it up it's in to the state. You know, these are prelim plans. So if we want to change to this area, the sale/stockpile will be, you know, you know, full blown asphalt, like a, you know, an asphalt road. But that's that's what we have on on the on the plans.

I think there's better material that could be used well and should be looked into if you're going to do it. Fair comment. So let me get back to, you know, the, the process. So and step two is the receiving and mixing. So again, that's all being done indoors. So the food and the food is going to be handled on a daily basis.

So as that food comes in by the end of the day it's mixed with with the woodchips, and it comes out of the receiving building and goes into one of the ASP bays. Okay. So that's an Aerated Static Pile. So as that name implies, it's static for, you know, 2 to 3 weeks. So it's just sitting there and but it's aerated.

So if you can kind of make out there's some dashed lines underneath. There's, there's an aeration system underneath the, the asphalt, floor. And when blowing air up through the pile to aerate it and that's, you know, helping with the decomposition, you know, it's an aerobic process. So we want to give the, bugs and microbes that are making everything happen, you know, oxygen that they need.

So we have, a phase one asp, and then after, again, 2 to 3 weeks go into a phase two like that will be 2 to 3 weeks. So that's where most of the decomposition is happening. Once we're. Yeah. Good. Excuse me. And is there a heat recovery possibility? There is a possibility others have done that.

There's no plans in in here for that. At the moment. Yeah. My, my experience is in most places they're able to do that when they have an in vessel system. The problem with in vessel number one, it's extremely expensive and it's very limited. What you can do, volume-wise and again, we're trying to move as much material as we can.

So in this case, we won't be capturing the heat but the heat is integral to the entire process. I'm just curious, of course, you know, you, buildings have, you know, heat in in concrete floors. You know, if there was a way to capture heat and. Yeah, we're we're going to have our aeration pipes and where we're blowing air through so we're actually, I guess maybe somewhat ironically, now, I say it we're actually trying to shed the heat because because the, the, the bugs, bugs want oxygen, but they also want a certain temperature range so that if it's too cold or too hot, they don't work as efficiently.

So part of the reason of blowing air through is to shed a lot of the heat through water vapor and keep keep the temperature in a good range to make the, microbes work. Yes, sir. So you're blowing air through here? Yes. What about the smell? This is my neighborhood. Yes. Yeah. So I want to know because I can smell the incinerator on some days in the summer.

Sometimes for a week. Yeah. So? So, you know, good thing about having lots of woodchips available is. So. like I said the kind of the ideal ratio, optimum ratio in terms of, you know, the microbes and processing is 30 to 1. If you're lower than that, that's where you run into potential odors. You're higher than that. It's it's much better from an odor perspective.

It slows down the process a little bit. But we have the luxury here of, of having a lot of woodchips at our disposal. So we did the, test at 4 to 1 and 3 to 1 or 3 to 1 mix is really that kind of a 30 to 1 carbon and nitrogen ratio. You go a little bit higher 4 to 1.

You can still make good compost, but you know, you're much have much less potential for odors at that at that stage, not much less. But I mean, how far away we will be smelling. No, it's it's going to be it's going to be much less if you when you when we did our test, once once you you mix this and you put it into the bunker.

And when we did our test, we didn't even have, having to have a bunker. We did it on actual road millings, actually. But we did it, open in a pile, once the the mix is put down, that's covered by 8 to 12in of, of additional woodchips which act as a bio filter. And in the case of what we did in Stonington, we could be literally as close as we are and we didn't detect it.

And, and it was, it was, was not it was not a problem. Part of the reason we chose this particular technology is it gives us so much control over things like odor vectors, like critters. Rats, mice, rats from the incinerator across the road. Well, they won't come near this. They won't come near this.

What we found was - they got big ones - They very likely might. I don't know, but in this case, that pile within hours will reach temperatures in 130 degree Fahrenheit range. And when we did our test in Stonington. I mean, that's that borders a very large green space. And we could see, after the first week, a couple of places where we think maybe it was coyotes trying to dig into the pile.

And when they got just a couple of inches and it was so hot, they left it alone. And that facility is also right next to the sound. And adjacent to the pile was all the piles and the leaf compost, and all the seagulls were sitting on top of those other piles. They didn't want anything to do with what we were doing because of the heat.

And after that, really the first two weeks, particularly after the four weeks, there's really no visible food waste left. I mean, it dissipates, breaks down very, very quickly. What about the food waste on the floor of the building with dumping? Well, so that's you know, which key to that is. Yeah. I mean, you know, so part of a test for Dave and his staff was, I see, you know, five tons of food waste when that comes out of the truck.

It's, it's a sight to see. Right. It's it's pretty, it's sloppy. So so we're purposely putting down a bed of woodchips to soak up that liquid. We'll have. We'll have drains in this building. We'll have drains, on these ASP bays. I'll get to that in a minute. But but you know, the key thing is that we know we know it's wet.

We're mixing that. Okay. So part of that mixture is not only the wood in the food, but it's a certain moisture content. So we want want to be fairly moist, not dripping wet but but moist. And so we're mixing up, the material. This building is going to be cleaned out at the end of each business day, every day, every day.

And it's going to go in into the bay and it's going to be you know, the aeration system is going on. And part of the operation, the blower system, we have high volume blowers. So, so by feeding, you know, lots of oxygen to the bugs, you know, the, the research and science says, you know, more and more is being done.

The odor generation potential is really within those first five days. And so, you know, by feeding a lot of air to it, we're not even allowing the, the odor causing compounds to generate, you know, we're, we're we're not giving them the right conditions. And as Dave said, we have this 6 to 12 inch layer, you know, of woodchips over top of it that works as a as a bio filter, which kind of scrubs those odors.

Those out. So I think a lot of problem with the route 12 corridor is that the garbage trucks that are coming into the incinerator now, they're leaking on the road. Oh yeah. And in the summer it smells like hell and nobody wants to put up with that. So we in order to haul food waste, you have to have a specially designed truck that's sealed.

Okay. Well, I mean, if you're pulling out then then maybe that other garbage becomes a little bit less offensive. If you have a control, hopefully. But you know, the comment I'll make about the odors too. Is that typically like when you get a lot of odors emanating like out of your trash can that that's an anaerobic process. An anaerobic really smells.

The aerobic process really doesn't. That's why if you have if you if you have a home compost bin and you maintain properly, you know, you don't get the smells and you don't get the, the vectors. What's different about commercial is that with the, the, the level of temperature that we reach that allows us to expand the, the the the nutrient source nitrogen sources that go in there.

So virtually anything that comes off of your table, you can, can go in here. Well, you know, part of the I don't know if anyone else is aware that the incinerator people have already come to the town of Preston and said they want to knock that plant down, and they want to build a much bigger facility, which means a lot more truck.

Besides your operation on top of it. And it's that additional truck traffic coming in. That's why I asked about taking the garbage in from additional areas outside the area. Now we have more trucks, more mess on the highway, and that may not be part of your problem, but people are going to assume that it's part of your problem.

So but so that probably needs to get addressed. You know, we'd like to see it addressed at the state level before it comes down here, because it's all that additional garbage that's going to be coming into a new facility that's going to be causing a, you know, bigger facility means more trucks. How many more trucks? per day.

Yeah, in our, for what we're talking about here. It's it's very minimal. I mean we'll probably only be receiving a couple of days a week. How many trucks? And you're talking smaller trucks and you're talking probably it's about, you know, initially one truck a day, of food waste, and then the, the wood waste is going to come in on a hundred yard trailers.

Right. Just, you know, that's like, you know, 1 or 2 a week, and that's... dry and it's inert. It doesn't smell or leak up on the trucks, but it's intense. No, the trash on the side of the road going into the property is. Yeah, constant. But yeah. So initially it's, it's, which is, you know, maybe two, two trucks a day coming in and for a day, how many days a week?

Well, well, that's assuming a five day per week basis. But it could be initially that, you know, it might only be open, say, Tuesdays and Thursdays. And then as the material ramps up, you know, add on additional

days of delivery. But one thing I wanted to so you talked about the liquids. So, in the receiving building and on these, concrete floors, these are, they're all sloped to a drain.

We're going to that's going to be fully contained, that liquid, you know, whether you call it leachate or contact water or whatever you want to call it, fully contained and collected? It's going to run to a sump here, and then we're going to pump it over to a aboveground tank, and we're going to recycle that water into the process.

So part of the process is we do need moisture. The bugs need moisture. So we're recycling that water. We're collecting it containing it and recycling it. Ultimately if there's a if anything, and we also have a clean stormwater pond. So anything that's not hitting, this material, it's running into the pond. We're going to look at recycling some of that water as well.

So, you know, water management is a key part of the process, that, you know, we need the oxygen, we need the temperature, we need the moisture in the right kind of ranges to make the process work. Any plans for archeological survey? That that whole field, where you talk about building this was all open farmland and guys who used to collect arrowheads, they would wait until it rained in the spring and they would go hunt for arrowheads, on this property.

And I know for a fact from my father within you were talking 100ft buffer. Within that 100ft buffer, there's probably an Indian flint pit that's been covered in over the years. I know this is all gone through the, the the surveys before. Yeah. That's when we can say a lot of things. But I grew up in the area, Mohegan Pequot bridge came in.

The contractor said they found a lot of stuff, and they were told to hurry up and bury it. So don't worry. I suppose that area where we're where that's what we're really not going to be digging and what we're doing here is really well, I'm saying within that 100ft buffer area, there's probably a flint pit that exists that if someone had ground penetrating radar, they would probably pick up on it.

It's already been bulldozed. Not that not that section. This side has. Walked walk down the street and saw it and all those trees are all pushed over, and there wasn't a bulldozer, an awful lot of trash. There wasn't any bulldozing there. Well, the okay front end loader, there was an excavator that went in, we didn't move any dirt.

We just plucked the trees. All the trees I and they moved all the trash that was over there. Yeah, yeah. The idea was to get because there's there's been pretty consistent dumping in there and we wanted to get all the dumped material out.

Back to the process. So, thank you. ASP process. Again, you know, in the two phases, you know, roughly 4 to 6 weeks after that material comes out into, open windrows. So these are just open piles where, where the material will be turned occasionally by a front end loader. After about a month there we'll have a screening area.

So be a trommel screen. A rotating cylinder with half inch holes is a typical size. And then the, the finished material will be placed in a stockpile and, and then will be offloaded, for use and sale to, you know, member towns, other folks that want to use the product. What's after this, Liz... questions and answers.

You ready? Yeah. I mean, you can, but you have saying up there we've been asking questions there. I would also just mention that the documents are available on our website. You do have you study the, ratio between the demand for the finished product and service for the the people that we're talking to. We just actually put out a request for qualifications for somebody to, do hauling work as well as run the facility and market the finished product.

And, one of the companies is Black Earth Compost. We've been working with them to understand that better. And, they have developed for these facilities in Massachusetts. And they've, they've been very successful in finding the, the products, you know, the markets for them. They, they do a couple of things that are kind of interesting.

Would, would one of the things we're trying to build into a contract for whoever operates this is to incentivize them to make the best product that they can, so that on the back end, any sales, the better the product, the more they keep. The idea of combining hauling along with operating along with selling, is that you have a level of quality concern from the day that you pick it up, making sure that things are sort of separated.

There's not a lot of contamination now on the front through the process. And then from then on, the selling, on the back end there, there are a number of markets for this. The low end would be, farm, farm market. There's some really good, programs through the USDA that incentivize farms to switch from manmade fertilizers into composting.

We'd be utilizing some of that. We would also, they they also bag the product, which I don't know if the bag is still in here or not, but but they sold a fair amount of bagged product through, through nurseries as well as they have what they call, conveyor trucks with a truck where you can put six yards of material and say you wanted to have half a yard at your house, they can come and deliver that for a better price directly to you.

And, and you don't have to mess around with the bags or going to the store or whatever. And they've been very successful in moving the product and we're confident that we can do the same.

Now the firms that, are going to operate this plant, have they been approved? I mean, you know, we've got we've got four we've had four responses. All four have done food waste composting, some have done more than others. We're going to vet through those. We literally just received the last one on Friday, so we're vetting through that now and then.

Once we pick one, we will, we'll then get into contractual work and try to figure that out. It would be my hope that, we would be through that process by the end of the year. We have, also, received a grant from the USDA for equipment to the tune of \$400,000 to help this.

We've just submitted a grant, to Connecticut DEEP They have a, the a Materials Management Infrastructure grant worth about \$15 million, which we just submitted. And we got letters of support from CEOs from all 12 of our towns and actually most of our state legislators so far. So we're very hopeful that that will come in, if that does, we'll know in January.

Like I said, hopefully we have the operator, picked out by that time. Knock on wood we'll get our permit back from DEEP sometime in the first quarter of next year. Then we would go out and look for, someone to build the facility for us, which will take some, you know, again, several months to do that.

One of the things strategically we wanted to do was make sure that the operator was on board so that when we get to the final design and build out that they're they're intimately involved. And again, there's, there's they're, they're three there, three of the four, responses that we got to that which were all all very qualified.

So we're lucky there and, and we're going to do our best to pick, pick the best one and, again, I think what we, what we're looking for is, is really quality, which means tight controls. Which should hopefully alleviate some of the concerns you raised today relative to odors or water runoff or or vectors or anything like that.

And something we can deliver and, and, and help defray the costs because trash is it's unbelievably expensive right now. It's it's really going through the roof. Do you have a cost estimate for construction? \$4.5 million. So when we submitted our grant request we asked for \$4.5 million. I don't think we'll get that. But, you know, we're very lucky that, you know, we we happen to have basically a shovel ready project when they came out with these, these grants, I think we're one of the very few people in the state that are in that position.

And, and part of the, the scoring for the grant money was, was regional support. And they have that have level of support that we've gotten both from the town, CEOs as well as the state reps, I think bodes well. So we're hopeful that it gets. And for us, you know, we we are we we we don't operate on tax dollars.

You know, we're we're we're in a very desirous position where we're able to subsidize a lot. For years ago, we were able to create some investments that we live off a lot of the the interest and dividends from those investments. So that we're not a drain on your tax dollars. And, for us, the more that we can save that allows us to do more projects to help drive down the overall cost.

Like I said, we've got, you know, the glass program, which which would you get into? One of the one of the things that we were talking about today, we don't get ourselves involved in it, but C&D material, they call it construction and demolition. So when you go to your transfer station and see those big open tops, people just dumping all kinds of stuff in there, the cost for that is astronomical.

I mean, I think that the cost of that has probably doubled in the last five years. We'd like to be able to put our resources in and to help in that situation. So, so this is this is a big step. If we're successful, we'll be the only publicly operated composting facility in the state. Hopefully that that bodes well for the rest of the state that they want to copy what we're doing.

That's certainly our intention. And, the closer we can get to carbon negative with this thing, that's what we're going to try to do.

Yes. What else? Can you elaborate a little bit more? Just for my own curiosity on the screening? That part. Yeah. Fairly simple. So, you know, I mean, like, in my backyard, I have a just a simple screen, with, you know, half inch openings. And so I take compost that I make in my backyard and throw it on the screen on top of my wheelbarrow, and, and, you know, big chunks of, wood stay on top and kind of recycle those back.

And then the finished compost goes through, so those smaller particles. So at a commercial level, they have what's called trommel screens. So these are, there's a company called McCloskey, which is, which is a common brand. They, they, number their machines by the diameter, so six by the length. So 6-21 means a six foot diameter. So if you can picture that screen, I'm about six feet tall, six feet in diameter, 21ft long.

And it's, it's, put at an angle. And so you put the material in the front and it, it, spins around and as the material tumbles down. That, that fine soil particles fall through and that's your nice finished compost that you would then use. And the stuff that's called "overs" stays on top of the screen again, that's the larger wood particles.

Those would get recycled back in the process. So it's a pretty, pretty simple. Yeah, I can speak to this a little bit too, because because of that USDA grant, we were just, shopping for one of these is they they said, please, you know, they don't hold you to it, but they wanted to have a list of the machinery that that you want to put into the trommel was

One of the things that was in that bid, and we're looking at one that's, it's actually exactly what he described, where it'll go through and sort that out. There's also a blower attachment you can put in there that will lift, like paper out of it. So one of the problems you have with this kind of composting is that things like, you know, the little stickers you get on your, your produce, those kind of things, they get in there and it kind of messes up the finish.

So that blower attachment can help alleviate most of those, the other thing that trommel can do is you can alter the size of the screen so you can do, like you said, a half inch, if you want to produce a composite that was finer for, say, like top dressing a field, you may you may go to a little bit smaller size.

So it allows you to kind of customize what you're doing. And then I guess lastly what I'd comment on is the overs he talks about. So what you're going to have there is is wood waste that has completely broken down. So what I experienced with the test was, you know, you build a pile literally in 2 to 4 weeks, the food just disappears.

And my favorite story is we had an oven stuffed roaster that was out of date and we stuck it in the pile. And we went back there four weeks later and there was nothing, bones or anything left, it was mind altering. But that happens in that first process. Well, the wood waste is a big part of the mix, and that's the lignin material.

So it would always takes a little longer to break down. That's actually when you build those windrows. That's what you're breaking down in there more slowly. It's it's all natural. It's just the wood. But at the end of the process, then it breaks down just like like dirt. We actually have, I think some a couple of buckets of our finished product and then the overs that don't break down come out to the end and you put it back into the front.

So whatever we get there, we try to we try to reuse all the liquid. We try to use any wood that's left at the end put it back in and keep doing it. So it's very, very self-contained process. Are there any like initial like preventative contamination screenings for larger contamination? Well so just just manual sorting. So as a material is dumped on the tip floor, you know, there'll be, you know, operator on the front loader.

So they'll be, you know, looking at material, probably spreading that out. You know. Yes. Thank you for coming. Picking out any obvious things like, you know, Dave mentioned earlier, garden hose, you know, some vegetables. We had, we had a plastic bucket in one of the loads that came in. Actually, where that number two is, if you look at the the official plans at that, we'll have a small dumpster in the corner of the receiving building.

So, you know, if there's any obvious, you know, trash or stuff that shouldn't be there that's going to get picked out and put in that dumpster. And then, you know, disposed of that, you know, you know, I guess the waste-to-energy facility right there, or to Lisbon. At least in our case, it would go up. It would go up to, to Lisbon, where we have our contract.

Yeah. And if it's recyclable material we'll obviously pull that out and and take that to Willimantic. And, what we what we ended up with, with our pilot tests were, was really, really quite clean. I know he mentioned a a, pilot test in Stonington where they're collecting, curbside, and they've had really clean material remarkably well.

So. So I think I mentioned that outreach program. I think if we work really hard upfront, we can we can get the message out about how to keep the contamination out or minimize it. People want to do the right thing.

How much noise is the place going to generate? Because the neighbor you have right there you know. Not much, we're not going to do the grinding work there. Okay. We will we'll obviously have like a front loader driving around, but only only during regular work hours, I think, I, I don't think you'll you'll notice us compared to what you already are experiencing, that usually the other place will probably drown you out next door.

That could very well be. Most of the mixing with the front end loader is going to be in the building, so it's just the movement of the loader... What about flies? Well. So again, the key is, you know, handling that immediately. So, you know, we're going to have a stockpile of woodchips here. So we'll have, you know, extra woodchips on hand at all time.

So so the key is again, dumping it on that bed of woodchips and then mixing in, you know, 3 to 1, 4 to 1 right away. So when you make that kind of mix, you know, and we could have brought our photos of the pilot test. You can't see much food waste even when it's when it's fresh. Like you know that that right away when you mix.

in, that's a lot of that's a lot of wood material. You know, 3 to 1, 4 to 1. So, and then you're covering, you know, you're covering that pile with, you know, an extra, you know, 6 to 10, 6 to 12in of, of woodchips, of finished compost. So, so it's very, very clean and, and there's, nothing that really the flies can get at if you.

I mean, key is good housekeeping. You have to have that. Yeah. Operating has to be that, you know doing a good job. Yeah. If we don't, we're not going to be there long. So most of your wood source is going to be just trees? Primarily? It's trees and brush. You know, it's as if you go to the transfer station.

You see what people bring it. That's what it is. Once it's ground into mulch, I mean, basically looks like what you go to, Home Depot for, bagged product. It's not much different from that. Like, it's a, a lot of what we generate now is it's used by the communities or it's used by, by the town, I know if anybody's in Ledyard,

If you look at the, where the, when they have the farmers market, if you look around the parking lot all around the outside, they use the mulch that we generated as an embankment to keep erosion from happening, it's same material and it's we grind it to a three inch minus, which is is what you would get if you went to Home Depot and bought mulch.

So like I say, the pilot test we did, what we wanted to really understand was could a grind at that level, allow the air flow and retain enough moisture for the process to work really well and our pilot test showed us that it did so it's all good. Like I said, we may add some leaves to it, but you know, we have enough food waste, we have enough wood waste and there are enough leaves in our transfer stations.

We're not going to add anything else to it. We don't. We don't want to and our permit doesn't allow us to. So I mean we're not going to do it. Local residents have to put up with the incinerator and the bleach smells and the blowing out of the stacks and the noise at all hours of the day, or night.

And what I'm looking at is, oh, and don't forget the truck traffic and dropping the trash all over Route 12 now is going to be more traffic coming in. And it sounds like you have a blower going and this is going, I'm just hearing noise. And I'm assuming there's going to be a lot of lighting with that. And, there won't be any there won't be any lighting overnight.

I mean, we'll have, you know, we'll have, lighting that can be turned on, but it will be basically like an 8 to 4 operation. The blower will be operating 24 seven. That will be back here, but those are on VFDs, variable frequency drives. So, you know, the blowers are very quiet to begin with, but then we're not likely not going to be running them at full speed.

They're going to be at a reduced speed. So they're they're very quiet. So yeah, it's you know, it's almost like what you're hearing now from the HVAC, so. Yeah at any distance, you wouldn't hear them. And it's really the process. Most of what the process takes place when you're not doing anything. So microbes are doing all the work. So you have a little bit of activity when you mix it, you have a little bit of activity when you put it in the bin, but once it's in there, it sits for weeks at a time.

You don't touch it and then you touch it once a couple of weeks later and you touch it. Maybe a few more times a week at a time. But it's not. I mean, we're talking probably less than a 40 hour job to begin with to run this thing. You know, we'll, depending how we work it out with the operator.

You know, we're we're going to have an onsite presence. SCRRRA will, because I want to manage it, we're going to manage to scale the front end because that's, you know, where some of the money is handled. So we're going to have a presence on site, but it's don't confuse it with all of the activity you see next door.

This this is really a a static process. And it would just get piled up and it just does its own thing. There isn't a lot of interaction, a lot of machinery moving around.

How large is that area back where the building is, I'd have to look it up, I think, and what you see here is in the range of 5 to 6 acres. And if you, if you count the, count the, the berm, the screening berm, which is like a, you know, maybe get to 7 or 8 acres.

Yeah, it's, it's a 23, 23 acre parcel. And this is located as you go in, it's tucked up right up against the Covanta facility. So it's far away from the street, it's far away from, any other surrounding people that that we can't. So it's really. I mean, this is all going to be all the way back in here, that's where

That's located right back in here.

And, you know, if we need additional screening, we'll put it in. And, one of the things I'm interested in doing is, when we finish moving things around, I want to go ahead and, instead of just seeding it with grass, I want to put a, indigenous meadow in there for pollinators. And what? Why wouldn't we do that?

So, yeah, we're going to be we're going to try to be really sensitive to, to environmental concerns. There. That's what the incinerator people said. We're not the incinerator. I know you're not. I feel your pain. I understand I ... but I understand.

There's cookies in the back. Our recycling coordinator is reminding me to tell remind you that there are cookies. Most important announcement, there are cookies in the back.

Recycle some of these cookies. Winston has already already tested them anyways. You know, there's also a Keurig if you'd like coffee. And I do have an optional sign in sheet over here, if you don't mind signing it. You don't have to. Yeah. So so the process with this now is we filmed this, DEEP asked us to film. This will be posted on the website.

Right. It'll be posted on the website. We will, send them a copy of this, within, within probably a week. After that, there's a 60 day period. 60 days. Right. 60 days for public comment to DEEP after which, if they are satisfied that everything is fine, then they will begin. They will resume, working on our permit.

And we've already satisfied everything else. They've asked us to do it, which wasn't very much, but, so we're hopeful, like I said, that, hopefully that Grant comes in in January and, hopefully maybe a month or so after that, we get the DEEP permit that we can we can proceed. But, we want to be I want to be a complete open book with this. We're right here.

Now, you know where we are. You know, any time you want to call us, come in and see us. You know, if you have an interest and want to take a look at things as, as it progresses, let me know. I'll take you in there and show you once we're open up. If you want to come see how we're doing or what we're doing, by all means, just let me know.

We'll figure that out because, like I said, we want to be an open book and I get it. I live I live in the community too. So I'm trying to do our best. Thank you all for coming. Yeah, I really appreciate, very pleased that this many people were interested and care. That's great. Thanks for your time.