

 Metro | Memo

Date: January 6, 2016
To: Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee
From: Roy Brower, Solid Waste Compliance & Cleanup Director
Subject: MRF/CT Subcommittee Composition and Roster

Background: At its Oct. 22, 2015 work session meeting, the Metro Council directed staff to establish two SWAAC subcommittees to: (1) consider Metro regulation of material recovery and conversion technology facilities; and (2) evaluate existing solid waste fee and tax exemptions. The Council is seeking ways to provide a more robust, disciplined and prescribed “rulemaking” process for solid waste code changes in Title V that have been previously discussed with you.

On Dec. 9, 2015, SWAAC voted to form the material recovery and conversion technology subcommittee and provided staff with recommendations on the composition of this group. Metro Code grants SWAAC the ability to establish subcommittees of a limited and defined duration. Subcommittee membership may include current SWAAC membership or other stakeholders.

As previously discussed with SWAAC, staff recommends that the subcommittee to review fee and tax exemptions be established once the independent re-evaluation of the current exemptions has been completed (summer 2016). The charge of the MRF/CT Subcommittee is as follows:

Material recovery facility (MRF) and conversion technology (CT) regulation.

Consider whether MRFs that process source-separated recyclable materials and facilities that convert waste to energy or fuel should be subject to licensing and inspection requirements similar to other solid waste facilities. If so, which requirements are appropriate for such facilities?

Based on feedback received from SWAAC at the December 9th meeting and from others, staff revised the proposed MRF/CT Subcommittee membership categories. Changes include:

- Adding two additional industry representatives who can represent the interests of facilities that may become subject to licensing and inspection requirements.
- Adding two additional citizen representatives.
- Removing the Association of Oregon Recyclers (AOR), at the request of AOR, and replacing it with an environmental advocacy position.
- Identifying a subcommittee member to serve as a liaison to SWAAC.
- Refining the category names for greater clarity.

MEMO: MRF/CT SWAAC SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE
FROM: ROY W. BROWER
DATE: JANUARY , 2015

Proposed MRF/CT Subcommittee Categories and Membership:

1. Metro Staff (Chair) – Roy Brower
2. Local City Government– Bruce Walker, City of Portland*
3. Local County Government – Theresa Koppang, Washington County
4. Local State of Washington Government – Mike Davis, Clark County Washington
5. Washington County SWAC Citizen/Community Representative I (member nominated by *but not representing* Washington Co. SWAC) – Mike Lafferty, Washington County Citizen
6. Source Separated Recyclable (SSR) Processing Facility Operator – Vinod Singh, Far West Recycling
7. SSR/Dry Waste Processing Facility Operator - Andy Kahut, KB Recycling
8. Mixed Dry Waste Facility Operator – Brian May, Republic/WRI
9. Fiber Recovery Operator – Jeff Murray representing EFI
10. Conversion Technology Facility Operator (fuel production) – Scott Farling, Agylix
11. Conversion Technology Facility Operator (energy production) – Matt Marler, Covanta
12. Oregon DEQ – Audrey O’Brien
13. Independent Industry Expert – Dylan de Thomas, Resource Recycling Magazine
14. Citizen/Community Representative II – TBD
15. Environmental Advocacy Representative– Betty Patton, Recycling Advocates

*Liaison between SWAAC and the subcommittee.

The MRF/CT Subcommittee will begin meeting in late January 2016. Staff anticipates that meetings will be held every 2-3 weeks for a total of approximately 10 meetings. An initial introductory workshop will be offered to all members of the subcommittee to provide industry background information so that all members are adequately prepared to participate in the work of the subcommittee.

Questions for SWAAC members:

1. Do you have any comments on the proposed MRF/CT Subcommittee, generally?
2. Do you have any comments on the revised membership categories or the proposed roster?