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Authority Purchases Railcar Mover for Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility

A railcar mover was recently purchased for the Montgomery County RRF. This piece of equipment will allow Covanta, the operator of the facility, to move and relocate railcars on the RRF site instead of relying solely on CSX operating crews. The machine (pictured at right) has both on-road tires and rail wheels, allowing it to be driven on the pavement or used on the rail as a locomotive. The railcar mover is also equipped with a remote control enabling the equipment to pull railcars on the rail while the operator is outside the cab,

turning switches and watching for pedestrians or other traffic.



The railcar mover on rail.

With this new purchase, operations at the RRF will be improved, allowing Covanta to position rail cars on tracks for easier drop-off and pick-up by CSX. As the commuter rail traffic in the area increases, the time available to move our trash by rail is constrained. The rail car mover

is one part of a solution that will facilitate the continued successful operation of the RRF and accommodate increased rail traffic on the CSX main line.

The railcar mover is being remotely operated by a Covanta Employee, as representatives from Shuttlewagon and Cattron verify that the remote control is functioning.



NOVEMBER

15
2005

Mark Your Calendars

America Recycles Day
November 15th!



Harford APC Retrofit Construction Nears Completion



Above: large duct that will carry the flue gas to the top of the scrubber
Right: ash conveyor as it enters the facility's vehicle maintenance shop



The finishing touches are being put on the construction of the new air pollution control equipment at the Harford Waste-to-Energy facility. Since the last newsletter update, the insulation and electrical work have been nearly completed and the control system has been installed. Painting is under way on the common stair tower to the lime preparation silo and the scrubber unit.

The start-up and commissioning of individual systems has also begun. The large fans that help move the flue gas through the air pollution control system have been tested. The lime preparation system and the activated carbon injection system have also been tested. Testing of these subsystems prior to starting up the entire system allows for any installation problems to be corrected.

The last major mechanical system to be installed prior to the startup of the retrofit is the flyash conveyor system, which will carry the flyash collected from the flue gas scrubber and the fabric filter baghouse to the ash floor. There, the ash will be combined with the ash from the bottom of the furnaces. The flyash con-

veyor system is of critical importance and posed some difficulties in its design. The conveyor needed to be designed to handle the appropriate amount of ash while threading its way through the existing plant in order to reach the ash building. The picture (above right) shows the gray conveyor entering through the building and being routed over the vehicle maintenance bay. From there it will travel overhead through the electrical room and into the ash building. In the electrical room, the conveyor runs between steam lines, electrical conduit and support steel and concrete of the building.

To allow the contractor to cut the existing flue gas duct and install the flue gas duct that will carry the flue gas to the top of the acid gas scrubber, the Facility stopped taking waste for a few days. The start-up of the new air pollution control system occurred on September 29. Shown in the picture above, the duct is massive and will require a large crane to



Large piece of support steel that will hold the new ductwork

lift into place. Prior to placing the duct, another large section of support steel also needs to be installed. This support steel, shown above, has been preassembled on the ground in order to save time when the plant is not accepting waste.

With the tie-in complete, the plant will go through shakedown testing prior to a performance test in late October. The contractor is on schedule to turn the new air pollution control equipment over to the Authority prior to its early November deadline.

Fiscal Year 2005 A



With oil near \$70 a barrel, gas over \$3 a gallon at the pump, and the cost and availability of natural gas threatening to send winter heating bills skyrocketing, the economic news affecting all Americans this year is the sudden rise in the cost of energy. The ongoing war in the Middle East, regional conflicts in Africa, and the damage caused to U.S. production facilities by hurricanes Katrina and Rita pushed prices up to levels not seen in decades, and exposed vulnerabilities in conventional modes of supply, refinement and distribution.

The bright spot in this otherwise stormy scenario is a new interest in the role of renewable energy sources as a means of

diversifying supply and reducing America's dependence on foreign oil. As evidence, the new federal energy bill signed into law by President Bush in August includes tax credits for purchasing hybrid, clean-diesel and fuel-cell vehicles, and for use of renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, landfill gas and biomass.

Considering that our first project, Baltimore RESCO, recently celebrated 20 years of turning municipal solid waste into steam and electricity, the concept of "renewable energy" is not new to the Authority's member jurisdictions. Since its start-up in 1985, BRESKO has converted over 15 million

tons of consumer and commercial waste into enough clean, efficient power to supply more than 20,000 homes each year, while supplying steam to downtown Baltimore businesses – including M&T Stadium, home of the Ravens. During the same period, BRESKO has recovered and recycled over 308,000 tons of metal, recycling the resulting ash residue as daily cover at Baltimore City's landfill. The electricity produced at BRESKO reduces demand on nearby coal-fired plants, resulting in significant reduction of acid gasses and mercury in our environment.

The Authority's other waste-to-energy facilities, Montgomery County and



Annual Report Letter

05



Harford County, also produce renewable energy. For the past few years, the Authority has sold renewable energy credits for the benefit of Montgomery County, providing a means for energy buyers to purchase cleaner, renewable electricity. Our steam customer in Harford County, the U.S. Army at Aberdeen Proving Ground, is planning for an influx of 2,100 new jobs on post and additional non-military workers. To meet the increased energy demand, the Army has asked the Authority to expand the capacity of the Harford Waste-to-Energy Facility.

Landfills are a significant source of energy as well. This year we assisted members with two landfill gas-to-energy projects – projects which also benefit from tax credits provided by the recent energy legislation.

Energy production isn't our only "growth industry." Orgro®, the Class A Biosolids-derived high organic compost produced at the Baltimore Compost Facility, is projected to benefit from the increased cost of fuel, because it replaces petroleum-based fertilizers. We are pleased to report that Orgro's sales continue to increase.

It should be noted, however, that rising energy costs – while shining a spotlight on the advantages of renewable sources

– have the same bottom-line impact on our industry as on any other. This is especially true when it comes to transportation. Many new contracts for waste disposal include fuel cost adjustment clauses, which make transporting waste over long distances more expensive than in the past. Recent procurements for the hauling of waste have resulted in much higher disposal costs than previously seen in our market, as waste exported from our region travels 100-250 miles to landfills in Virginia. We expect this problem to be with us for the foreseeable future, as new landfills are being constructed farther away from the Baltimore-Washington area, not closer.

Considering the complexity of our current energy picture, we are fortunate to have a dedicated and highly specialized staff of professionals who continually seek out creative solutions to all of the Authority's challenges, as well as an outstanding board of member representatives who lend continuity and waste management experience to all of the Authority's projects. The board's support and guidance allow the Authority to work efficiently and respond quickly to the needs of our member jurisdictions.

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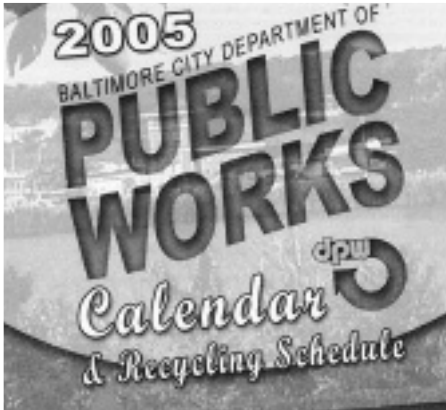
YEARS OF SERVICE

This year, as we celebrate the Authority's Silver Anniversary, marking 25 years of service to the citizens of Maryland, we are proud to note that since 1980 we have doubled the number of participating jurisdictions from four to eight – without increasing the size of our staff!

2005



Congratulations to the Baltimore City Department of Public Works



for winning the City Paper's Best of Baltimore 2005 Award for "Best Use of the Taxpayer's Money" for their 2005 Calendar & Recycling Schedule! This calendar is published annually and distributed to City residents.

Recycled Paper Market

Recyclable materials are bought and sold just like any other commodity. As with other commodities, the markets for recyclables are dynamic, fluctuating with changes in supply and demand. In this edition of WasteWatch we will provide an overview of the recycled paper market.

During the 1990's prices for these products fluctuated significantly, peaking in mid-decade due to strong foreign and domestic demand. Since that time, recovered paper prices have remained depressed, due in large part to an excess of manufacturing capacity. Because of this overcapacity, experts do not predict any significant increases in recovered fiber use over the next several years. Reuters news service reported in August that "Over the next several months, leading producers aim to close a number of

cardboard-making plants, tighten supplies, shore up prices and keep cost down." More plant closings are expected as China opens more of its own mills.

Harford Facility Raises Funds for Katrina Victims

Energy Recovery Operations, Inc. of the Harford Waste-to-Energy facility, has partnered with the American Red Cross to raise much-needed funds for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The drive has collected over \$1,000 to-date, well on the way to its goal. Contributions will be accepted through October 31.



Federal Energy Bill Now Law

The first new federal energy policy legislation in more than a decade was passed by Congress in August. Designed to diversify the nation's energy supply by offering incentives for greater use of renewable energy, the new law includes tax credits for purchasing hybrid, clean-diesel and fuel-cell vehicles, and for use of renewable resources such as wind, solar, landfill gas and biomass energy.

With respect to municipal solid waste as a renewable source, it is defined in the law as any garbage, refuse, sludge from a waste treatment plant, water supply

treatment plant or air pollution control facility, and other discarded material, including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations, and from community activities (excluding solid or dissolved material in domestic sewage, solid or dissolved materials in irrigation return flows or industrial discharges which are point sources subject to certain permits). To qualify for a tax credit, facilities that produce electricity from landfill gas or electricity from the combustion of municipal solid waste must have been put in service after 10/22/04 and before 1/12/08. Facilities placed in service after 10/22/04 and on or before 8/8/05 will receive the credit for 5 years and facilities placed in service after 8/8/05 will receive the credit for 10 years.

Baltimore County Recycling Program Reaches Ten-Year Mark

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Baltimore County's One & One Recycling Program, through which more than 230,000 single-family homes and town homes recycle bottles, cans and mixed paper recyclables. Thanks in part to the One & One Program, the County has twice set state recycling records, while its recycling rate has risen from 27% to 40% since the program began in 1995!



County Executive Jim Smith works the line at the 10th Anniversary of Baltimore County's "One & One" recycling program

Summer Intern

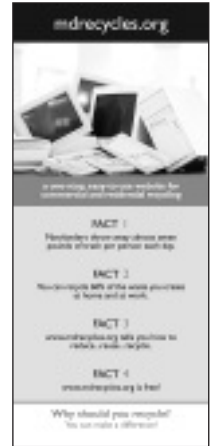
Chris Nelson returned to the Authority this summer for his second stint as part of the Baltimore City YouthWorks program. YouthWorks pairs motivated students with businesses in Baltimore City to provide them with valuable professional experience that will assist the students in their careers. Last summer, Chris helped with the redesign analysis of the www.mdrecycles.org website. Chris continued to assist the Authority this summer as part of the internal team that re-designed the [mdrecycles.org](http://www.mdrecycles.org) brochure, developed a business recycling exhibit booth and contacted businesses as part of the [mdrecycles.org](http://www.mdrecycles.org) outreach program. Chris is entering his sophomore year at Loyola College, Maryland as a communications major. For more information on YouthWorks please visit: <http://www.oedworks.com/youthserv/index.htm>, Summer Jobs.



Here, Chris reviews the [mdrecycles.org](http://www.mdrecycles.org) brochure he created.

Promotion of [mdrecycles.org](http://www.mdrecycles.org) Website

In its continuing effort to increase commercial and residential recycling, the Authority decided to promote the website at the Taste of Baltimore event this year. The Authority's summer intern Chris Nelson and Authority administrative assistant Soncie Johnson organized an exhibit booth for the event, held in Baltimore in early October. Chris and Authority staff members explained how the website works and the invaluable information it contains to those visiting the booth. Visitors were given a copy of the new [mdrecycles.org](http://www.mdrecycles.org) flyer and a car litter bag made from recycled plastic, which also promotes the website. The event was well attended and the exhibit booth was a great success. Anyone interested in starting or increasing a recycling program can visit the [mdrecycles.org](http://www.mdrecycles.org) website or call 410-333-3066.



WASTEWATCH

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