BONDS RETIRED FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT

An Annual Savings of $25 Million

The bonds used to finance the development and construction of the Montgomery County Resource Recovery Project have been paid off. In 1993, the Authority sold $360 Million in tax-exempt and taxable Solid Waste Revenue Bonds for the construction and equipping of the project. After the bonds were refinanced on several occasions to save the County money while not extending the term, the bonds were finally retired on April 1, 2016.

The retirement of the bonds will reduce the County's cost of processing waste through the transfer station and Resource Recovery Facility by approximately $25 Million annually. Meanwhile, the award-winning facility will continue to process nearly 600,000 tons of the County’s trash on a yearly basis for the foreseeable future while producing enough electricity for 40,000 residents.

JEFFREY TOPPER APPOINTED TO AUTHORITY BOARD

Jeffrey Topper, Deputy Director of the Department of Public Works for Carroll County has been appointed to serve on the Authority’s Board of Directors. Mr. Topper worked in the County’s budget office from 1989 until he left in 2000 to work as Howard County’s Chief of Financial Management. He returned to Carroll County in 2005. Carroll County’s Department of Public Works has ten bureaus divided among three deputies and employs approximately half of the County’s workforce. In his current position with Carroll County, Mr. Topper is responsible for the Bureau of Solid Waste, the Bureau of Utilities, the Carroll County Regional Airport and the County’s Transit System. Mr. Topper is a CPA and certified financial planner and received his Bachelor’s degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Topper brings more than 26 years of government experience to the Authority’s Board. We welcome the opportunity to work with him.
Harford Waste-to-Energy Facility Closes After 28 Years of Operation

The Harford Waste-to-Energy Facility processed its last ton of trash on March 17. During its 28 years of operation, the facility processed more than 3.5 million tons of solid waste from Harford and Baltimore Counties and produced more than 13 billion pounds of steam for the US Army. The Authority developed the facility in partnership with Harford County and the Army in order to help Harford County reduce the amount of trash it sent to the landfill, as well as provide energy for the Army. It is located on property leased from the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Edgewood area.

The original facility was built in 1987 by owner and operator WEP/Brambles. In 2002, the Authority purchased the WTE facility for Harford County. At the time of purchase, the Authority extended the steam purchase agreement with the US Army to 2016. Continuing the steam agreement provided cost relief for the Army and helped the Authority pay for the purchase of the facility.

Upon purchase, ENSCO/Brambles continued operations for another year then assigned the operations to Energy Recovery Operations, Inc. (EROI). EROI was founded by the facility manager, who retained the original employees, which provided for a smooth transition and retained operating expertise. EROI continued facility operations through the March closure, always with an eye towards efficient operations, cost minimization and a focus on safety.

The Authority is presently decommissioning the facility and planning for its demolition in order to restore the Army property prior to closing out the lease. “This facility has been a great asset for Harford County’s solid waste management system. The Authority is grateful for the opportunity to have worked with Harford County, the Army and EROI on this important project.” said Chris Skaggs, Executive Director Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority.

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Chris Skaggs,
Executive Director NMWDA
Kimberly W. Gordon joined the Authority as legal counsel in March. Ms. Gordon replaced Dana Reed, who retired after four years of service. Prior to joining the Authority, Ms. Gordon served as in-house counsel for CISG, a provider of technology, government contract support, program management and IT Security. Ms. Gordon also has a background in corporate law, having practiced with DLA Piper and Sidley Austin. Ms. Gordon earned her J.D. (with Honors), from the University of Maryland School of Law and her B.A. (Cum Laude) from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She also serves on the Board of Trustees for Garrison Forest School and as an At Large Member of the Board of Directors for the House of Ruth Maryland.

The Authority, in conjunction with Maryland Environmental Service (MES), is working with the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, Solid Waste Services to construct a building at the Montgomery County Recycling Center in Derwood, MD (MRF) to process and store recycled paper at the site. MES is the operator of the MRF on this project. The Authority conducted a procurement and selected Baltimore Contractors, Inc. (BCI) to design and build an enclosed structure that will house paper recycling machinery along with room for storage of bales from the process. MES has contracted with CP Manufacturing of San Diego, CA, to design, build and install the equipment that will take waste paper and allow MES to sort and bale it for recycling and resale. BCI will be constructing a nearly 10,000 square feet steel building suitable for housing this equipment. The Authority and BCI have coordinated with MES and CP as well as the County, to insure that the building provides the necessary requirements for the operation of the equipment and storage of the baled paper.

Construction of the project should be completed by the end of the summer.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Steve Blake at the Authority at sblake@nmwda.org.
SAVE THE DATE

2016 MRN/SWANA Mid-Atlantic Annual Conference

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 21-22, 2016
Turf Valley Conference Center
Ellicott City, Maryland

For more information and registration information go to:
http://www.marylandrecyclingnetwork.org/2016ConferenceProgram