

WASTE & MATERIALS MANAGEMENT STUDY GROUP – Notes: April 1, 2021

Location: Skype

Member Attendance: Curry, Doverspike/SWANA, Johnson, Karwoski, Morgan, Sexton,
 Welch/WCSWMA (by alternative landfill liners discussion) Sieg/AROW

Guests: 8 additional attendees

DNR WA Attendance: Lamensky, Murray, Semrau, Strom Hiorns, Wolbert

Time/ Presenter	Topic	Follow-up/Notes
9:30	Agenda & Notes Group updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda adjusted to non-voting items because there is no member quorum • February meeting notes approval pending • Tim- High density polyethylene (HDPE) liner production has decreased because of weather disruptions in Texas. Orders have been placed but there is no guaranty of material by August. HDPE pipe is also facing shortages. General attainment and pricing will both be impacted.
9:45 Wolbert	DNR Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling audit - The dept sent their official response report to the Legislative Audit Committee a week ago summarizing the changes that were made in response to the recycling audit. • PFAS – WI PFAS Action Committee (WisPAC) met last week, they do not currently have another meeting scheduled. The group is working closely with dept of health services (DHS) and several other agencies to supply bottled water for a PFAS contamination site under investigation. The waste program is not directly involved but the dept is. • Staffing - Hiring freeze is under a slight thaw for current vacancies and upcoming retirements. The dept is hiring a limited term employee (LTE) for recycling to help with the audit findings, a hazardous waste (hw) policy and licensing position, a hw inspection lead for treatment, storage and disposal (TSD) facilities, an IT developer for hw work and a hydrogeologist for low hazard exemption (LHE) and beneficial use of industrial byproducts (BU) work (a vacancy that we have been carrying since 2020). The program anticipates a supervisor (Cynthia Moore) retiring in a few months and will be moving forward with filling that vacancy as well. • Guidance docs - The program has been moving forward with hw guidance docs since they had a major policy shift which required many guidance updates. The program also created new guidance regarding construction and demolition (C&D) landfills that process materials by grinding them. The guidance allows solid waste processing within the footprint of the C&D landfill to be covered without a solid waste processing approval. The processing activity will be incorporated into the landfill approval. The program is also working on a document on PFAS disposal issues that includes both waste containing PFAS and granular activated carbon (gac) and other media used for filtering PFAS. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently put out a guidance document as well however this one will be WI focused.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste characterization study - Sorting activities are in progress again. Final report will be ready on June 1. COVID – The department has been completing some limited indoor inspections. All inspections have been in line with CDC guidelines. Still working almost completely outside of the office. Geosynthetics – The dept is also aware of the shortage. Chad – Have there been any requests for delays due to liner materials yet? Brad – Not yet. Recycling report – The Ball Corporation, a leading manufacturer of aluminum cans and packaging, sponsored a large-scale study looking at recycling performance across each state. Mostly oriented towards packaging and cardboard. Wisconsin ranked 12th. https://www.ball.com/getattachment/na/Vision/Sustainability/Real-Circularity/50-States-of-Recycling-Eunomia-Report-Final-Published-March-30-2021-UPDATED-v2.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US&ext=.pdf
10:05 All	Group Charter Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda item moved to June meeting
10:30 Sieg	Recovery and Diversion Subcommittee Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members were focused on WIRMC in Feb. Have not had a meeting scheduled since. Will regroup and meet before the next study group meeting. Kate- we will send you a copy of the DNR's LAB response.
11:00 Strom Hiorns	Building technical foundation for solid waste improvements – Alternative Landfill Liners	<p>The Dept talked with this group on areas where we need additional information. One big topic was alt landfill liners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dept sent a request for proposal (RFP) to potential bidders. The goal is a good library of information based on independent research not from DNR staff or someone submitting a proposal. Two bids came in and Golder and Associates won. The final report is due 6/15/21 and the first meeting was last week. Bryan W. with Golder is on the call. Tim – Who was the other bid from? Kate- FOTH Chad – Recommends viewing a presentation Craig Benson gave on alt landfill liners at WIRMC. Bryan – has the presentation and has also reached out to Craig. John – Will the report cover all liner components (IE longer leachate collection pipes) or just the liner? Bryan - The liner, 4 ft clay, and drainage layer is the current breadth. There will be discussion on hydro connectivity flow. Kate - Attendees can contact Kate or Valerie Joosten if you have additional questions. John - Please provide an update at a future WMMSG meeting. <p>Does WMMSG have other focus areas?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycling and glass were discussed previously. The program will also be looking at a ch. NR 544, Wis. Adm. Code, scope statement within the next year. We could walk through ch. NR 544 in June meeting to see what topics arise and for work with the subcommittee.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alt landfill cover options including code recommendations and guidance on alt final cover design are also still open. In August we could similarly walk through current code to identify recommended code changes and/or areas of concern. We could start building a library of recommended code changes. • Tom Karwoski – Landfill group at SCS will email the program regarding landfill gas requirement streamlining and organic stability based on information learned in the last 15 years. • Chad – The organic stability rule was the first thing that came up in a Brown County discussion as well. Let’s put forth ideas and have a more robust discussion with larger quorum. • Brad - The program also has a list of recommendations and can put forth some of the larger thematic change ideas but all of it must remain scope statement preparation, no writing of proposed code language. • John – Can we talk about smaller items as well? Brad- We can discuss intent without rule writing.
<p>11:30 Murray</p>	<p>Electronics Recycling Rule</p>	<p>Sarah Murray (E-cycle WI coordinator) presentation on the current proposed rule changes is available here: https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Waste/documents/studygroup/20210401ElectronicsRulePresentation.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brad – Would like to note that the rule change is to address our 10 years of experience with the program but do not want to lose the context that this program works extremely well and is a national model. While we’re working on fixes it’s important to keep in mind they are improvements on a very effective program. • Sarah - An additional note on the legislative ecycle proposal: last year the proposed legislation on the ecycle grant program did pass unanimously in committee in both house and assembly but did not get scheduled for vote in the full session.
<p>11:50</p>	<p>Next meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting: June 2021 • Brad - Would the WMMSG like the Director of the Emerging Contaminants Office for a half hour overview? Chad – Yes good idea. • Kate – The dept will have WMMSG vacancy information in next meeting. The WMMSG currently has two open positions. Amber Meyer smith also left a vacancy. Three submittals have been made to the Secretary’s office who appoints members at their discretion. • Adjourn.