

WHEELABRATOR 1,500 TPD MASS-BURN IN SAUGUS, MASS: COMMUNITIES FIGHTING POLLUTION CONTROL BECAUSE OF COSTS. This incinerator, called RESCO -Refuse Energy Systems Co.- went on line in 1976. 19 communities send their trash to be incinerated at Saugus. The tip fee is \$20.89. The ash has been dumped since 1976 directly into the local salt marshes. This dumping continues without liners of any kind, without leachate collected, without daily cover, and without consideration of possible threats to the local large shellfish industry. When a section of the ashfill is closed, and if they are having problems with blowing ash, they 'hydro seed' the ashfill. This is done using a high-pressure pump that shoots out a slurry of fertilizer and seed (grass & weeds). They say that within a week grass will begin growing on the ashfill. The question for the 19 communities is whether to install bag house scrubbers. WHEELABRATOR has said it will cost \$30 million and the plant will be down for a year to retrofit. This issue has pitted Saugus against the other 18 communities because only Saugus wants to invest in the bag houses. The other 18 communities are fighting this because they fear the costs involved will be too much for them to bear, and also because of the 'down time' involved. Initially, the State of Mass. had offered to pay for the retrofitting, then it offered low-interest loans. But since the State of Mass. is \$400 million in the red, communities in the budget process are worried about the added expense of the proposed \$30 million bag houses. Mass. Rep. Alfred Saggessie is trying to stop the placement of the acid gas scrubbers to retrofit this facility, thereby representing the wishes of the 18 communities. Mass. Rep. Angelo, who represents Saugus, is fighting for the retrofitting. Gov. Dukakis has said he prefers legislation to retrofit instead of regulation. Saugus residents question whether Gov. Dukakis will sign the legislation. The lesson drawn here now is: communities faced with upgrading incinerators will fight it if they have to pay the costs. The WHEELABRATOR incinerator at Saugus is fitted with an ESP, which was commented on at a recent hearing in Rhode Island for the Dept. of Env. Management:

"I know the Saugus Resco they had a real acute problem with their electrostatic precipitators, and they literally had to run the plant based on the direction of the wind. In other words, if it was blowing inland, then they had to reduce the load. If it was blowing out to the sea, then they could run it to design." Testimony of Joseph W. McCarthy, Resource Recovery Manager for METCALF & EDDY, at the April 7, 1988, "Proceedings at Hearing in re: Application of Solid Waste Management Corporation", page 60.

Two weeks ago Saugus Selectmen issued a "cease and desist" order to WHEELABRATOR to ban WHEELABRATOR's continued storage of trash outside of the pit area. For the past two years Saugus Town Meetings have unanimously opposed the expansion of the WHEELABRATOR incinerator. For more information contact Saugus Selectman, Peter Manoogian, 50 Ballaid Street, Saugus, MA 01906, tel 617-233-4715.

POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES FACING WASTE-TO-ENERGY CONVERSION PLANT SITING" is the title of a report commissioned by the California state Waste Management Board in 1984, and prepared by Cerrell Assoc., a Los Angeles P.R. and political consulting firm. A review of this report by Hazardous Waste News # 81 revealed: "Those who want to build trash-to-steam plants should pick a town with less than 25,000 people where residents are old, poor, politically conservative and Roman Catholic...The report gives personality profiles of the most likely and least likely opponents of waste-to-energy plants, and suggests that trash incineration can be made more palatable by presenting it as part of a recycling program." The report states: "Commercial office spaces and residential lands that are at least within visual, hearing or smelling distance of the waste project will likely experience a decline in property values." Copies of this report may still be available from Cerrell Assoc., 213-466-3445, or from the Calif. Waste Management Board at

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916-322-3330. Hazardous Waste News subscription rates are \$18 per year for individuals and non-profits, \$6 for students and seniors, \$150 for businesses. Address: Environmental Research Foundation, PO Box 3541, Princeton, NJ 08543-3541.

THE SCIENCE OF PLASTICS AND THE "BLACK ART" OF ADDITIVES. The June 13, 1988, issue of Chemical & Engineering News features a major article on "Additives to Plastics." This year an estimated 10 billion pounds of these additives (fillers, plasticizers, reinforcements, flame retardants, colorants, impact modifiers, lubricants, heat stabilizers, UV stabilizers, antioxidants, organic peroxides, chemical blowing agents, antimicrobial agents, antistatic agents, urethane catalysts, and others) will go into more than 50 billion pounds of plastic resins. The use of the additives (about 4,000 different compounds) is described in the article as a "Black Art" because, "compounders rely on their own expertise in the application of additives to achieve desired properties... sometimes without solid technical rationale." Many of the substances being used, like halogenated organics and heavy metals like cadmium and lead, are toxic and "a significant concern about additives is their impact on the environment, particularly the disposal of additives that are in discarded plastic items and the health and safety of workers exposed to the additives during the fabrication of the plastic products." The article concludes with: "The current diverse and complex use of plastics additives augurs well for the continuing development of these materials in the future...the increasing number of new products being brought to market each year clearly indicates that suppliers are bullish on the outlook for plastics additives."

REVOLVING DOORS. Richard T. Dewling, Commissioner of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection will resign his \$95,000 state post Sept. 9, 1988, to become Chairman of the Board of the newly formed M & E TECH, a hazardous waste management and remediation division of RESEARCH-COTTRELL HOLDING INC. RESEARCH-COTTRELL has four operating business units: METCALF & EDDY (engineering), M & E SERVICES (operations and maintenance), M & E TECH (site remediation & cleanup), and COTTRELL ENGINEERING (air and thermal pollution division). John Sullivan, former WHEELABRATOR president, has become president of PERLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS, a newly formed company for haz. waste remediation. PERLAND's stockholders are PERINI CORP., an engineering & construction company in Framingham, MA., (PERINI's latest work includes current renovation at the Mass. State House); VERSAR INC. of Springfield, Virginia; and ASHLAND TECHNOLOGY CORP., L.A., CA. ASHLAND TECHNOLOGY is a subsidiary of ASHLAND OIL of Kentucky. (REILLY ENERGY SYSTEM OF LISBON, INC., is proposing a 700 tpd mass-burn for Lisbon, CT. RILLEY ENERGY is owned by RILLEY STOKER CORP of Worcester, Mass, which is part of ASHLAND OIL of Kentucky). ASHLAND TECHNOLOGY CORP. has seven subsidiaries: HOLMES & NARVER, DMJM, CONSOER TOWNSEND & ASSOC., WILLIAMS BROTHERS ENGINEERING, FRED H. HARRIS, ECI (Engineering Consultants Int'l.), and PLANNING AND TECHNOLOGY. Bob Silberman, formerly in charge of OGDEN MARTIN's municipal finance group was appointed by Pres. Reagan to the Dept. of Transportation as Deputy Maritime Administrator for Inland Waterways and Great Lakes.

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Paul & Ellen Connett, Editors
82 Judson Street
Canton, New York 13617
(315)379-9200