

**461 UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES IN NEW YORK OPPOSE PLANS TO BUILD INCINERATORS.** With unanimous concurrence at their North Central N.Y. Annual Conference the United Methodist Church passed a resolution "On the Incineration and Disposal of Solid Waste." The resolution, passed on June 10, 1988, by 461 churches from Long Island to Syracuse, "Calls upon its members, its member churches, and its own agencies to alter their lifestyles so as to use recycled, recyclable, and reusable products", calls for "an end to the use of styrofoam and plastic products at Conference events", "opposes plans to build incineration plants within the bounds of our Annual Conference", calls upon federal, state, county, and local governments to provide the funding for aggressive recycling programs and "to locate landfills according to environmental criteria rather than political or economic expediency..." The full resolution is available from WASTE NOT, please send SASE.

**LEAD LEVELS SOAR FROM 200 TPD SIGNAL INCINERATOR (CLAREMONT, NH) ASH IN BFI LANDFILL IN ROCKINGHAM, VERMONT.** "The latest tests on water leaching from the ash landfill used by the N.H./Vt. Solid Waste Project show sharply higher levels of toxic metals and alkalinity. Opponents of the project, which burns trash from its 28 member towns at the **Signal Environmental Systems** incinerator in Claremont (NH) and dumps the ash in Rockingham, Vt., say the test results are the final proof that the ash is hazardous and shouldn't be put in a landfill being built in Newport (NH). The new test results, from samples taken in April, are so far above those from the previous 11 months, however, that Vermont officials who regulate the **Browning Ferris Industries** landfill in Rockingham aren't ready to draw the same conclusion...results show **lead** and **cadmium** in the leachate at **eight times and five times** the level, respectively, that they have averaged over the previous 11 months. In April, the **pH** of the leachate also showed a **sharp alkaline** shift away from its relatively neutral average value. One of two tests performed on the April samples found a lead concentration of 7.1 parts per million...The test the EPA uses to determine whether a liquid waste is hazardous sets a limit of 5 parts per million. While cadmium levels were up sharply to almost 0.5 ppm, they did not exceed the EPA limit of 1.0 ppm. However, there is not necessarily an exact correlation between the EPA test and the tests done at **BFI**, according to William Ahearn of the Vermont Division of Solid Waste... 'We don't believe the 7.1 (ppm) represents the actual data,' Ahearn said. 'If the trend continues, we're going to have a look at it.' For now, 'we're not worried about it,' he said...**BFI** has its leachate tested by SciTest in Randolph, Vt., and submits the results to the state regulatory agency. The relevance of the test results to **Signal's** ash is clouded by the fact that the leachate also has run through raw garbage. Unlike the ash-only landfill planned for Newport, there is unburned garbage under the ash at **BFI**. **BFI's** other raw garbage dumps also drains into the lined area with the ash. The acidic nature of raw waste can enhance the leaching of lead - something Denison (Environmental Defence Fund) acknowledged. Nevertheless, the fact that levels of lead were lowest before ash was dumped at **BFI** suggests the ash is contributing a significant amount of the lead, he said. The increase in alkalinity is cause for concern, Denison noted, because the two metals dissolve more readily under extremely alkaline conditions. The natural alkalinity of the ash is enhanced by lime injected into the incinerator flue to neutralize acid gases. 'These data are fully consistent with the proposal that increased metal contamination of the leachate is due to ash disposal,' Denison wrote." At the time when the Claremont **Signal** incinerator was desperate for an ashfill "a former project manager testified that allowing ash to be dumped at **BFI** would provide leachate data to guide design of the Newport landfill. Back then, however, project officials were anticipating that **BFI's** landfill would have **only ash** - as was **stipulated by Vermont regulatory officials** when they granted the permit. **BFI**, however, started to put raw garbage in the landfill before the ash started to arrive, and when state officials found

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out, they let BFI go ahead and put 8 feet of garbage over the entire lined area..." Valley News (NH), 6-29-88. For further information contact Katie Lajoie, RRL, Box 417, Charlestown, NH 03603. Tel: 603-826-4803.

**ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS DERIVED FROM SUBSTITUTING SECONDARY MATERIALS FOR VIRGIN RESOURCES**

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT	ALUMINUM	STEEL	PAPER	GLASS
<b>Reduction of:</b>				
Energy Use	90-97%	47-74%	23-74%	4-32%
Air Pollution	95%	85%	74%	20%
Water Pollution	97%	76%	35%	-
Mining Wastes	-	97%	-	80%
Water Use	-	40%	58%	50%

"A city the size of San Francisco disposes of more aluminum than is produced by a small bauxite mine, more copper than a medium copper mine and more paper than a good sized timber stand. San Francisco is a mine. The question is how to mine it most effectively and how to get the maximum value from the collected materials." (David Morris of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance). The above comes from "Mining Urban Wastes: The Potential for Recycling," the title of Worldwatch Paper No. 76, which is essential reading for anyone concerned with waste. This 48 page booklet, written by Cynthia Pollock, is available for \$4 from Worldwatch Institute, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

**COPIES OF SUFFOLK COUNTY'S (NY) LOCAL LAW #10 THAT BANS THE USE OF POLYVINYL & POLYSTYRENE PLASTICS** in restaurants, bars, delis, roadside stands, grocery stand, and other retail establishments as of July 1989 (see WASTE NOT #5) are available from: Elisabeth Taibbi, Clerk of Legislature, County Center, Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788. Telephone requests: 516-360-4070.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC. " A CORPORATE PROFILE,"** is a new 78 page publication from the CITIZENS CLEARING HOUSE FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE. It includes WMI's environmental track record, white collar crime, case studies, subsidiaries, stock ownership of WMI, contributions to members of Congress for 1986-87, and more. Cost: \$7, from CCHW, PO Box 926, Arlington, VA 22216. Tel: 703-276-7070. Another recent publication on WMI has been published by GREENPEACE. Cost: \$5, available from Ben Gordon, Greenpeace Great Lakes, 1017 W. Jackson Avenue, Chicago, IL 60607.

**MASS-BURN INCINERATOR ISSUE IN NON-BINDING REFERENDUM IN CAPE MAY COUNTY, N.J.** The referendum asks: "Should a mass-burn incinerator be built anywhere in Cape May County?" According to Owen Murphy of the ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE NETWORK (tel: 609-398-4030) this is "a neat concise resolution that any municipality in the country might well copy."

The resolution was drawn up by a reputable local law firm. Copies available from WASTE NOT, please send SASE.

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