

**FRENCH BACKERS WITHDRAW FROM CINCINNATI INCINERATOR PROPOSAL.** A proposal for a 1,400-2,000tpd incinerator fell through because of the heavy opposition from citizen groups. The original developer ENCOA together with DITT, a development arm of France's electric utility, formed CESCO. In March when the incinerator proposal came due for bonding, residents campaigned so hard against it that the bonding proposal was dropped and that was when DITT walked. HDR is the waste-to-energy consultant to the Cincinnati Sanitation Department and has been for the last 2-3 years. SCS (Schmitt, Conrad & Stearns) of California has been hired to do a waste compositional study. For further information contact Jim Lowenburg, **Citizens for Sensible Waste Management**, 740 Circle Avenue, Cinn, OH 45232. Tel: 513-541-4109.

**SEATTLE WILL DELAY INCINERATION AT LEAST UNTIL 1996.** In a July 26, 1988, "Summary of Recommendations on Solid Waste" from Seattle's Mayor, and distributed by the Seattle Solid Waste Utility: "Although incineration may someday prove to be a necessary component of Seattle's solid waste system, its development is not warranted at the present time. Citizens should be given a chance first to show how much waste can be recycled; we do not want to size an incinerator today in a way that would provide a disincentive for increased recycling in the future. In addition, uncertainties over future regulation of ash disposal make it particularly difficult to predict the full costs and environmental implications of incineration at the present time. Therefore, the City will delay the development of incineration at least until 1996...The City will work in partnership with the citizens of Seattle to accomplish rates of recycling higher than anywhere else in the world. With the programs to be provided, over 60% waste recovery levels should be achievable. If that goal is not met by 1994, a two-pronged approach will be used to correct course to achieve the goal. A mandatory source separation ordinance will be adopted to prohibit all residents and business from putting any recyclable or compostable material in their garbage can..." Copies of the Summary can be obtained from the Seattle Solid Waste Utility, 750 Dexter Horton Building, 710 Second Ave., Seattle, WA 98104. Tel: 206-684-7807.

**VICON INCINERATOR IN RUTLAND, VT., SENDING ITS ASH 1,600 MILES TO CLEVELAND, OHIO.**

"The Rutland plant, (see WASTE NOT #5), which went on line in January has been beset with financial and environmental problems for some time. VICON, of Butler, NJ, estimated in 1982 the plant would cost \$9 million and begin operation in 1985. But delays in construction, caused in part by environmental concerns, escalated the cost of the plant to \$36 million when it began operation in January more than two years behind schedule. VICON has been facing increasing financial problems of late with a number of contractors who worked on the plant filing liens because of non-payment. Together the 17 lien holders are owed more than \$3 million by Vicon. Also, the city of Rutland is moving to put the plant up for sale for non-payment of taxes totaling \$140,000, plus penalties. In addition, Vicon had to find a new landfill for its ash because it failed to pay its bill to a Buffalo, NY landfill operator (C.I.D. LANDFILL). Vicon is now shipping its ash to a landfill in Cleveland (approx. 1,600 miles away). Vicon also was late in submitting monitoring tests of the plant to the state because the company reportedly did not have the \$150,000 to pay for them...The International Bank of Japan, the plant's financial backer, had been hesitant about forcing Vicon into bankruptcy because the move could jeopardize the IBJ's interest in the facility..." (see below). Rutland Herald, July 28, 1988, front page.

**K.T.I. OF PORTLAND, MAINE, CONSIDERING BUYING OUT VICON.** According to K.T.I., they have executed a memorandum of understanding to buy out Vicon. The transaction, if it occurs, will be complete on Nov. 12. According to some, it is believed this is just a 'buying

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time' tactic by **Vicon**. But **K.T.I.** says it is conducting a technological, operational, financial and environmental determination of **Vicon**. **K.T.I.** was founded in 1982, and the president and CEO is Gerald L. Kuhr. **K.T.I.** also have an office in Guttenberg, NJ. **K.T.I.** owns 2 operating RDF plants. **MERC** (Maine Energy Recovery Co.) is a 600 tpd RDF in Biddeford, Maine. Went on line in May 1987. **MERC** services 31 communities in southern Maine and N.H. **PERC** (Penobscot Energy Recovery Co.) is an 800 tpd RDF in Orrington, Maine. It services 80 communities in eastern and central Maine. It went on line in January 1988. The ash from the two plants is monofilled at **Sawyer's Landfill** in Hampden, Maine. This is a commercial landfill that also accepts regular trash. According to **KTI** the state of Maine considers their ash a non-hazardous special waste. **KTI's** projects in the planning or proposal stages are: Lewiston, ME; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Richmond, VA; Western Berks County, PA; and Portsmouth, N.H.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE DUMPING AND HOSTAGE TAKING.** "Guinea's (West Africa) government, reacting to disclosures that toxic incinerator ash had been dumped on its soil by a Norwegian company, detained a Norwegian honorary consul last month, making it clear to Oslo that its emissary, Sigmund Stronne, would not walk until the ash disappeared...a Foreign Ministry spokesman in Oslo, said that although the Norwegian government was not involved in the dumping, it pressured an Oslo shipping firm to send a ship to Guinea and remove the ash. The ash was removed early this month, and Stronne was released. But he has not been allowed to leave the country, pending an investigation of how the **Philadelphia ash** got there in the first place. The Nigerian government, stunned by reports that highly toxic waste from Italy, including PCB's, had been dumped in a Nigerian port city, seized an Italian ship. Lagos told Rome that if it wants the ship back it has to haul away the waste. A diplomat at the Italian Embassy in Lagos said recently that his government has agreed in principle to help remove the waste, which reportedly has made many people in the small port city of Koko sick. The Organization of African Unity recently condemned American and European countries for dumping unwanted and dangerous chemicals in Africa, which has almost no facilities or experience in toxic-waste disposal." Post Standard (Syracuse, NY), 7-18-88.

**"WHEN THE PEOPLE LEAD, EVENTUALLY THE LEADERS WILL FOLLOW."** Without the opposition by residents and groups to incineration, burn plants are built. Everytime a community or city council votes out an incinerator it is in direct response to resident opposition. **Waste Not** often reports on the 'reasons' given by a community, but it is the resident's political pressure that make those political 'reasons' happen. When there is strong opposition and an incinerator is built, what we are learning is that the politicians responsible are elected out of office. According to **Kidder Peabody**: "We believe public opposition will remain the toughest hurdle for this industry over the next several years. Concerns over dioxin emissions and ash residues high in heavy metal concentrations will continue to play a major role in this industry's development." **Kidder Peabody**, "Status Report on Resource Recovery as of 12-21-87", published 4-29-88.

### Waste Not # 16

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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

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