

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE OGDEN MARTIN STORY: PART ONE. Ogden Martin took over the 1,000 tpd RDF Lawrence incinerator from the bankrupt **Refuse Fuels Inc.** in December 1986. Approx. five miles away from the Lawrence incinerator **Ogden** is struggling to get local and state permits to build a 1,650 tpd mass-burn incinerator in Haverhill. Both the operating Lawrence incinerator and the proposed Haverhill incinerator have created a storm of controversy in the area. **Waste Not** plans to cover Haverhill's ongoing drama. In the meantime, contact Joyce Thibedeau, 18 Essex Avenue, Haverhill, MA 01830, tel 508-372-8101 for further information.

OGDEN MARTIN'S PROPOSED 175 FOOT HIGH TRASH MOUNTAIN

"**Ogden Martin Systems INC.** wants permission to add 15 more feet to its landfill, bringing the height of the odorous trash mound to 175 feet...The Lawrence incinerator which is designed to burn Haverhill's trash along with 10 other communities' trash, has had numerous mechanical breakdowns in the last year...those breakdowns forced **Ogden** to either stop accepting trash or to landfill the raw garbage instead of burning it. **Ogden** was urged by the state to avoid a trash crisis and instead of shutting down, accepted the raw garbage, Coco (**Ogden** spokesman) said, which quickly ate up landfill space. **Ogden** has had to landfill garbage rather than ash from Framingham, since its ash was deemed too toxic to bury last year. Although the state does not allow ash to be mixed with raw refuse, Coco said the state does allow ash to be buried on top of raw garbage using a liner to separate the two mounds..." Haverhill Gazette (MA), 8-26-88.

POWERFUL ODORS FROM THE LAWRENCE INCINERATOR

"**Ogden Martin** says it cannot combat the powerful smells that emanated this weekend from its trash-to-fuel operation by simply accepting less trash...The company is contracted to accept a steady flow of trash to the tipping room -the source of most of the foul smells...Trash in the tipping room is crushed and converted to fuel for the Lawrence power house that supplies power to a number of industries in Lawrence. Donna Leone, the city's acting health agent, said the Board of Health received a complaint about the smell and cited **Ogden Martin**...**Ogden Martin** responded to the citation with a letter ...(detailing) the company's odor-containment program for the present, the near-term future and the next 9 months. Making sure refuse directed to the landfills is covered daily with a minimum of six inches of soil to quell odors. Spraying the shredding house with a chemical solution intended to mask the odor. The shredding house is where the trash for the Lawrence plant is shredded. Operating a second conveyor belt that had broken down. The breakdown forced the company to keep more refuse than usual on the receiving floor. In the future, **Ogden Martin** says it will: keep the entrance to the tipping room closed as often as possible to reduce air flow to the outside." Haverhill Gazette (MA), 8-22-88. On August 24th the Gazette reported: "Odors emanating from the **Ogden Martin** trash plant are so strong they captured the attention Sunday of the notoriously offensive television talk-show host, Morton Downey. On his way from Boston to Hampton Beach, NH...Downey somehow found himself on Interstate 495 in Haverhill. He got one of the biggest laughs of the night from his audience when he gave a graphic, and vulgar, account of what he did to mask the odor from the plant."

NEW HAMPSHIRE: NO-INCINERATOR REFERENDUM ON MANCHESTER BALLOT. This is the first time in the history of Manchester, a city of 100,000 people, that a citizen's initiative has gotten a referendum on the ballot. The group responsible is **S.A.F.E. (Smart Alternatives for the Environment)**. The referendum reads: "Do you agree that the city of Manchester should fully implement a municipal solid waste plan which includes mandatory city-wide separation, recycling and composting without utilization of mass-burn incineration?" **S.A.F.E.** needed at least 7,000 signatures to get on the ballot. They collected over 9,200. **S.A.F.E.'s** successful effort took three-months non-stop work. (Manchester had said no to **Vicon's** proposal for a 560 tpd incinerator two days before **Vicon** declared

bankruptcy (see **Waste Not #19**). For more information on **S.A.F.E.** contact Greg Janas at 603-668-4208.

NEW JERSEY: WARREN COUNTY'S INCINERATOR SHAKEDOWN AND DEDICATION. The 400 tpd **Blount** mass-burn incinerator in Warren County (see **Waste Not #18**) is in shakedown phase, and it hasn't burned more than 150 tpd since it started up July 3rd. According to Dave Rickie, **Blount** spokesman from MONTgomery, Alabama, **Blount** has brought over an engineer from Zurich to work on the plant. According to Rickie: "Everything has operated successfully at one time or another. Adjustments and fine tuning are needed. The boilers have needed adjustments." On September 28th the **Blount** incinerator had its dedication ceremony attended by a host of state, local and industry officials. While the dedication was closed to the public, the local high school band played the music and children from local schools sat in the audience. Christopher Daggett, Acting Commissioner of the NJ DEP gave the dedication. Winton M. (Red) Blount, chairman and CEO of **Blount Inc.** attended. (Blount was U.S. Postmaster General, 1969-1971, under Pres. Nixon). Three members of **CRISIS** from Somerset County were there too. Mistaken for press, the three **CRISIS** members attended the ceremony and videoed the affair. When they unfurled a 6 foot by 10 foot banner that read: **CRISIS: Concerned Residents Involved with Stopping Incinerators**, the police came and escorted them off "private property." Bart Carhart, director of Warren County's authority overseeing the incinerator, was on vacation and missed the ceremonies. Carhart began his job as director in May 1988. While the dedication was in progress people from five NJ counties staged an informational picket on the dangers of incineration outside the facility. For more information on **CRISIS**, contact Barbara Ruebush, 689 Hanken Road, Bound Brook, NJ 08805. Tel: 201-271-0780.

WESTINGHOUSE BUYS OUT NATIONAL ELECTRIC. "The Westinghouse Electric Corporation acquired **National Electric Inc.** for undisclosed terms, giving Westinghouse 100% ownership of **Aptus**, an environmental services and hazardous-waste management company based in Lakeville, Pa. **Aptus** had been an equally owned joint venture of Pittsburg-based **Westinghouse** and **National Electric**, which operates a laboratory and hazardous waste transfer and storage facility in Lakeville. **National Electric** also runs a slagging rotary kiln incinerator and polychloryl biphenyls service center in Coffeyville, Kansas. Share of **Westinghouse** rose 25 cents today, to \$51.25 on the N.Y. Stock Exchange." New York Times, 9-10-88, page 35.

THOMAS EDISON, THE "GENIUS OF HIS AGE" WROTE "WASTE IS WORSE THAN LOSS. The time is coming when every person who lays claim to ability will keep the question of waste before him constantly. The scope of thrift is limitless." From a letter to the N.Y. Times, 9-8-88, page A-28.

CORRECTION TO WASTE NOT #22: Fulton County's (NY) resolution for a moratorium on accepting waste from outside the county is in effect to October 1, 1989, not 1988.

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