

PENNSYLVANIA: MONROE COUNTY DROPS CLARK-KENITH INCINERATOR PROPOSAL. "The Monroe County General Authority Wednesday dropped a controversial \$36 million incinerator bid because the bidder could not financially back the project, said Director Jane Meeks. Under the advice of financial consult **Butcher & Singer Inc.** of Scranton, the authority voted unanimously to reject the bid by **Clark-Kenith Inc.** of Bethesda, Md. [**Clark-Kenith** built the Hampton, VA, incinerator for which the largest dioxin emissions have been recorded. **Clark-Kenith** was also the original contractor for the 200 tpd Claremont, NH, incinerator, for which the final contractor was **Signal** now called **Wheelabrator**. Ed.] 'The guarantees that we've been able to negotiate with **Clark-Kenith** are unacceptable as it stands currently,' said Kevin E. Finley, first vice president of **Butcher & Singer Inc.** The authority has planned since the early 1980's to build a 300 ton-a-day incinerator...The authority has been dealing with **Clark-Kenith** for a year. Last April the agency received a \$44.8 million bid from **Clark-Kenith**, which was later rejected as too high. It rebid the project in June and in August received a \$34.9 million bid from **Clark-Kenith** and one other bid for \$31.9 from **Katy Seghers Inc.** of St. Louis. After negotiating with both companies, and adjusting both bids, the authority in December 1988 announced its intent to award the contract to **Clark-Kenith**, the higher bidder, and two weeks ago, a group of taxpayers filed suit in Monroe County Court. They contended the move violated public bidding laws (contract should go to lowest responsible bidder)...Meeks said the authority sought guarantees regarding the performance of the multi-million dollar facility and the life of the project, but **Clark-Kenith** was unable to provide them. Flynn said **Clark-Kenith** offered insufficient guarantees 'backing up the heart of the project: a furnace supplied by the **Enercon Company**' of Cleveland, Ohio. **Enercon** was supposed to subcontract a furnace to **Clark-Kenith**, he explained. In addition, Flynn said, the authority asked **Clark-Kenith** to look into hiring a firm to operate and manage the incinerator as a means of guaranteeing that the system would be operated well. However, 'these firms were unwilling because they would not have built the system' and the cost of paying to take on the burden would have been prohibitive, Flynn (Authority Solicitor) said. 'The amount necessary to cover the risk made the project more expensive than we were willing to take on,' said Chairwoman Jacquelyn Newman..." *The Pocono Record*, 4-20-89.

WILL WASTE MANAGEMENT INC TAKE OVER WHEELABRATOR? "The betting among takeover pros is that **Wheelabrator Technologies**, now trading at around \$24 a share, will merge with **Wheelabrator Group**. Word is that once the two **Wheelabratrors** merge, **Waste Management**, which owns about 22% of **Wheelabrator Technologies**, will go after the combined companies. **Waste Management**, the nation's largest solid- and nuclear-waste disposal company, already has an agreement for **Wheelabrator Technologies** to acquire or lease sites at **Waste's** landfills for **Wheelabrator's** refuse-to-energy facilities. Barry Mannis, an analyst at Sherson Lehman Hutton, notes that a combined **Wheelabrator Group/Technologies** would have a market value of about \$1 billion. It would be hot, widely held stock in the pollution-control sector, said Mannis. All three companies declined comment." *Business Week*, 5-1-89, page 124.

NEW YORK: BFI SUPPORTS GOVERNOR CUOMO'S PROPOSAL TO OVERRIDE LOCAL LAWS TO SITE INCINERATORS, ASHFILLS & LANDFILLS. "Governor Mario M. Cuomo has recently proposed a solid waste bill, Governor's Program Bill # 63, that would create 'solid waste management siting boards' to site incinerators, ashfills and landfills despite local objections. These boards would have the power to override all local laws, ordinances and land use regulations to site these facilities. The bill has received the support of **Browning Ferris Industries (BFI)** and others in the solid waste industry...This bill, which transfers the power to make major solid waste policy decisions from elected officials to appointed boards, eliminates the ability of citizens to hold their elected

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officials accountable for bad decisions..." New York Public Interest Research Group, "Legislative Alert", April 1989.

THE INTERNATIONAL WASTE TRADE: PROPOSAL FOR U.S. WASTE TO BE DUMPED ON MARSHALL ISLANDS.

"On March 10, 1989, the Nitijela (Parliament) of the Republic of the Marshalls passed a resolution thereby paving the way for a **Admiralty Pacific** (a U.S. corporation) proposal to import in the Marshalls 'non-toxic, non hazardous' solid waste from the U.S. and elsewhere in the world to use as landfill in some of the low-lying atolls of the country. The resolution has two immediate implications. First it authorizes Hon. Amata Kabua (President of the Republic of the Marshalls) to execute agreements with **Admiralty Pacific** on behalf of the Marshalls and secondly it gives the approval to **Admiralty Pacific** to undertake at its sole expense US \$3 million, an environmental impact and engineering studies to determine the feasibility of such land-fill projects in the Marshalls. To offset **Admiralty Pacific** expenses incurred in conducting the feasibility study the resolution states that '...if the studies establish that such landfill projects are feasible and of benefit to the Marshall Islands, **Admiralty Pacific** should be given the exclusive right to contract with the Republic of the Marshall Islands to design, develop, construct, operate, maintain and supply landfill material' to the Marshall Islands. Since the approval of the resolution **Admiralty Pacific** has hired **Radian Corp.** (an engineering firm based in Sacramento, CA) to conduct the study. According to **Radian Corp.** documents they will also write a 'regulatory compliance plan' itemising the environmental permits, applications and federal, state and local approval processes for the project. **Radian** is also working on the assumption that final approval for the project will be June 1990. This is the date in which the **Admiralty Pacific** contract (with the city of Seattle, WA) to receive municipal solid waste comes into effect. **Admiralty** also claims to have seven other contracts to take garbage from counties in the states of California, Oregon and Washington. **Admiralty** plans to ship 3.5 million tons of solid waste from the US west coast to the Marshall Islands in the first year. They project that by the 5th year they would have shipped 25 million tons, which is the annual 'non toxic' solid waste tonnage produced by the US West Coast. **Admiralty** admits that if East Coast States or other nations become interested the tonnage could easily increase ten-fold. The Marshall Islands, according to **Admiralty Pacific** will receive \$16 million per year in exchange. ...The Republic of the Marshalls has a total land area of 72 sq miles (171 sq km) spread over 33 atolls. It has a population of 35,000 (estimated). Not all of the atolls are inhabited. **Eniwetok, Bikini and Rongelap atolls are uninhabited because their populations were forcibly removed. These atolls were contaminated by US atmospheric atomic bomb tests in the 1950's. Eniwetok on which the US exploded 43 atomic bombs is already the world's largest nuclear waste dump.** Other uninhabited atolls are so because they cannot sustain human habitation. Like other atolls in the Pacific those in the Marshalls are low-lying specks of land with very sparse vegetation. The main source of water for human consumption and plant use are aquifers that lie just under the subsoil. The soil (if any) is very porous, so rainwater and other liquids leaches easily and quickly..."

4-21-89 "Action Alert", from **Pacific Concerns Resource Centre**, PO Box 9295, Newmarket, Auckland, Aotearoa (NZ). The Centre is asking that letters requesting the rejection of the **Admiralty Pacific** project be sent to:

President Amata Kabua
Office of the President
Majuro, 96960
MARSHALL ISLANDS.

The Honourable Speaker
Nitijela of the Republic
of the Marshalls
Parliament House
Majuro, 96960
MARSHALL ISLANDS.

also to

The Editor
Marshall Islands Journal
PO Box 14
Majuro, 96960
MARSHALL ISLANDS.

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