

MICHIGAN: DIRECTOR OF THE STATE'S DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES SAYS COMMUNITIES SHOULD DELAY TRASH INCINERATORS UNTIL TECHNOLOGY IMPROVES. MICHIGAN PUTS HOLD ON FUNDS FOR INCINERATION.

"Michigan communities should concentrate on recycling and delay building trash incinerators until technology improves, the director of the state Department of Natural Resources says. The earliest incinerators in the state were developed before environmental problems were addressed, including production of potentially hazardous ash and smokestack emissions, DNR Director David Hales said. 'The technology does not produce the kind of results we thought we would get,' Hales said Friday [1-5-90]. 'It's not just the ash problem. I have great concerns about the Detroit incinerator,' concerns about toxic material coming out of the stack.' He said the state won't make any major investments in incinerators until technology for clean and efficient operation improves. 'Our investment now should go to recycling,' Hales said. DNR officials had encouraged development of Jackson's incinerator, which opened in 1987 at a cost of \$28 million. [See Waste Not #32 & 55]. Municipal incinerators have since opened in Grand Rapids and Detroit. A year after it opened, however, Jackson County's incinerator was closed for 10 months because of DNR regulatory problems [high levels of lead in the ash]. Although trash-dumping fees charged by the county more than tripled, the incinerator has a \$3 million operational debit. 'The Jackson experience is part and parcel with the experience we've had nationwide with incineration,' Hales said, adding that DNR wrongly expected ashes and emissions to be cleaner. The Clinton County Board of Commissioners decided against incineration in November, after an attempted recall of four county commissioners... Ingham County also rejected incineration as an option in its solid-waste plan. The decisions were setbacks to the Granger Waste Management Co.'s plans to build a \$75-million to \$100 million energy-producing incinerator in the Lansing area." Lansing State Journal, 1-7-90, page 1-B.

CALIFORNIA: LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR SAYS THAT MUNICIPAL WASTE INCINERATION IS NEITHER ENVIRONMENTALLY OR ECONOMICALLY SOUND.

The Lieutenant-Governor of California, Leo McCarthy, spoke at the Carlsbad City Hall on January 11, 1990, and stated that incineration doesn't make environmental or economic sense, according to his Environmental Counsel, Ed Manning. Lieutenant-Governor McCarthy said that communities should put all their efforts into source reduction, recycling and composting, and not incineration. His address was specific to one of the longest running incinerator battles in the country: San Marcos. Lieutenant-Governor McCarthy stated that people mistrust the experts who say incineration is safe because they are linked to the incinerator industry. He said there is a great need for better and more independent science.

MICHIGAN: RECALL EFFORT AGAINST FOUR CLINTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS STAVES OFF INCINERATION FOR FIVE YEARS.

"A recall effort against four Clinton County Commissioners is off now that the board has eliminated incineration from its immediate trash disposal plans. The Board of Commissioners reviewed Tuesday recommendations to a committee that is forming a solid waste plan for the next five years. Previously, the board voted to include in the plan both a possible incinerator and the burying of incinerator ash in the county landfill. That decision prompted a recall attempt, led by three local environmental groups that said incinerators pollute the air. Tuesday, the board changed its plan. By a vote of 5-2, it said it would not allow incineration or the resulting ash in the county during the five years covered by the solid waste plan...After hearing about the turn around, Tom Shaver, who led the recall effort, announced Tuesday that the recall had been recalled. 'At this point, we're simply elated,' said Shaver, spokesman for Citizens for a Safe Environment. 'They finally

recognized the public sentiment on this issue and respected it.' He credited the shift to a Monday night DeWitt Township meeting, at which the township board stated its opposition to the use of incinerators..." Lansing State Journal, 11-29-89. For more information contact Tom Shaver, **Citizens for a Safe Environment**, 7700 E. Clark Road, Grand Ledge, MI 48837.

PUT YOUR LANDFILL ON A DIET! A NEW AVOIDED-COST OPTIMIZATION MODEL FOR DESIGNING INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.

Sound Resource Management Group (SRMG) from Seattle, Washington, combines the best of talented individuals and a commitment to genuine "sound resource" management. They are a consultancy group and they work with state and county agencies as well as with citizens groups on the planning and costing out of waste disposal options. **SRMG** developed a new program called **CurbConserve**. According to their brochure, **CurbConserve** is a unique, interactive computer model developed to indicate which source separation or centralized processing recycling methods would be economically appropriate for a community. If source separation methods are found to be practical, **CurbConserve** will specify which recyclable or compostable materials should be separated in home containers and collected independently of mixed refuse. **CurbConserve** will also determine whether mixed waste processing for recovery of recyclables or compostables would be cost effective either alone or in conjunction with source separation methods. According to the **SRMG** this program has significant advantages over earlier 'avoided cost approach' models. With the addition of a linear programming algorithm, the **CurbConserve** program is able to choose the optimal integrated combination of curbside recycling, yard waste recycling, mixed waste processing and disposal that is most cost-effective and feasible for a given situation. A discussion paper is available on the **CurbConserve** program for \$22.50. Address: **Sound Resource Management Group**, 7220 Ledroit Court SW, Seattle, WA 98136. Tel: 206-281-5952.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: 200 TPD SIGNAL INCINERATOR IN CLAREMONT WILL NOT TEST FOR MERCURY.

This mass burn incinerator went on line in 1987. "Smoke from the stack of the **SES Claremont Co.**'s trash-to-energy plant never has been tested for levels of the potentially toxic metal mercury. And air-monitoring equipment slated for installation downwind of the plant by the state will not test for mercury, either, according to Tom Noel, an official of the state Air Resources Division...**SES Claremont Co.**, formerly called **Signal Environmental Systems**, is a limited partnership set up as a subsidiary of **Wheelabrator Technologies**, headquartered in Danvers, Mass...Under state and federal regulations, the company is not required to measure emissions of heavy metals including mercury, in the smoke from its Claremont plant, regulators said this week. "We are concerned that there is no monitoring for mercury at this incinerator," William Gallagher of the anti-incinerator group **Working on Waste** said at a press conference last week. The conference marked the **incinerator's ninth extension on meeting standards for a state air-emissions permit since its start up in April 1987**. The facility is operating now under a temporary permit...Claremont is shielded from prevailing winds by Mount Ascutney, Gallagher said. 'Claremont is in a bowl...Smoke from the incinerator stays right in that bowl and lands in that bowl.' As an economy measure, N.H. had eliminated air-quality monitoring in the Upper Valley early in this decade, according to Noel...The only remaining hurdle in the Claremont plant's nearly three-year pursuit of an air-emission permit is to fix a faulty carbon-monoxide monitor, said Don Davis, administrator of the Air Resources Division...Amy Juchatz, toxicologist at the N.H. Division of Public Health Services, said tht no risk assessments on emissions of lead or mercury have been conducted in the state..." Valley News, 1-4-90, page 1. For more information contact Katie Lajoie, RR1, Box 417, Charlestown, NH 03603. Tel: 603-826-4803.

Waste Not #85

A publication of
Work On Waste USA,
a non-profit corporation dedicated to the
promotion of sound resource
management policy.

Annual Subscription Rate: \$35

Students & Seniors: \$ 25

Consultants &

for-profit organizations: \$100.

Canadian rates: \$US 40

Letters, articles and calls from the public
welcome.

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NOTE: As **Waste Not** is published 48 times a year, it did not publish a newsletter the week of 1-4-90. **Waste Not #83** was for the week of 12-21-89, and **#84** for the week 12-28-89. Sorry for the omissions of the dates on these issues.

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