

**INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROJECT
SOUTHEAST WYOMING REGIONAL LANDFILL PLANNING GROUP**

SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY 26, 2008 CITY OF CHEYENNE PUBLIC MEETING

The following information is a general summary of the issues discussed at the February 26, 2008 City of Cheyenne public meeting that was held at the City of Cheyenne Council Chambers in Cheyenne, WY. The meeting began at approximately 7:00 PM and concluded at approximately 9:00 PM.

Attendees

Vicki Nemecek, City of Cheyenne Public Works Department
Mike Abel, City of Cheyenne Public Works Department
Dennis Pino, City of Cheyenne Sanitation Division
Jeff Fanning, City of Cheyenne Engineering
Monte Landers, City of Cheyenne Sanitation Division
Craig McOmie, WDEQ/SHWD
Kim Mickley, public representative
Victor Ciccone, public representative
Rick Fierro, public representative
Carroll Schell, public representative
Tom McLaughlin, public representative
Louise Waters, public representative
Delmar Stone, Citizens for Recycling
Jodi Rogstad, Wyoming Tribune Eagle
Larry Sorton, public representative
Jim Connell, public representative
Marge Bedessem, Trihydro Corporation
Bill Brewer, Trihydro Corporation
Laurie Johnson, Trihydro Corporation

Following introductions of attendees, a slide presentation was provided to inform the public of the planning process. The following minutes summarize the public comment and testimony. A copy of the slide presentation is available on the project website at www.southeasternwyomingiswm.com.

Recap of the ISWM Planning Process

The meeting began with a general overview of the ISWM planning process:

- Why Are We Here Today?
- ISWM Planning Facts
- ISWM Planning Objectives
- Public Testimony

Questions Pertaining to the Presentation

Larry Sorton

Question: How was Trihydro Corporation selected to be the consultant for this planning region? Answer: Marge Bedessem (Trihydro) explained that the planning partners first submitted a letter of intent to the WDEQ specifying their agreement to form a regional planning group. The planning partners issued a request for proposals and Trihydro submitted a competitive proposal and bid. Trihydro interviewed for the project in competition with other consultants and was finally selected by the planning partners to prepare the plan.

Delmar Stone

Question: Why are the mentioned alternatives only focused on the disposal alternatives (landfill option) and not more on diversion and recycling alternatives? He expressed that he would like to see a goal of zero-waste. He also asked if Trihydro was evaluating other national or regional recycling and diversion programs. Answer: Trihydro commented that diversion and recycling is an overall objective in all the alternatives. It was noted that this should be an integral part of the ISWM plan for this local community. Others commented that zero waste is a good overall goal but may not be realistic in Wyoming due to distance and transportation to commodity markets. It was addressed that a regional center in Boulder, Colorado had been visited by some of the City of Cheyenne staff and that further visits were to be scheduled. It was commented that diversion and recycling would be a likely product of this plan.

Public Testimony

Public comments were received in order of the names on the sign-in sheet. The testimonies were recorded.

Victor Ciccone

He would like to see total recycling in this community. He expressed that increased legislation and financing would need to be provided by the governing entities. He would like to see mandated recycling for commodities like beverage containers; similar to programs in other states. He would like to see the rural Wyoming communities mandated (funded by State of Wyoming) to transport their wastes to regional recycling centers and regional landfills. He also suggested that education should be added to the current list of ISWM plan objectives. Finally, he would like to see older areas of the current landfill mined and reclaimed. There was a comment from another public representative that a recycling task force was reviewing mandates and increased legislation.

Rick Fierro

He has researched recycling, owns a transportation company and hauls and moves construction debris. He is currently recycling concrete, asphalt and soils and is in the process of opening a construction/demolition waste (C?DW) operation. One problem in rural area with zero-waste is that only certain projects are recyclable ie clean wood, drywall, etc. Some are too costly to transport. Plastics are complicated as a recyclable, oil based

paint cans cannot be recycled, wood products from demolished building can be used as hog-fuel at large incinerator manufacturing plants. No plant around here that needs hog fuel. Currently can do some of the CDW (cut-offs, asphalt, shingles etc) but still a certain per cent are not cost effective to transport due to the rural state and this man has a transportation company. He also commented on mandates are not here that the mentality is still dig a hole and bury it, so until get a backing from legislature then will be hard to do. Until legislation occurs some of these products will never be recycled.

Carroll Schell

Suggests a reuse center, he has been involved as a federal civil servant involved in his career with landfill, balefill, co-generation, composting. Need to think more on the reuse opportunities; Concern to have a place to put reuse materials, requested alternatives expanded to add more diversion, recycling and reuse alternatives.

Tom McLaughlin

Suggests look at the railroad to bring trash from Laramie, concerned about transportation costs.

Craig McOmie – addressed comments

- 1) Increase need for scales, critical component, mil levies are ineffective ways to operate landfills, that is why full cost accounting a required part of this plan. Goal is to prove that costs more to bury than recycle. Have to consider landfill space saved and not price of the recyclables. Second was the report that DEQ analyzes the inadequate monitoring systems. If they are determined they are leaking or cannot prove they will not contaminate then will be required to line. Small landfills not cost effective to line. See boom for recycling since communities will not want to pay the shipping and tipping fee for extra waste tonnage. Can use portion of tipping fee to pay for recycling.
- 2) Demolition jobs, when recently tore high school down then wrote into RFP that all recyclables are required to be removed prior to bringing to the landfill.
- 3) Legislation – he would love to see something legislated and he tries to approach from the economic side. He thinks all 10 regions will suggest recycling and may see a requirement come down. Zero waste is a goal not completely achievable but can be approached if markets near by,
- 4) Successful reuse center are already in Wyoming, example center in Boulder, CO.
- 5) Waste from Laramie to Cheyenne is doable, Cheyenne to Laramie unlikely, transfer station will need to be able to hold large amount of waste, up to 150 miles cost effective with semi that hauls 20+ tons. He suggests a spoke and hub approach more of a regional approach with smaller communities having drop off centers.

Delmar Stone

Member of Citizens for Recycling, promote single stream in Cheyenne. He would like to spread single stream city-wide as soon as possible. Says maybe zero waste not a possibility then it is a goal. Suggests we have to clean up our own mess and be willing to apply the resources and monies to this.

Louise Water

Wondered why Belvoir still mentioned in the alternatives and was disappointed to see still discussed;

Larry Sorton

Also involved in Citizens for Recycling. He agrees the Belvoir needs to be removed from discussion as a landfill. He wants to combine business and residential single stream, and also trash haulers be required to go to single stream. Landfill mining to add more space and put the trash compacted back into a lined cell. Education he wants stressed to save the landfill and increase recycling. Educate the people about recycling the electronics (ie Tadooine). City needs to educate public about recycling fluorescent bulbs since have a mercury contamination concern.

Dennis Pino

Speaking as landfill manager, he clarified that all waste is inspected and e-waste and fluorescent and household hazardous wastes are pulled out. He says people don't realize what the city does at the landfill. Goal at the landfill is to protect the water. As public citizen he would like to see increased diversion, ideas as how to market the materials that are diverted. Determine some of these materials that we can pull from the waste stream in this plan. Increase recycling and waste diversion as much as possible.

Mike Abel

Speaking as Public Works Director, he thanked everyone for coming and making suggestions, he spoke that this issue is an extremely high priority. The city is already doing many of the items on the final slide.

Carroll Schell

Why is recycling not in every school; we need to include a component of education that is introduced into the schools. If develop programs to divert waste and recycle as much as we can, is the permitting process different if the materials are not haz waste, ie CDW wastes. Craig said new regs for CDW landfills will allow them to be permitted unlined but will be site specific based on groundwater concerns, increased screening to ensure the materials are inert. Cost will be significantly decreased if unlined or a reduced type of liner for CDW

Questions to City of Cheyenne

Question: Has there been a decrease in the amount of recycling at the blue bins since the pilot study began? Answer: No, in fact there has been an increase - this was a form of education as the word got out

Question: Once the plan is decided on what is the timeline to implement? Answer: As part of the planning process the preferred alternative is selected and a specific implementation plan will be put into the report. Only implemented if the partners want to, and partners can decide on their own. This is an important role, then the public will want to hear the public approval of the plan

and the implementation timeline. City of Cheyenne personnel are working daily with these issues and are implementing changes that will occur without waiting for this plan to be completed.

Question: Once the recycling pilot study is complete, will it continue? Answer: Dennis said survey response is critical and will try to keep the pilot area going. They would like to implement the program city-wide as soon as possible.

Next Steps

The local working group meeting to be held on February 27 from 8 AM - noon was announced. The regional meeting purpose was discussed and attendance encouraged.