

# WASTE & MATERIALS MANAGEMENT STUDY GROUP – *draft* Notes: May 1, 2025

Location: Virtual - Teams

Member Attendance: ☐ Curry, ☒ Doverspike, ☒ Kalvelage, ☒ Karwoski, ☒ Ketchum, ☐ Knudtson, ☒ Mathewson, ☒ Michitsh, ☒ Pellitteri, ☒ Reuter, ☒ Sexton, ☒ Welch

Guests: Laura Stevens, City of Milwaukee; Scott Manley, WMC; Jana Suriano, SCS Engineers; Alex Thomas, Dane County; Troy Hanson; Barb Pavliscak, DNR; Alejandra Viso

DNR WA Attendance: ☒ Krausensky, ☒ Semrau, ☒ Strom Hiorns, ☒ Murray, ☒ O'Donnell

Time/ Presenter	Topic	
9:00	Welcome/Agenda Review/Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motion by Julie Ketchum, seconded by David Pellitteri to accept agenda as presented. Motion carried.</li> <li>Motion by Brian Kalvelage, seconded by Tom Karwoski to approve notes. Motion carried.</li> </ul>
9:15	DNR Updates	<p>Staffing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engineer posting soon (West Central, South Central or Northeast)</li> <li>Four other positions in HR cue</li> </ul> <p>Upcoming meetings/Program Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council on Recycling next meeting June 6, 2025. Includes tours of Xcel Energy (waste to energy facility) and Dynamic Lifecycle Innovations (electronics recycler)</li> <li>Landfill tonnage report online soon</li> </ul> <p>Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nov. 2024 sent updated program application draft to EPA</li> <li>New federal administration focus on state management</li> <li>DNR has met with EPA to discuss; will get back to EPA with response to comments</li> <li>Six CCR landfills in the state</li> <li>CCR grant funds can be used after approval</li> </ul> <p>Federal Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR)- funding in place/no changes</li> <li>Hazardous Waste (HW)- still getting funds</li> <li>Dept. of Energy (DOE) battery grant- up in the air, no info or funds from DOE</li> <li>Watching federal budget process</li> </ul>

		<p>State Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 1- start of new fiscal year</li> <li>• Joint Finance Committee holding hearings around the state</li> <li>• Goal to have complete by July 1; if not, current funding continues</li> <li>• Included in Governor's budget: landfill food waste study (2027) and Revitalize WI (brownfields and abandoned waste clean-up). Funding proposed in Revitalize WI- \$1M year one, \$1.5M year two, \$500K/year thereafter.</li> <li>• PFAS action plan in state budget- \$125-\$145M. Includes clean-up, research on disposal methods, samplings, WWTPs/landfill testing</li> </ul> <p>Sexton: Has DNR lost any EPA contracts? A: No.</p> <p>Scott Manley: Landfill food waste study- what information are you looking for?</p> <p>A: Looking specifically at amount of food waste landfilled, not all waste in landfills</p> <p>Ketchum: \$145M for PFAS is big price tag, may be challenging. Are there priorities with list of PFAS activities? Recommend prioritizing cleanup of land.</p> <p>A: Cannot answer as Governor/legislature will determine priorities.</p> <p>Guidance Posted for Public Comment: Long-term Care of Closed Landfills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looking for public comment until May 16</li> <li>• Go to <a href="http://dnr.wi.gov">dnr.wi.gov</a> and search "Waste public comment"</li> </ul> <p>Reminder: GovDelivery Options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recycling Updates, Solid Waste News, Hazardous Waste Decoded, Organics Management News, Medical Waste and more</li> <li>• Subscribe at <a href="https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDNR/subscriber/new?topic_id=WI_DNR_659">https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDNR/subscriber/new?topic_id=WI_DNR_659</a></li> </ul>
9:30	<b>Summary of Member Discussions on DNR Efficiencies</b>	<p>Sarah Murry presented <a href="#">slides</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the request of the Landfill Rule Technical Advisory Committee, DNR is seeking feedback from Study Group members (or others) on procedural efficiencies. Individual meetings/calls held with eight members so far.</li> </ul> <p>Common themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilities/consultants struggle with DNR staff vacancies and working with new/inexperienced staff</li> <li>• DNR response times generally adequate, but frequency of incompleteness determinations has been frustrating for some facilities</li> <li>• DNR could make more use of the Study Group/other externals to address issues/get training</li> <li>• Better/more efficient coordination among DNR programs would be helpful</li> </ul>

		<p>Questions for Study Group</p> <p>What types of training do you think would benefit newer DNR staff you work with? Do you have any recommendations on good places to get it?</p> <p>Sexton: Is DNR doing any waste trainings/meetings?</p> <p>A: Yes, waste program holds statewide meeting, sub-programs have monthly meetings/trainings.</p> <p>Sexton: Are case studies presented at trainings? A: Yes.</p> <p>Sexton: Could have a consultant participate in a postmortem after approval is done.</p> <p>Krausensky: Now, peer review of approvals, pair new staff with experienced.</p> <p>Doverspike: Are there repeat topics? List of common questions? If so, send to Study Group, get feedback.</p> <p>Murray: Non-regulatory site tours are a good idea.</p> <p>Ketchum: Involve permittee in case study discussion. Part of the training needs to be on technical aspect of the rule and the “why,” the details, the supporting background.</p> <p>Are there topics that would benefit from new or revised DNR guidance that Study Group sub-teams could work on? Updates to GEMS? Active landfill monitoring guidance?</p> <p>Sexton: Add info to cap submittals, liners, etc. Plan mod request is most challenging. Reduced monitoring has good checklist.</p> <p>Murray: Common incomplete items? Sexton: Yes.</p> <p>Karwoski: Groundwater monitoring- helpful to fill in the blanks. Feasibility checklist is very good. Surface water monitoring checklist- consultants could help.</p> <p>Kalvelage: Likes idea.</p> <p>Next meeting- specific discussion on setting up subgroups</p> <p>Other general feedback or ideas based on this discussion?</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish individual conversations</li> <li>• Share results of individual and group discussions with WA Program supervisors and teams</li> <li>• Identify 1-2 priority areas to work on internally at DNR</li> <li>• Identify 1-2 priority areas for additional discussions with Study Group/regulated community</li> </ul>
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10:00	<b>Organics Updates</b>	<p>SWIFR Updates Ruth O'Donnell presented detailed <a href="#">slides</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wasted food/food scraps makes up 20% of material landfilled. Amount of food waste landfilled doubled from 2009 to 2020.</li> <li>EPA has a wasted food scale where landfilling, incinerating or sending down the drain is the least preferred.</li> <li>SWIFR Grant funding food waste management plan. Results available by summer.</li> <li>Second SWIFR goal- statewide, non-regulatory technical assistance program.</li> <li>Third SWIFR goal- guidance and outreach.</li> </ul> <p>Ketchum: Capacity can be understanding/education/knowledge or tonnage capacity in processing. What is DNR measuring? A: Tonnage. Mathewson: Thanks for doing this work, looking forward to policy recommendations.</p> <p>WI Composting Council (Alex Thomas)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inaugural meeting Mar. 30, nearly 40 attendees from around the state including composters, haulers, local government, DNR</li> <li>Council seeks to support and grow composting industry in WI</li> <li>Goal is to form a state chapter of the US Composting Council (USCC), seeking formal USCC recognition (24-25 state chapters, including neighboring states of IA, MN, MI, OH and IL)</li> <li>Passed bylaws, elected 9-member board (with staggered 1-, 2-, and 3-year terms)</li> <li>Meeting this afternoon for election of officers and specific goal setting</li> </ul> <p>Ketchum: Are you noticing the meeting? A: Yes (request to add Julie to email list) Krausensky: Add your name to the chat to be added.</p> <p>New Organics Study Group member Welcome to Jerod Reuter, Purple Cow Organics, to compost operator position</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reuter has 18 years' experience, started food waste composting ~10 years ago</li> <li>Sell bulk, residential, liquid</li> <li>Biggest challenge with food waste composting- selling the material</li> <li>Awarded Dane Co contract for food waste, focusing on training on front end</li> <li>Will accept compostable liners, not accepting plates, bowls, cutlery</li> </ul>
11:00	<b>Rulemaking Updates</b>	<p>Non-landfill Solid Waste rule (WA-14-24) (Krausensky)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Last update of code in 2006 (except composting language in 2012)</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rule will update code for general fill exemptions, low hazard exemptions, storage, transporter, transfer, processing, air curtain destructor, open burning and woodburning, composting, incinerator and municipal solid waste combustors facilities, solid waste landspreading, infectious waste management, PCB management, and associated fees</li> <li>• Scope statement approved by Natural Resources Board (NRB) in March</li> <li>• In month 2 of 12 for drafting timeline</li> <li>• Transfer and transporter code have first drafts</li> <li>• Infectious waste will be next, in research phase</li> <li>• Seeking feedback from staff, feedback sessions and other states</li> <li>• Krausensky went over transfer code general concepts (See slides)</li> </ul> <p>Sexton: Bunker specs? A: Not set design standards, but holds waste, prevents wind-blown material.</p> <p>Ketchum: Scope of landspreading? A: Not biosolids, wastewater sludge.</p> <p>Doverspike: Max hold time increase to 48 hours, for MSW? A: Yes.</p> <p>E-Cycle rule (WA-15-24) (Murray)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope statement approved by NRB in April</li> <li>• Codify guidance on shortfall fees</li> <li>• First half of next year for public input opportunities</li> </ul> <p>Landfill rule (WA-11-22) (Strom Hiorns)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deadline for Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules to ask for a hearing/ask questions is May 14</li> <li>• If a hearing is requested, will let Study Group know</li> </ul> <p>Recycling Rule (WA-13-21) (Semrau)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rule effective July 1</li> <li>• RU outreach on new requirements: July webinar, direct emails, document summarizing RU impacts, speak at WI Towns Assoc annual conference (Oct)</li> <li>• MRFs: MRF Stakeholder meeting (Aug), direct emails and more</li> <li>• Also working on modifications to RU and MRF annual reports</li> </ul> <p>Municipal Landfill Owner Financial Responsibility (2023 WI Act 107, WA-07-24E, WA-08-24) (Strom Hiorns)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency rule still in effect, working on final stages of permanent rule</li> </ul> <p>PFAS Groundwater Standards proposed (DG-02-25) (Strom Hiorns)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope statement approved by NRB in April</li> </ul>
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11:55	<b>Topics for next meeting, Adjourn</b>	<p>Next meeting Aug. 7; topics for next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subgroups on additional topics (Sexton)</li> <li>• Rulemaking status, legislative status (Ketchum)</li> <li>• 3 HW rules, aerosol cans as universal waste (Murray)</li> <li>• Act 107, # of public landfills taking advantage (Doverspike)</li> <li>• Battery legislation status update (Sexton, Ketchum)</li> </ul> <p>Motion by Chad Doverspike, seconded by David Pellitteri to adjourn at 11:09 a.m. Motion carried.</p>