

# EXPANSION OF ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS

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# Expansion of Organic Waste Management

- ▣ Small Scale Composting Facilities
  - ▣ Medium Scale Composting Facilities
  - ▣ Anaerobic Digestion Facilities
  - ▣ Modification of Existing Composting Facilities
- ## Regulations
- Leaf and Yard Waste (large scale)
  - Putrescible Waste (large scale)

# Drivers of Organic Waste Management Regulations

1. Small and Medium Scale Composting Initiatives
  - Reuse Organic Wastes (leaf and yard + food)
  - Make compost
2. A.D. facility interest in RI
3. Waste Handling Hierarchy
4. Landfill finite life + future alternate disposal costs
5. Compost Law (“Food Waste Ban”)

# Food Waste Ban

## RIGL 23-19.9-17

- ▣ Effective 1/1/2016
- ▣ Commercial and Various Institutional Organic Waste Generators
- ▣ >104 tons/yr organic waste
  - Food scraps
  - Food processing waste
  - Soiled paper
  - Non-recyclable paper

# Food Waste Ban

## RIGL 23-19.9-17

### (continued)

- ▣ Within 15 miles of compost or A.D. Facility
- ▣ Waste Handling Options
  - Send to compost facility
  - Send to A.D. facility
  - For agricultural use (animal feed)
  - Recycle or treat on-site
- ▣ Waiver option: facility fee > RIRRC non-contract commercial tipping fee

# Composting and AD Facility Regulation Development Process

- ▣ OWM Regulation Development- 2014
- ▣ Initial Draft to Stakeholders- 12/2014
- ▣ Stakeholder Feedback: 12/2014- 2/2015
- ▣ OWM Revision of Initial Draft: 3/2015-present
- ▣ Future Steps
  - OWM release of revised draft to public
  - Public hearing
  - OWM review of public comments + additional regulatory revisions
  - OWM preparation and Release of Final Version

# Small Scale Composting Facility

## Regs-

### Initial Draft

- ▣ <25 yds<sup>3</sup> waste stockpile + composting wastes
- ▣ Allowed- leaf and yard waste, some food wastes, hair, sawdust, some manures
- ▣ Basic environmental requirements:
  - Surface and groundwater
  - Wetlands
  - Odors
  - Vectors
  - Dust
  - litter



# Small Scale Composting Facility Regs- Initial Draft (cont.)

- ▣ Finished compost- Class A
- ▣ DEM inspection right
- ▣ DEM enforcement rights
  - Cease receiving waste during non-compliance period with above requirements
- ▣ Note- **NOT** “backyard composting”



# Medium Scale Composting Facility Regs- Initial Draft

- ▣ 25-75 yds<sup>3</sup> Waste stockpiled + composting waste
- ▣ Registration Requirement Details
- ▣ All other details- same as small scale composting regs

# Major Differences [new vs. existing]

- ▣ Small scale facilities- no registration requirement
- ▣ Medium scale
  - Fewer details in registration submission
  - No registration fee requirement for putrescible waste
- ▣ Basic environmental compliance issues vs. detailed operating standards
- ▣ Reduced scope of allowable feedstocks due to:
  - Potential of odor problems for some putrescible wastes
  - Lack of buffer zone requirements for small/medium scale facilities

# Key Issues for Draft Update

- ▣ Medium scale composters
  - Expansion of allowed types of feedstock
  - Increased upper limit of materials onsite
    - ▣ [ from 75 to 600 yds<sup>3</sup>]

# AD Draft Regs

- ▣ Applies to all AD facilities (no size subsets)
- ▣ Licensing application:
  - Site + radius plan
  - Construction and engineering plans & specs
  - Operation plan (detailed in next slide)
  - Solids Product Marketing Plan
  - Closure Plan
- ▣ Has design and operating standards

# Operating Plan

- Operating Plan that addresses:
  - Waste acceptance/storage/processing
  - Digestion
  - Biogas handling and head/power generation
  - Solids digestate handling/processing into compost/fertilizers
  - Liquid digestate handling
  - Waste water removals
  - Odor control measures
  - Other housekeeping tasks
  - Safety issues (fires, methane gas, etc.)
  - Emergency Contingency Plans + substitute disposal option

# AD Facility Proposals

- ▣ For Johnston + Quonset Point Sites
- ▣ 2 OWM applications submitted (using putrescible waste composting regs)
- ▣ OWM has reviewed applications
- ▣ OWM comments generated in application details [updating of applications needed]
- ▣ Final AD regs will require additional application information submitted licensing procedures:
  - Workshop, hearing, public comments
- ▣ Also require air permitting

# FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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