Composting Stakeholder Workgroup Meeting
August 30, 2017
Intro Remarks by Pamela Hoyt-Denison, NHDES, Chair

- Meeting format
  - Break into 3 focus groups:
    - Rules / Regulatory / BMPs
    - Education / Outreach
    - NRRA Pilot Project
  - May need a 4th group at some point to address compost quality standards and markets, but for now, let's start with the 3 groups
  - Go to separate rooms to work until 11:15 AM +/-
  - Full workgroup to reconvene to:
    - provide progress report to the full group
    - decide on next steps
      - September 27 and October 25 are earmarked for next meeting—keep or move on separate tracks?
- Focus Group Logistics
  - You will decide which group you prefer to join by adding your name to the white board under the group of interest—if we don't have a good spread, I may prod certain people to cross over
  - Mission or scope of work for each group was provided in prior email dated August 10. We will review that in a minute.
  - Some of you may want to actively participate in more than one focus area and you can…Each focus group will periodically report back to the full group, so that everyone can weigh in on the direction and progress of the group
  - Each group is assigned a DES facilitator
    - Rules / Regulatory—Pam Hoyt-Denison
    - Education/Outreach---Tara Albert
    - NRRA Pilot Project---Melanie Doiron
  - The facilitator is your shepherd:
    - will help keep the focus group on track
    - will herd you to your meeting room and back to this meeting room
  - The facilitator is also the central point of contact for the focus group to share information and raise questions between meetings, i.e., please communicate through your facilitator when it concerns a matter that involves the entire group. If you do this by email, put the focus group name in the subject line
- Mission Statements for Focus Groups / Scope of Work---Each Focus Group is charged with developing recommendations for each of the focus areas. Each Focus Group, working with its facilitator, will set a schedule of target dates and assign outside work as needed to accomplish the desired outcome, i.e., well founded recommendations.
  - **Rules/Regulatory Focus Group**: This group will formulate recommendations for improving the existing Solid Waste Rules for facility siting, design, and operations, and related permitting systems. First, the group must decide the desired scope of its work: NHDES has a statutory/regulatory obligation to update its rules for composting all types of organics, but food waste in particular (see

RSA 149-M:7,XV). Therefore, do we tackle food waste composting first or try to concurrently address composting of all organics, including biosolids, which in NH are regulated differently than solid waste when composted. And, because the Solid Waste Rules do not explicitly address other methods of managing organics, in particular anaerobic digestion, the group must also decide whether we should tackle this concurrently with composting, or address it as a separate initiative on a separate track. I recommend that we first work on composting for all organics, not just food waste, and keep AD in the background, bearing in mind that many of the composting requirements will be common with the AD requirements, i.e., methods of collecting, storing and transferring the organics will be largely the same.

- **Education / Outreach Group**: This group will work to identify composting education and outreach needs (including but not necessarily limited to public education, operator training, and feedstock generator training), develop a proposed plan of action or recommended actions to address those needs. The group should also consider resources that would be needed to fully implement the plan. Since there will no doubt be resource deficiencies, the work group may also be asked to address possible measures to cure the deficiencies that are barriers to accomplishing plan goals. DES does not have adequate resources to single handedly address all education / outreach needs, but we are in a good position to foster communication among groups who can and are assisting in this effort, e.g, planning commissions, NH Municipal Association, NERC, NRRA, NEWMOA, trade associations, other state agencies, etc. There needs to be a master plan and a system of communicating between the groups.
- **NRRA Pilot Project Group**: This group will work with NRRA staff to determine how the pilot demonstration project should be structured to produce meaningful information, including what will be specifically demonstrated or examined, what will be measured and evaluated, and facilities that might be good candidates for implementation. This work is expected to include identification of BMPs to be test driven as part of the pilot demonstration project.