

October 28, 2019
Convened: 1 pm
Adjourned: 3:06

HB 617: Committee to Study Solid Waste and Recycling within the State of New Hampshire

Present: Chair Rep. Ebel, Clerk Rep. Murray, Rep. O'Connor
Absent: Senator Watters

John O'Connor / Ebel ask Michael Nork regarding some of the regulations that are approved and out there - JLCR 2014

Nork - is recalling it was a readoption of rules at that point.

O'Connor - added that the bill call for adding certain components to Composting.

Ebel - is discussing potential changes and recommendations with regard to testimony from DES and input within the Biennial Report:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/documents/r-wmd-19-02.pdf>

Asks Michael Nork of NHDES - if there is anything else he'd like to contribute here.

Nork - Recommends that it really should be a reduction in disposal goal to reframe the goal to look at that over diversion.

Ebel - asks about the 40% threshold goal on diversion and how we push towards it?

Nork - says that is the crux of the issue, that you have a goal and no clear direction on how to achieve the goal. Mentions other states are mandating disposal bans, but acknowledges that currently that it is here it is more so of a statement/resolution of sorts.

Ebel - talks about diversion language goal versus disposal goal - and discusses some short-falls given per-capita limitations

Asks for the next language for the next meeting to have it drafted to create a recommendation for waste disposal goal version over waste diversion goal per DES recommendation.

Nork asks that we confer with Senator Watters since he is absent.

Ebel - reviews NERC requests from them. State and Local Government can help with end markets and goal through a requirement for recycled content and procurement (page 8 of their

report). Advocates for disposal bans, and food waste (page 8). Lists Mandatory Recycling programs that exist regionally (page 6). "Anything with a cord" = e-waste

Ebel asks about what consists of "E-Waste" - computers, TVs, household appliances may be a separate category,

Ebel notes that as of today we are still waiting for DAS to issue recommendations to the committee. O'Connor - notes that he was looking at some of the numerical data in DAS

Ebel - notes that NH disposal bans in NH are much smaller in scope. Also talks about a more regional hauling assistance for small towns. Economic Development programs focused on recycling. Notes that DES and the state have to do more in a leadership role in re- education around statewide recycling/education campaign (standardization of signage).

Ebel is recommending that more attention should be paid "Pay as you Throw" programs. Ebel is discussing Pay as you throw.

The Mayor of Concord about economic advantages and personal responsibility Cost of bag was a proforma derived and initially was lower cost to attract participation and when costs rose so did the bags.

NRRA hold the position that a Solid Waste Task Force needs to be developed

Bonnie Christie - Hopkinton Recycling Committee

Seeks to have Consortium of Municipalities to connect with Solid Waste/Recycling concerns. Regional Planning Commissions. Composting support for municipalities.

SB 79 would help to address the metric data number.

State and Federal food service regulations - DHHS and - schools potentially have an internal review to pull in stakeholders. Felt that there should be more collaboration between packagers, manufacturer, as well as waste disposal facilities.

CLF - Recommendations - 149:M needs reviewed by the "Task Force" (page 2 of the report).

- Regional importers of waste and our waste rates are adjusted accordingly.
- Mandatory Composting Requirements to divert
- Strive to reduce the use of single use plastics -
- Pay as you Throw
- Adequate DES funding

Murray - Asks about resources for school composting - would schools connect with DES there may some capacity for DES to play in helping them set this up.

Ebel - Bottle bill - no on that

Surcharge - waste disposal by ton - landfills/waste-to-energy would create a dedicated fund to go to DES a great deal of the money would go back to municipalities via grant or be exempt entirely to the fees. Funds to be used for education, long range planning, technical assistance for municipalities and cities w/respect to solid waste management and contract negotiation support. (refer back to finding 12 of draft Planning and Regional Assistance - page 8)

PGA - DOT - AASHTO Standards - Senator Watters is working on a pilot program in conjunction w/NH DOT

Micheal Nork concurs with Rep Murray that "China modified their acceptable levels of contamination to be among the lowest acceptable levels world wide." In essence this has created a glut and backlog of recyclable materials remaining domestically due to our ability to comply with such low contamination rates.

Recessed for 5 minutes 2:35 pm

Reconvened: 2:40 pm

Group continues to discuss options for recommendations, and intends on doing some thinking about further options.

Next Meeting is at 1 pm on 10/30/19