



TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Daniel Singer, City Manager

CONTACT: Steve Wagner, Community Services Director

SUBJECT: Potential Construction of a Conversion Technology Facility at Tajiguas Landfill

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a presentation by the County of Santa Barbara on the current status of the Conversion Technology Feasibility Analysis.

BACKGROUND:

In December 2007, the City and County of Santa Barbara appeared before the City Council to present the status of their evaluation of Conversion Technology as a potential project for the future processing of solid waste from the south coast area waste shed. Conversion technology is a general term used to describe many different processes that turn municipal solid waste into energy and/or other marketable products to be used later for energy (such as bio-diesel or ethanol). This can be done through biological, chemical or thermal processes but does not include incineration or burning of waste.

DISCUSSION:

Since December, the City and County completed an evaluation of municipal solid waste conversion technologies. The evaluation included adopting goals and evaluation criteria, identifying potential suppliers, and issuing a Request for Information (RFI). The evaluation process and findings are summarized in the final Feasibility Report on Conversion Technology. This report has been completed and posted online at www.conversiontechnologystudy.com. Through this process eight (8) potential vendors using three (3) different processes were identified that could offer different municipal solid waste conversion technologies for our area.

Attached is a letter that was mailed to Mayor Bennett inviting the City to participate in the next steps of this project (Attachment 1). Also attached is a short project evaluation summary from the Conversion Technology Report dated April 4, 2008 (Attachments 2).

Mark Schleich, Deputy Director for the Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division of the County of Santa Barbara is here today to provide an update on the project and answer any questions regarding the project.

GOLETA STRATEGIC PLAN:

The involvement in the Conversion Technology Facility supports the Strategic Plan entitled "Facilitate Delivery of Services to Residents"

ALTERNATIVES:

None at this time.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

None at this time.

Submitted By:

Reviewed by:

Approved By:

Steve Wagner
Community Services Director

Michelle Greene
Administrative Services
Director

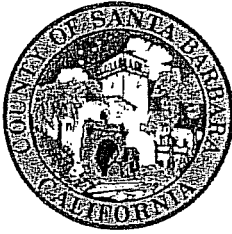
Daniel Singer
City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Letter dated June 6, 2008 to Mayor Michael T. Bennett
- 2. Evaluation of Municipal Solid Waste Conversion Technologies Prepared for the City and County of Santa Barbara, California April 4, 2008

ATTACHMENT 1

Letter dated June 6, 2008 to Mayor Michael T. Bennett



June 6, 2008

The Honorable Mayor Michael T. Bennett
Goleta City Hall
130 Cremona Drive, Suite B
Goleta, CA 93117

Dear Mayor Bennett:

On behalf of the City of Santa Barbara and the County of Santa Barbara we would like to formally invite you to participate in discussions regarding the potential construction of a conversion technology (CT) facility at the Tajiguas Landfill.

For the past year, the City and County have been evaluating the feasibility of this potential project. As we have presented to your Council in the past, a CT alternative to traditional landfill disposal can limit environmental impacts, increase diversion rates and create green energy from our community's waste.

We have recently completed our feasibility study (which can be seen at www.conversiontechnologystudy.com) and have determined that there are eight different potential vendors that meet our community goals and minimum criteria. These vendors offer different technologies with different sets of challenges and benefits.

We would like to invite your jurisdiction to provide input as we take our next steps in evaluating this potential project. Currently, we are beginning the development of a Request for Proposals (RFP) that we hope to complete and distribute by the end of this year. We will also be setting up a meeting in the near future to discuss potential financial and administrative options for the project and invite you or a member of your staff to participate in this discussion as well.

For additional information on our progress and to learn our meeting schedule, please contact Carlyle Johnston, with the County at (805) 882 3617 or cjohnst@cosbpw.net.

Sincerely,

Salud Carbajal
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

Marty Blum
Santa Barbara City Council

ATTACHMENT 2

**Evaluation of Municipal Solid Waste Conversion
Technologies Prepared for the City and County of
Santa Barbara, California April 4, 2008**

Evaluation of Municipal Solid Waste Conversion Technologies
Prepared for the City and County of Santa Barbara, California
April 4, 2008

The City and County of Santa Barbara, California, have completed an evaluation of municipal solid waste (MSW) conversion technologies. The evaluation process included adopting goals and evaluation criteria; identifying conversion technology suppliers; issuing a Request for Information (RFI); and applying the evaluation criteria to determine a short-list of companies that are best suited for providing a conversion technology project as an alternative to landfilling MSW at the Tajiguas Landfill. The evaluation process and findings are summarized in the report "Evaluation of Municipal Solid Waste Conversion Technologies" (Alternative Resources, Inc., April 4, 2008)

The evaluation process has established an interest from technology suppliers and project developers in a conversion technology project for Santa Barbara. Eleven responses to the RFI were received, including responses for three anaerobic digestion technologies, seven thermal processing technologies, and one other technology incorporating biological drying and mechanical sorting. Eight of the technologies have been determined to meet the criteria adopted by the City and County, and offer the potential for a technically and economically viable conversion technology project for Santa Barbara (see Table 1). These eight companies are recommended for further consideration should the City and County decide to continue the procurement process with development of a Request for Proposals (RFP).

Based on an evaluation of the information submitted, other publicly available information, and market interest demonstrated by response to the RFI, issuing an RFP for a conversion technology project is reasonable for consideration of alternatives to landfilling MSW at the Tajiguas Landfill. The number of companies included on the recommended shortlist (eight) and the variety of technologies these companies offer should enable a competitive procurement process. Should the City and County decide to proceed with an RFP, it should include a formal request for qualifications as well as technical and price proposals.

Table 1. Recommended Short-List (Unranked - Listed Alphabetically by Type of Technology)
<p><u>Anaerobic Digestion</u></p> <p>CA Renewable Technologies - CR&R/Arrow Ecocorp</p>
<p><u>Thermal Processing</u></p> <p>AdaptiveNRG (Plasma Gasification) International Environmental Solutions (Pyrolysis) Interstate Waste Technologies (Gasification) Plasco Energy Group (Plasma Gasification) Tajiguas Partners - WTE/Entech (Gasification)</p>
<p><u>Other Technology</u></p> <p>Herhof California (Biological Drying/Mechanical Separation/Off-Site Combustion)</p>