

# WASTE TO ENERGY

February 3, 2011

SWMD/Ohio EPA Workgroup Meeting

# Purpose

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- Quick Review of Draft Policy on Conversion Technologies & Intent to Develop Rules
- Quick Review of Proposed Projects in Ohio
- SWMD Experiences

# Draft Policy Interpretation & Intent to Develop Rules

- Originally Issued Dec. 6
- Comment Period Recently Extended to February 14

# Draft Policy Interpretation

- 2 parts to the Notice
  - ▣ Policy Interpretation: Regulation of Gasification, Pyrolysis, Anaerobic Digesters
  - ▣ Intent to Develop Rules: Regulate Non-hazardous Secondary Materials as Fuel (Waste Derived Fuel), following U.S. EPA proposed rulemaking

# Gasification, Pyrolysis, Anaerobic Digestors

- The Agency will not regulate thermal or biological solid waste-to-fuel conversion facilities as solid waste facilities under the State's solid waste laws unless such facilities are also operating as solid waste transfer facilities.
- The Agency believes it can regulate thermal or biological solid waste-to-fuel conversion facilities in a manner that is protective under the State's existing applicable air and water pollution control laws.

# Gasification, Pyrolysis, Anaerobic Digestors

- Scrap tire collection, storage, processing and recovery facilities are NOT included in this policy interpretation and remain subject to all applicable solid waste rules.
- Solid waste incinerators and solid waste energy recovery facilities will continue to be regulated as solid waste facilities.

# Gasification, Pyrolysis, Anaerobic Digestors

- Solid waste managed at these biological and thermal conversion facilities would be regulated as a solid waste until it is converted into a fuel. After conversion, the fuel itself is not a solid waste, but the by-products may be considered solid waste if they are unwanted/disposed.

# Draft Policy Interpretation

- Similar to a Legitimate Recycling Facility
- Different from Incinerators/ER facilities
  - Siting
  - Financial Assurance
  - Fees

# Intent to Adopt Rules

- Modify the definition of “solid waste” so that secondary materials will be a legitimate fuel if they are handled as valuable commodities, have meaningful heating value, and do not contain contaminants significantly higher in concentration than traditional fuel products.
- This rule change will allow Ohio’s solid waste program to be consistent with U.S. EPA’s anticipated adoption of new RCRA Subtitle D rules in early 2011.

# State Plan Chapter 10 – Waste to Energy

- “. . .Ohio EPA has begun evaluating how to revise the rules to accommodate newer and emergent technologies that use waste to produce energy.”
- “Ohio EPA is working to streamline its permitting requirements to remove duplication regulations.”

# Proposed Projects in Ohio

- Clyde, OH
  - Pyrolysis
  - \$20,000,000
  - Initially seeking permit to burn natural gas
  
- Cleveland, OH
  - Gasification
  - \$200 million power plant
  - Would produce 6% of City's energy needs
  - City has \$1.5 million for design

# Proposed Projects in Ohio

## □ Anaerobic Digesters

### ▣ Quasar

- 4 Active
- 12 Planned

### By Feedstock

- 7 Mixed biosolids+food+FOG
- 4 Agricultural manure + food wastes
- 2 WWTP biosolids
- 1 Food manufacturing wastes (on-site)
- 2 Unknown

# SWMD Experiences

- Tim Wasserman – Clyde
- Diane Bickett – Cleveland
- Bill Steiner – MSW Pyrolysis & Railroad ties to oil proposals
- Holly Christmann – Policy Committee/SCS Report
- Ron Mills – Anaerobic Digestion