



sanitation

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October 22, 2004

RE: Draft New Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan –Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Elected Official/Involved Agency/Interested Party:

The New York City (City) Department of Sanitation (DSNY) issued a Draft Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan for the next twenty-year planning period (New SWMP) earlier this month. DSNY, lead agency for the environmental review, encloses a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the New SWMP and related approvals and the Notice of Completion for this DEIS (Notice), prepared pursuant to the City Environmental Quality Review Procedures and the State Environmental Quality Review Act. To develop the scope of the DEIS, DSNY issued a Scoping Document in May 2004 and a Final Scoping Document in October 2004 after conducting an enhanced public participation process that included ten public scoping meetings and a public comment period which ran from May 17, 2004.

The DEIS is also available at twenty-two public repositories and on the DSNY web page (www.nyc.gov/sanitation), and can be obtained by contacting DSNY, all as set forth in the enclosed Notice.

As further discussed in the enclosed DEIS and Notice, the New SWMP sets forth a cost-effective and environmentally responsible plan for the management of all of the solid waste generated in the City. In particular, the New SWMP proposes to award a 20-year contract for the processing and marketing of recyclables and the development of a recyclables processing facility in the City, the development of four Converted Marine Transfer Stations (MTSs) (rather than eight as previously contemplated), the award of up to five contracts with private transfer stations for barge or rail export of DSNY-managed waste, and an intergovernmental agreement to dispose of a portion of Manhattan's DSNY-managed waste at the Essex County Resource Recovery Facility in New Jersey. In addition, the New SWMP includes a strategy to address issues related to commercial waste management, including a proposal to provide capacity for barge export of putrescible commercial waste from the City at the West 59th Street MTS in Manhattan, and stricter regulation of private transfer stations in the City.

The DEIS will be the subject of an enhanced public outreach effort and public hearings. DSNY encourages your participation in the upcoming DEIS public process.

Sincerely,

Harry Szarpanski

Enclosure

c: John J. Doherty, Commissioner
Robert Orlin, Deputy Commissioner
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