

The Safe Medicine Return Program has been legally challenged by the pharmaceutical industry. A program in Alameda County has received a similar challenge and that complaint is in the appeal process. King County will continue with implementation.

On Saturday, December 7 at approximately 6 p.m., neighbors on the east side of the Cedar Hills Landfill contacted the local fire department to report gas odors. The fire department responded to the neighbors' houses. At approximately 8:15 p.m., a neighbor then called SWD to report the gas odor. SWD supervisors went to the landfill to investigate and at approximately 10 p.m. found a failure in an above-ground pipeline leading from the North Flare Station to Bio Energy Washington's (BEW) landfill gas-to-energy plant. They notified BEW to shut down the pipeline, gas was diverted to the North Flare Station, and the leak was contained. On Sunday, December 8, SWD supervisors met with some affected neighbors to address their concerns and check gas levels in their homes; no gas was present. SWD has repaired the pipeline and is evaluating the cause of the failure. The entire pipeline will be tested before reactivating the system. Return to normal operations is expected within a week. SWD has activated its communication protocol to keep landfill neighbors informed of the results of the investigation and corrective measures taken.

SWAC

SWAC discussed C&D debris management and carpet recycling. SWAC member Jose' Lugo presented information about the anaerobic digesters that are part of his business which have been placed near grocery stores and restaurants to receive their organic waste. The system creates energy and liquid fertilizer. It also provides the businesses with daily information about what is disposed to inform their ordering and management practices. In February, there will be a SWANA presentation on that topic in the 8th floor conference room of the King Street Center.

Other

Chair Eggen and Vice Chair Pelosa participated in a teleconference with the Northwest product Stewardship Association. The discussion was focused on legislation; particularly regarding product stewardship of paint and batteries.

Nelson discussed the used cooking oil collection program in Auburn. The program is for residents rather than commercial use. More than 400 gallons of oil was collected in 2013 and was changed to biodiesel.

Construction and Demolition Debris Management

The current contracts related to C&D (Construction and Demolition) waste have been in place for some time and will expire in September 2014. Four approaches were considered to handle C&D waste when the current contracts expire. SWD's proposed option is to designate disposal facilities. This option is used by other regional governments including the city of Seattle.

The division would provide certificates/agreements to designated disposal facilities that apply and meet certain standards. The agreements cover recycling, fees, environmental liability and other conditions. There is no barrier to market entry other than the certificate/agreement.

More information about this topic is included in the [November presentation](#) and [December handout](#). MSWMAC requested that the issue be brought back to the group for further discussion in January.

Comments included:

- Consider what happens to the residual waste after recycling.
- Ensure the agreements can change if there is no market or regional processing capability for particular materials.
- Consider extending existing contracts for a year or so to allow more time for analysis.
- Together with the City of Seattle, the division did outreach to stakeholders. Though some technical comments were received there appeared to be no significant barriers to moving forward with designated disposal facilities.
- One of the objectives of the new approach is to increase the resources available for enforcement.
- A member asked if there is coordination between SWD and land use permitting regarding the use of concrete which could be recycled in gravel pit reclamation.
- Single stream recyclers would not need to be a designated facility.
- SWD should be prepared to provide model ordinance language to cities if it is requested.
- A member requested more data regarding changes in the construction industry before and after the Great Recession and how that may influence the proposed option.

Chair Eggen and Vice Chair Pelozo will send a draft of a possible motion to MSWMAC members for their consideration.

Budget Provisos

[Ordinance 17677](#) authorized the Executive to sign the restated and extended ILA. A discussion beginning on line 73 follows:

G. As a result of several cities uncommitted to executing the ILA, the county and those cities that will be signatories to the ILA should engage in further discussion to address substantive matters that are expected to arise in the near future and may require amendments to the ILA. These issues include but are not limited to:

1. Latecomer provisions;
2. Changes to the disposal rates charged based on the number of parties to the ILA;
3. Potential alternative financing mechanisms for future capital investments in solid waste facilities; and
4. Clarification of solid waste management planning responsibilities for cities that are not committed to the system after 2028.

Beginning on page 21, line 462 of the [budget ordinance 17696 \(pages 19-22\)](#), there is a \$5M SWD spending restriction. In order for those funds to be released for expenditure a solid waste interlocal agreement review report must be filed with the Council by July 31. The report must include a review and analysis of the issues listed above, recommendations for revisions to the ILA and drafts of any agreements necessary to effectuate the recommendations.

To accomplish this work and still get the product through the review cycle prior to July 31 it is necessary for SWD to complete work on the ILA review report by the end of the first quarter. At their January meeting MSWMAC will discuss how these provisos will impact the group's 2014 work plan.

On page 36 of the [budget ordinance 17969 \(pages 34-37\)](#), language beginning on line 800 extends the comment period on the Draft Transfer Plan Review Report through February 3 with the final report due to Council on March 3, 2014. This leaves very little time to respond to the comments and allow the completed report to go through the review process. MSWMAC members with additional comments are encouraged to provide them as soon as possible in order to help the division meet that date. Eggen will follow up to ensure the Sound Cities Association resolution is sent to the division. Comments already received do not need to be re-submitted.

The division is continuing analysis related to the transfer plan review, particularly regarding the northeast county.

Cities Presentation on Solid Waste Programs

There were mixed opinions regarding moving forward with cities presentations at the November meeting. The division believes presentations of that type could be very useful particularly since information from other forums does not always reach elected officials and policy makers. There was discussion about the opportunity to harmonize efforts throughout the system.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.