NAWTEC 13 Speaker Abstract

A New Model for Waste-To-Energy Project Development

Theodore S. Pytlar, Jr.
Dvirka and Bartilucci Consulting Engineers

This presentation will address what is required to develop new Waste-To-Energy (WTE) projects by examining the model for project development followed during the 1980s and early 1990s. The setbacks and successes for that approach will be discussed and a new model for project development will be proposed. The original model will be exemplified by the "Resource Recovery Management Model," developed by the Mitre Corporation for USEPA in 1980. That original model will be revisited and key project development actions and milestones set forth therein will be reviewed and discussed with regard to how they should be revised in order to arrive at a new model appropriate to current conditions. WTE development and operational experience gained during the previous twenty (20) years will be the basis for the updated model.

The recommendations for a new model for WTE project development will be based upon the author's experience, as well as a survey to be conducted by the author, of public and private sector WTE facility owners and operators, and legal and financial professionals directly involved with the industry. The survey will request that respondents provide their insights, experiences, and recommendations for the key areas of WTE development and operations as follows:

- Needs Assessment
- Project Definition/Technology Selection/Facility Sizing
- Siting
- Environmental Impact/Health Risk Assessment and Permitting
- Regulatory Agency Approach Towards Application Review and Approvals
- Public Acceptance/Opposition
- Political Leadership
- Federal/State/Local Legislation and Ordinances
- Procurement and Contracting
- Energy and Materials Sales
- Financing
- Contract Administration/Service Agreement Renegotiation

Within these key areas, issues will include the image of WTE, flow control, power contracts, change in law, integrated waste management, public-private partnership, and cost effectiveness.

Ted Pytlar is Vice President, in-charge of solid waste management for Dvirka and Bartilucci Consulting Engineers (D&B). He was Director of Waste Management for Essex County, New Jersey from 1980 - 1985. During that time, he led the County’s efforts in the development of the 2,250 ton per day WTE Facility in Newark, New Jersey and a county-wide curbside collection program for source separated recyclables. Mr. Pytlar has been employed by D&B since 1985. In that time, he has provided client services in the development and operational oversight to several WTE facilities, as well as for all other aspects of integrated solid waste management systems. Mr. Pytlar introduced the conceptual basis for "Integrated Waste Management" at the 1984 National Waste Processing Conference in the paper titled "The Integration of Energy and Material Recovery in the Essex County Solid Waste Management Plan."