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February 22, 2019

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MRC Executive Director to Step Down on March 1, 2019

ELLSWORTH, MAINE - As Fiberight's Coastal Resources of Maine facility readies to accept its first delivery of waste next month, the Municipal Review Committee is excited to begin a new chapter in regional recycling and waste processing, but sad to announce the close of another. After shepherding the project to opening, longtime Executive Director Greg Lounder is stepping down to explore new career opportunities.

"Twenty-five years of dedicated service will be difficult to replace," said MRC Board President Chip Reeves, "With his commitment to the MRC's mission of ensuring affordable, environmentally sound disposal of municipal solid waste in the long-term, Greg has been a staunch advocate of the Fiberight project on MRC's behalf and we are honored to have had his service."

Lounder worked tirelessly for many years, and he will be sorely missed by many but with the plant coming online next month he felt this was a good time to step down and support a management transition plan. Lounder also has offered to share his institutional knowledge in the future should the need arise.

Lounder, who began his career in municipal solid waste planning 27 years ago, says this has been the most satisfying experience to see the plant be built and open its doors this spring to serve the member communities and the region at large. "Nothing will ever replace the sense of pride and accomplishment I have for the work of the MRC to successfully see this project transition from "back of the napkin" concepts to the first trucks rolling into the advanced recycling and processing facility in a few weeks. It's been a long journey but I'm confident in the abilities of my counterparts to take it from here and for the MRC to continue its mission," said Lounder.

The MRC Board of Directors will formally consider <u>Lounder's resignation</u> at its meeting on Wednesday, February 27 at 1 PM at the Machias Savings Bank, Community Room, 581 Wilson Street, Brewer. A management transition plan will be announced at the Board meeting. The MRC anticipates advertising for a permanent Executive Director in the coming weeks. Interested candidates can visit the MRC's website for more information.

The MRC announced this week that the advanced recycling and solid waste processing facility in Hampden will start to accept material next month and will continue until full commercial operations for all 115 MRC Members. By reaching the commissioning milestone for the facility,

the MRC is focused on ensuring a smooth onboarding process for members and transitioning to new roles and responsibilities in the oversight of the new operations.

Background

The MRC, a non-profit organization, was formed by municipalities in 1991 and has played a critical role in ensuring our long-term, affordable and environmentally sound waste disposal ever since. MRC member communities will send their MSW to Fiberight's Coastal Resources of Maine facility in Hampden, a next generation recycling and solid waste processing facility. Its combination of straightforward technologies will help move solid waste management and true resource recovery well into the 21st century. Online at www.mrcmaine.org.