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## **MRC Selects New Partner to Lead Facility Restart Efforts**

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Michael Carroll <u>execdirector@mrcmaine.org</u> 207.664.1700

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ORONO – The Municipal Review Committee (MRC) is pleased to announce exclusivity with Innovative Resource Recovery (Innovative), a special purpose entity backed by a multi-billion dollar asset management firm seeking to partner with the MRC to restart operations at the Municipal Waste Solutions (MWS) Facility in Hampden. The 60-day agreement will allow Innovative to conduct its due diligence and for both parties to negotiate definitive documents in advance of an anticipated closing on or before June 2, 2023.

Innovative is eager to support the MRC municipalities' efforts to reduce landfill disposal and aspires to make central Maine the blueprint for how communities in the U.S. can recover valuable resources from their waste streams and contribute to the circular economy. The company will focus immediate efforts on facility upgrades and hiring a local operating staff to allow for the safe and efficient processing of the MRC members' waste streams.

"We are excited to have selected a new partner to relaunch operations," said Karen Fussell, President of the MRC Board of Directors. "Innovative's vision for the facility aligns with that of the MRC, and they have the resources needed to restart the plant in a timely manner." While MRC is hopeful this 60-day agreement will culminate in a definitive partnership by June, it is continuing its parallel efforts to secure its own loan financing to ensure a path to the necessary reopening capital is in place by early summer.

MRC has scheduled a Town Hall event for Thursday, April 13th at 1:30 p.m. to introduce Innovative to its members and provide more information about the exclusivity period and the schedule to reopen the plant. The Town Hall will take place virtually and be open to the public. A link to register is on MRC's website at <u>www.mrcmaine.org</u>.

The MRC is a nonprofit organization representing 115 communities that have joined together to ensure the long term, environmentally sound and affordable disposal of their municipal solid waste. The organization has been working to reopen the Hampden facility since its closure in May 2020.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to MRC Executive Director Michael Carroll at (207) 664-1700 or <u>execdirector@mrcmaine.org</u> or a <u>MRC</u> <u>Board Member</u>.

E-mail MRC

## Municipal Review Committee, Inc.



Municipal Review Committee | 20 Godfrey Drive, Suite 300, Orono, ME 04473

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