



# NEWSLETTER

Municipal Review Committee | 20 Godfrey Dr., Ste 300 | Orono, ME 04473 | [www.MRCMaine.org](http://www.MRCMaine.org)

ISSUE 31.3 | July 2024

## Facility Design Update

Last month, MWS conducted an onsite meeting with our key technology suppliers and design engineers to advance engineering activities kicked off in May. A team of over ten people flew in from locations both domestically and in Canada and Europe. The objective of the two-day meeting was to review progress to date, agree upon key design aspects, and refine the near- and medium-term project engineering schedule and deliverables. This was an important step toward reopening the facility. We then provided the DEP an up-to-date overview of our project to facility dialogue around key design considerations needed to be addressed during the permit revision application process. This will help make for a smoother permitting process to facility proven technological advances in waste processing and recycling.





## Materials Management & Maine Climate Council

The Climate Council of which MRC's Executive Director served on the Materials Management Task Force held an event in Augusta drawing a crowd of over 150 attendees. The meeting provided a comprehensive overview of the strategies developed by the various working groups over the past six months. Each group, comprising an average of thirty to forty experts in their respective fields, presented their findings. The groups were as follows.

- Resilience
- Coastal & Marine
- Natural & Working Lands
- Materials Management
- Transportation
- Buildings
- Energy
- Land Use

There was also some time allotted at the meeting to move around and have small group discussions. It was amazing to see the work that each group accomplished. To view the Climate Council slides presentation please [click here](#) and visit the Maine Climate Council's website. Starting on page 38 is the Materials Management update.

### The Task Force Recommendations are:

 <p><b>1</b> Measure and reduce consumption-based emissions.</p>	<p>Advance policies and deploy funding resources to grow Maine's circular economy.</p> <p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> Reduce food loss and waste 50% by 2030.</p> <p>(base year 2016)</p> 
<p>Regionalize and scale-up access to waste prevention and diversion services.</p> <p><b>4</b></p> 	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Foster resilience in the built environment through materials collection and reuse.</p>	<p>Reduce and capture methane emissions from Maine's waste sector.</p> <p><b>6</b></p> 

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### Wednesday, July 24

Finance Committee: 9:30 AM

Quarterly Board of Directors: 10:00 AM

In person at Town of Orono (59 Main Street, Orono) or virtually over Zoom.

**Participants can register in advance to attend the meeting via Zoom through this link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join>

[us/webinar/register/WN\\_yTrY0YO6T06Qcm2kbeyntA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_yTrY0YO6T06Qcm2kbeyntA)

**and can ask questions through Q&A. If you miss the meeting, you can watch the recording over our YouTube channel later.**

## EPR UPDATE

The MRC is still monitoring the DEP's implementation of the EPR rule. The DEP EPR team recently presented to the Board of Environmental Protection (BEP) and it was noted that there will be one more draft of the EPR rules will be distributed with minor revisions, including allowing for public comment one more time. DEP hopes to have EPR passed in the fall.

[Chapter 428 handouts.pdf \(maine.gov\)](#)



Maine Climate Council

## Air Emission License Update

The Municipal Review Committee, Inc. and Municipal Waste Solutions' air emission license has been finalized by the DEP Bureau of Air Quality. This is a significant milestone that ensures our project's compliance and environmental responsibility. The processing has been completed, and this license is now in effect. The DEP has a link of the license available on its website:

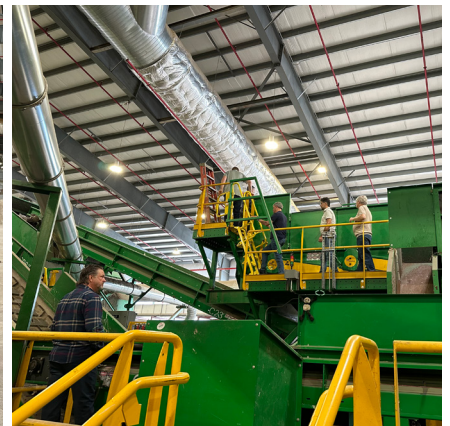
<https://www.maine.gov/dep/ftp/AIR/licenses/ch115/A1111EM.pdf>

## Partnering with Design Lab

We are moving forward with [Design Lab](#) for communication services. Design Lab will be working with the MRC on community outreach, press releases, educational material, video marketing, and branding. MRC felt it is essential, moving forward toward the facility reopening, that we provide consistent communication and education to our members while upholding the MRC transparency we hold true to.



Engineering Progress



## Insights from Toronto Waste Facility Tour

The Innovative team and MRC's Executive Director had a unique and exciting opportunity to tour a waste facility in Toronto, CA, in late May. This state-of-the-art Green Bin Processing Facility has design features similar to those Innovative envisions for Hampden's, including additional digester design and capacity expansions. The tour, led by Toronto city representatives and technical engineers, gave us valuable insights. The facility and the equipment we observed have been in operation for over ten years, maintaining fantastic condition. This facility processes approximately 80,000 tons of organics for Toronto residents, making our visit a truly inspiring experience.