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Speaker's Corner

"Is C&D Waste short for Calamity and Despair? Or, does it provide Challenges and Opportunities?"

**By
Bob
Brickner**



In January 2012, Bob Brickner, GBB Executive Vice President, made a keynote address entitled "*Is C&D Waste short for Calamity and Despair? Or, does it provide Challenges and Opportunities?*" at the Environmental Business Council's Construction and Demolition Materials Regional Summit, in Framingham, MA.

PDF transcript:

tinyurl.com/EBCDEP2010

March 2012 article published in *Construction & Demolition Recycling* based on keynote address:
tinyurl.com/CDRBrickner

GBB Waste Outlook

New Hanover County Commissioners Start Negotiations for Trash Incinerator Refurbishing

In 1984, to reduce the volume of Solid Waste destined for the County Landfill, New Hanover County, NC, started operating its waste-to-energy facility, initially called WASTECON and now called the Sustainable Energy Facility (SEF), which utilizes a mass-burn technology that generates steam for electrical production.

Prior to the lay-up and mothballing of the SEF in April 2011, the 26-year-old facility employed 45 County personnel to operate and maintain three (3) boilers, two (2) generators, and state-of-the-art pollution control equipment. When initially built, two 100 ton-per-day units came online in 1984, and the additional 300 ton-per-day unit became operational in 1991. The boilers produce superheated steam at 450 pounds per square inch (psi) at the header to turn two (2) turbine generators. The generators have a combined gross capacity of 10.5 Megawatts (Mw). SEF powers itself before sending electricity into the grid. The interconnection equipment can receive a maximum of 10,000 KVA to the grid.



Ash from the SEF has been historically used as daily cover for the nearby County Landfill. A local company, Southern Metals Recycling, removed the ferrous metal from the ash on the working face of the Landfill for eventual recycling. Wastewater from the SEF was either reused on-site or treated on-site and discharged into the Northeast Cape Fear River according to an NPDES permit.

In contrast to the County Landfill, the SEF is permitted to receive out-of-County waste. In Fiscal Year 2010/11, SEF received 1,707 tons of "special waste" at a higher tipping fee than

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Prince William County, VA, in the Process of Creating Renewable Energy Park

Prince William County, VA, located on the Potomac River and part of the Washington Metro Area, issued in late June a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the provision of a municipal solid waste conversion demonstration project. The project will be part of the new landfill Eco-Park and the Prince William Renewable Energy Park (PWREP), which is in the process of being created to take advantage of emerging renewable energy technologies, such as solar, wind, landfill gas recovery and solid waste conversion. To further the PWREP concept, the County is seeking to host a demonstration project of an innovative municipal solid waste conversion technology. The purpose of the RFP is to identify qualified technology companies that desire to design, build, finance, own and operate the demonstration plant. The County is looking for technologies that are on the verge of commercialization and that need to be proven at throughputs of 50 to 200 tons per day (TPD) on a continuous basis. Eligible technologies include pyrolysis, gasification, anaerobic digestion, plasma torch or other conversion method producing a fuel or energy product, such as electricity, syngas, synfuel, steam, useable heat and/or other commercial energy outputs. Preference will be given to technologies whose primary output is not electricity. Traditional incineration with waste heat recovery technologies, of either MSW or refuse-derived fuel, such as stoker-fired, waterwall, fluidized bed or modular incineration will not be considered. GBB, as the County consultant, is assisting with the procurement process and with the development of the PWREP.

RFP available at: www.pwcgov.org/eservices/eprocurement

Conventions & Tradeshows:

GBB will be present at the following industry events:

WASTECON

Washington, DC
August 14-17, 2012

GBB, Exhibitor (#1141) and Sponsor

See article on p.4 for list of GBB speakers/moderators
www.wastecon.com

Waste-to-Fuels Conference & Trade Show

Mystic, CT
September 16-18, 2012

GBB, Exhibitor
John Carlton, Speaker
"Overview of Conversion Technologies"
www.waste-to-fuels.org

C&D Recycling Forum

Long Beach, CA
September 23-25, 2012

Bob Brickner, Speaker & Moderator
"Alternative Views"
forum.cdrecycler.com

Ohio Public Works Expo

Dayton, OH
October 9-10, 2012

Tim Giardina, Speaker
"Technology in the Solid Waste Industry"
ohio.apwa.net/events/9302

Visit the conference / tradeshow section of our Website for a continuously updated list of events!



City of Fort Wayne, IN, Wins SWANA 2012 Collection Systems Excellence Award

In June, the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) announced the winners of its 2012 Excellence Awards Program, which recognizes outstanding solid waste programs and facilities from some of the most innovative and dynamic organizations throughout North America. In the Collection Systems category, the City of Fort Wayne, IN, finished first with the Gold Award for the implementation of a new collection program that generated a major positive impact on recycling participation, recyclables collected, and funds generated through a new revenue sharing agreement with the contractor. Winners of each of the 14 categories will be recognized at the upcoming annual WASTECON conference in August.

In late 2011, Fort Wayne was also recognized with two prestigious awards presented by the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT): the Community Achievement Award for the City's recycling program and efficiencies that saved money, generated revenues, doubled community participation and reduced residential garbage fees by more than a million dollars; and the Green Community Award for the successful recycling program.

GBB congratulates the City of Fort Wayne for its commitment, hard work, and perseverance in implementing a new efficient, award-winning, collection/recycling program, and is proud to have assisted the City during the process.

SWANA's announcement: tinyurl.com/SWANAFW

New Hanover County Commissioners Start Negotiations for Trash Incinerator Refurbishing

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the \$59 per ton that is currently charged to in-County customers.

In July 2011, New Hanover County, NC, hired GBB to help with the procurement process to select a thirty-party contractor to assume responsibility for the capital improvements needed at the County's SEF, and then operate the facility under a 20-year service contract.



GBB was the lead consultant in assisting in the preparation of the initial Request for Qualifications (RFQ) document, evaluation of qualification responses, and short-listing of qualified contractors based on the parameters of the RFQ. GBB then prepared the Request for Proposal (RFP) that was issued to Wheelabrator and Covanta, the two qualified contractors short-listed as part of the RFQ process. Each qualified contractor was asked to submit proposals, which were received on March 30, 2012, for the finance, design, improvement, retrofitting, construction and testing of the current three-line 500 TPD SEF and, after acceptance testing, operate and maintain the SEF for at least 20 years. Both firms were to provide the capital for the retrofit and upgrades associated with this project. However, for comparison purposes and review, the County also kept open the option to consider public financing of the retrofit and upgrade activities of the SEF.

GBB provided key strategic assistance to the County in the review and selection process, and on June 4, 2012, County Commissioners unanimously decided to negotiate a contract with Covanta to renovate and operate the SEF. GBB is now assisting with the negotiation process. It is estimated that the capital cost to renovate the SEF is approximately \$27 million, and it will take about 15 months to complete. Pending final negotiations, tipping fees are estimated to go up to \$85-90 per ton, from the current \$59 per ton today as a result of the renovations and the long-term operations costs.

Madera County, CA, Selects GBB for Solid Waste System Review and Procurement

Madera County, CA, with a population of about 151,000, is located in the Central Valley and Sierra Nevada, approximately 30 miles north of Fresno. The County spans approximately 2,200 square miles and includes the Cities of Madera and Chowchilla as well as the southern portion of Yosemite National Park.

In April 2012, after deciding to terminate its contracts for solid waste collection in the unincorporated areas below an elevation of 1,000 feet and operations of the Fairmead Landfill, Mammoth Materials Recovery Facility, household hazardous waste facility, and North Fork Transfer Station, the County selected GBB to assist in the fast-tracked strategic plan development and procurement process for a new contractor in order to ensure a cost-effective operation.

"We've been impressed with GBB's quick grasp and understanding of the challenges we face, the suggestions provided, and the

approach they recommended," said Eric Fleming, County Administrative Officer. "They have a combination of national expertise and understanding of the solid waste management landscape in California that will benefit us, we believe. Right off the bat, we felt that they could come out of the gate running and provide valuable assistance."

GBB has completed the initial tasks of the project including data collection and operations reviews. GBB also conducted a strategic evaluation of the County's operations and presented our findings to the Board of Supervisors. Working with the County, GBB is currently developing procurement documents for the County's collection franchise and facility operations.

The Request for Proposals was issued in late June and is available at: www.madera-county.com/engineering/rfp

GBB Enters Into Cooperation Agreement with Renewable Energy from Waste Magazine



In the first quarter of 2012, GBB entered into a Cooperation Agreement with *Renewable Energy from Waste* (REW), a new publication launched by the Recycling Today Media Group. Starting with the inaugural issue published in April, REW will produce a quarterly print and digital magazine, a monthly e-newsletter, and a website (www.rewmag.com).

As part of the agreement, GBB President Harvey Gershman joined the publication's Editorial Advisory Board and will contribute a column to each print issue. His first article, entitled "The Growing Role of WTE," and an interview with Kristin Smith, Managing Editor of REW, where he discusses his role as a columnist for REW and the role waste-to-energy technology plays in diverting material from the waste stream can be viewed at: www.gbbinc.com/rew.

GBB will also contribute yearly articles from GBB consultants and provide REW with guidance and insight on the history, evolution, and current situation of the waste-to-energy market.

"Needless to say, we're very excited to have the opportunity to share our insight and knowledge with the industry's stakeholders," said Gershman. "I hope that readers will enjoy my columns, and look forward to feedback or comments about the articles, in particular, or the future direction of the publication, in general."



Recent GBB Assignments

In the past few months, GBB has been selected for several new assignments, including:

- **Non-Recycled Plastic Gasification Study**
American Chemistry Council
- **Landfill Closure & Post-Closure Cost Care Analysis**
Calvert County, MD
- **Independent Review of Solid Waste Services Department**
City of Charlotte, NC
- **Implementation of Solid Waste Route Management System Including Route Optimization Software & Vehicle Tracking System**
City of Peoria, AZ
- **Solid Waste System Review & Procurement**
Madera County, CA

- **Implementation of City-Wide Trash Container Program – Including Public Education Planning**
Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority, MD (for City of Baltimore)

- **Routing and Scheduling System for City-Wide Street Sweeping Operations**
Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority, MD (for City of Baltimore)

- **Business Plan for Solid Waste Disposal Capacity**
Prince George's County, MD

- **Landfill Management Evaluation**
Rockingham County, NC

We very much appreciate the opportunity to assist these clients with their needs.

GBB Continues to Expand

Ljupka Arsova Consultant II

A 2010 graduate of Columbia University with a M.S. in Earth and Environmental Engineering, Arsova has focused her work and education on solid waste management and how it can successfully be implemented in affordable ways. As a Research Associate at Columbia University's Earth Engineering Center, she gained extensive knowledge of emerging waste management technologies and practices for material and energy recovery from different waste streams.



Press Release at:

gbbinc.com/press_releases/arsova.htm

GBB Adopt-a-Highway Litter Pickup



On April 26 2002, GBB adopted the stretch of Route 669 from Route 50 to Gallows Road in Fairfax, VA, near GBB's headquarters. Since then, litter collection has been performed on a regular basis. Pictured here, from the June 2012 collection event, (left to right): Rob Sommers, Ljupka Arsova, Laura Ginchereau, and Elizabeth Rice.

GBB

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GBB Sponsors *Capitol Steps* Performance at WASTECON's Networking Event

The special performance by the *Capitol Steps*, an American musical political satire group, during WASTECON's networking event on Wednesday, August 15, 2012, from 6 to 9 p.m., in Washington, DC, will be sponsored by GBB. Organized by the Virginia 'Old Dominion' and Mid-Atlantic Chapters of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), the event will celebrate SWANA's 50th Anniversary with a night filled with food, laughs, music and entertainment.



Joining GBB as co-sponsors are RRT Design & Construction (www.rrtenviro.com) and Renewable Energy from Waste, a new publication from the Recycling Today Media Group (www.rewmag.com).

"GBB is proud and happy to present the *Capitol Steps* as the centerpiece of this year's WASTECON networking party and celebration of SWANA's anniversary," said GBB President Harvey Gershman. "It promises to be a fun-filled evening where industry players get a chance to mingle, wind down, and enjoy the evening in the middle of this important conference."

The *Capitol Steps* started out in 1981 as a group of Senate staffers who set out to satirize the very people and places that employed them. The group takes ideas ripped from the headlines and creates parodies & skits that highlight their special brand of satirical humor.

Although not all of the current members of the Steps are former Capitol Hill staffers, taken together the performers have worked in a total of 18 Congressional offices and represent 62 years of collective House and Senate staff experience. The group has released over 30 albums and has performed on NBC, CBS, ABC, PBS, NPR, and in various venues around the United States.

In addition to the *Capitol Steps* sponsorship, GBB will be an exhibitor as in past years (Booth # 1141) and will have several representatives making presentations and moderating sessions:

- **"Status Report and Update on North American Waste Conversion Technologies Projects,"**
Harvey Gershman
GBB President, Speaker
- **"When You Need Community Support: Making Informed Decisions Using Low-Cost Research,"**
Mary-Jane Atwater
GBB Principal Associate, Speaker
- **"New Award-Winning Collection Programs: Fort Wayne, IN, Reaping Significant ROI,"**
Tim Giardina
GBB Vice President, Speaker
- **"CNG as a Vehicular Fuel for Refuse Collection,"**
Tom Reardon
GBB Vice President, Moderator
- **"Contracting for Sustainability,"**
Elizabeth Rice
GBB Consultant I, Moderator