

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ROBERT E. HUGHEY, COMMISSIONER

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(IN THE MATTER OF CERTAIN AMENDMENTS)
(TO THE ADOPTED AND APPROVED SOLID)
(WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE CAMDEN)
(COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT)

CERTIFICATION OF THE FEBRUARY 14, 1985 AMENDMENT TO THE CAMDEN COUNTY DISTRICT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER:

A. Introduction

The New Jersey Solid Waste Management Act (N.J.S.A. 13:1E-1 et seq.) established a comprehensive system for the management of solid waste in New Jersey. The Act designated all twenty-one (21) of the state's counties and the Hackensack Meadowlands District as Solid Waste Management Districts, and mandated that the Boards of Chosen Freeholders and the Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission develop comprehensive plans for waste management in their respective districts. On September 26, 1980, the Department approved, with modification, the Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan.

The Act requires that all district plans be based on and accompanied by a report detailing the existing waste disposal situation in the district, and a plan which includes the strategy to be followed by the district in meeting the solid waste management needs of the district for the ten-year planning period. The report must detail the current and projected waste generation for the district, inventory and appraise all facilities in the district, and analyze the waste collection and transportation systems which serve the district. The disposal strategy must include the maximum practicable use of resource recovery techniques. In addition to this strategy, the plan must designate sufficient available suitable sites for the disposal of the district's waste for the ten-year period; which sites may be in the district, or if none are available, in another district. (The Act provides procedures for reaching any necessary interdistrict agreements.)

The Act further provides that a district may review its plan at any time, and, if found inadequate, a new plan must be adopted. The Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders completed such a review and on February 14, 1985, adopted an amendment to its approved District Solid Waste Management Plan. The amendment was received by the Department of Environmental Protection on March 1, 1985 and copies were distributed to various state level agencies for review and comment, as required by law.

The Department has reviewed this amendment, as well as the entire Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan, and has determined that the amendment adopted by the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders on February 14, 1985 is approved in part and rejected in part as provided in N.J.S.A. 13:1E-24. However, given the uncertainty surrounding Camden County's efforts to obtain the necessary Waivers of Strict Compliance of the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan, the Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan continues to be deficient with respect to its lack of sufficient additional available suitable solid waste disposal sites.

B. Certification of the Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment

- I, Robert E. Hughey, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 13:1E-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 13:1E-21, which established specific requirements regarding the contents of the district solid waste management plan, have reviewed the February 14, 1985 amendment to the approved Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan and certify to the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders that the following provisions of the February 14, 1985 amendment is approved in part and rejected in part as further specified below.
 - 1. The inclusion within the plan of a mandatory municipal recycling plan which includes Sections 1, 2, 4, and 5 as identified in Amendment 28-11-84 is approved.
 - 2. The inclusion within the plan of Section 3 as identified in Amendment 28-11-84 regarding vegetative waste disposal options is rejected. The description of vegetative waste used in the plan amendment is inconsistent with the waste identification numbers and definitions as outlined in 7:26-2.13. In addition, the plan amendment as written does not specify waste flows to the V. A. Associates Sanitary Landfill (0436D) identified in the plan. Furthermore, this facility has neither the Department of Environmental Protection nor the Board of Public Utilities authorization to accept waste on a commercial basis as of the proposed effective date provided in the plan amendment.

While the Department approved an amendment to the plan which proposed a vertical expansion of the Winslow Township Sanitary Landfill, it should be noted that since the initial rejection of Camden County's application for the necessary Waivers of Strict Compliance of the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan has been appealed, the final disposition of the site's conformance with the Pinelands Plan rests with the Pinelands Commission as modified by the terms such an appeal may afford. Therefore, I find that the Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan remains deficient with respect to its lack of sufficient additional available suitable solid waste disposal sites.

C. Other Provisions Affecting the Plan Amendment

1. Contracts

Any contract renewal or new contract for solid waste collection or disposal which is inconsistent with the within amendment to the Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan and which was executed prior to the approval of this amendment and subsequent to the effective date of the Solid Waste Management Act (July 29, 1977), and which shall further be for a term in excess of one year, shall immediately be renegotiated in order to bring same into conformance with the terms and provisions herein set forth. Any solid waste collection operation or disposal facility registered by the Department of Environmental Protection and operating pursuant to a contract as herein described, shall be deemed to be in violation of this amendment and of the Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan if such renegotiation is not completed within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this amendment; provided, however, that any such registrant may, upon application to the Department of Environmental Protection and for good cause shown, obtain an extension of time to complete such renegotiation.

2. Compliance

All solid waste facility operators and collector/haulers registered with the Department of Environmental Protection and operating within Camden County and affected by the amendment contained herein shall operate in compliance with this amendment and all other approved provisions of the Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan. Any facility operator or collector/hauler who fails to comply with the provisions contained herein shall be deemed to be in violation of N.J.S.A. 13:1E-1 et seq., in violation of N.J.A.C. 7:26-1 et seq., and in violation of their registration to operate a solid waste facility or a collection system issued thereunder by the Department of Environmental Protection and shall be subject to the provisions and penalties of N.J.S.A. 13:1E-9, 10, and 12 and all other applicable laws.

3. Types of Solid Wastes Covered by the District Solid Waste Management Plans

The provisions of the Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan shall apply to all solid wastes defined in N.J.S.A. 13:1E-3 and N.J.A.C. 7:26-2.13 and shall not apply to liquid wastes, sewage sludge, septage, and hazardous wastes.

Also, all non-hazardous materials separated at the point of generation for sale or reuse are excluded from the waste flows designated in the Interdistrict and Intradistrict Solid Waste Flow Rules (N.J.A.C. 7:26-6) which are part of the Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan.

4. Certification to Proceed with the Implementation of the Plan Amendment

This document shall serve as the Certification of the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection to the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders, as provided for by N.J.S.A. 13:1E-24f., to proceed with the implementation of the approved portions of the amendment contained herein.

5. Definitions

For the purpose of this amendment and unless the context clearly requires a different meaning, the definitions of terms shall be the same as those found at N.J.S.A. 13:1E-3 and N.J.A.C. 7:26-1.4 and -2.13.

6. Effective Date of Amendment

The approved amendments to the Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan contained herein shall take effect immediately.

7. Reservation of Authority

Nothing contained herein shall be construed as a limitation on any other action taken by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to its authority under the law. The Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan, including any amendment made thereto, shall conform with the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan. The Department has published a Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan with appendices which includes the Department's planning guidelines and rules, regulations, and orders of the Department, including the interdistrict and intradistrict waste flow rules, and also includes the compilation of individual district plans and amendments as they are approved.

D. <u>Certification of the Amendment and Notification of Deficiencies by the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection</u>

In accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 13:1E-1 et seq., I hereby approve the amendment, as outlined in Section B of this Certification, to the Camden County District Solid Waste Management Plan, which was adopted by the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders on February 14, 1985.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 13:1E-24, I am directing the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders to proceed to expeditiously resolve the deficiencies in its Plan identified above.

ROBERT E. HUGHEY

COMMISSIONER

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DATE