

State of New Jersey

CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Mail Code 401-07F
P.O. Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625-0402
Tel. # (609) 292-2885
Fax # (609) 292-7695

BOB MARTIN

Commissioner

CERTIFICATION OF THE NOVEMBER 26, 2013 AMENDMENT TO THE MONMOUTH 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 (now known as the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission or NJMC) develop comprehensive plans for waste management in their respective districts. On August 31, 1981, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department or DEP) approved the Monmouth County District Solid Waste Management Plan (County Plan).

The Act further provides that a district may review its County Plan at any time and, if found inadequate, a new County Plan must be adopted. The Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders (County Freeholders) completed such a review and on November 26, 2013 adopted an amendment to its approved County Plan.

The November 26, 2013 amendment proposes County Plan inclusion of the change in the Monmouth County Plan implementation agency from the Monmouth County Planning Board to the Department of Public Works and Engineering.

The amendment was considered administratively complete for review by the Department on December 6, 2013 and copies were distributed to various administrative review agencies for review and comment, as required by law. The Department has reviewed this amendment, and has determined that the amendment adopted by the County Freeholders on November 26, 2013 is approved as provided in N.J.S.A. 13:1E-24.

B. Findings and Conclusions with Respect to the Monmouth County District Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:1E-24a(1), I have studied and reviewed the November 26, 2013 amendment to the County Plan according to the objectives, criteria, and standards developed in the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan and I find and conclude that the amendment is consistent with the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan. In this regard, the County Freeholders are notified of the elements of the November 26, 2013 amendment which are included below.

Elements of the November 26, 2013 Amendment

Element: Implementation Agency

On March 12, 2009, the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders adopted an amendment to their County Plan to reaffirm the designation of the Monmouth County Planning Board as the County Plan implementation agency. This plan amendment was certified as approved on August 10, 2009.

The November 26, 2013 amendment proposes County Plan inclusion of the change in the Monmouth County Plan implementation agency from the Monmouth County Planning Board to the Department of Public Works and Engineering.

C. <u>Certification of the Monmouth County District Solid Waste Management Plan</u> <u>Amendment</u>

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 13:1E-1 et seq., specifically N.J.S.A. 13:1E-21, which establishes specific requirements regarding the contents of the county solid waste management plans, I have reviewed the November 26, 2013 amendment to the approved County Plan and certify to the County Freeholders that the November 26, 2013 amendment is approved as further specified below.

The County Plan inclusion of the change in the Monmouth County Plan implementation agency from the Monmouth County Planning Board to the Department of Public Works and Engineering is approved.

D. Other Provisions Affecting the Plan Amendment

1. Compliance

All owners and/or operators of recycling centers approved by the Department and operating within the District and affected by the amendment contained herein shall operate in compliance with this amendment and all other approved provisions of the County Plan. Any recycling center owner and/or operator 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

<u>seq.</u>, in violation of <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 7:26A-1 <u>et seq.</u>, and in violation of their approval to operate a recycling center issued thereunder by the Department and shall be subject to the provisions and penalties of <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 13:1E-9 and -12, <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 7:26A-9.1 <u>et seq.</u>, and all other applicable laws.

2. Certification to Proceed with Implementation of Amendment

This document shall serve as the certification of the Commissioner of the Department to the County Freeholders and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:1E-24c. and f., the County Freeholders shall proceed with the implementation of the approved components of the amendment certified herein.

3. <u>Definitions</u>

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 -99.12 and N.J.A.C. 7:26A-1.3.

4. Effective Date of Amendment

The approved components of the amendment to the County Plan contained herein shall take effect immediately.

5. Reservation of Authority

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

E. <u>Certification of Approval of the Amendment 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 C. of this certification, to the Monmouth County District Solid Waste Management Plan which was adopted by the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders on November 26, 2013.

Bob Martin, Commissioner

Department of Environmental Protection