

## Discussion Points – MIRA Board of Directors – August 11, 2021

### Permit Modification Application to conduct MSW Transfer Activities at MIRA's Hartford RRF

MIRA required to address A and B below in its permit modification application

#### **A. Statement of Consistency with the Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy (CMMS).**

- MIRA needs to discuss and describe what diversion and additional recycling activities will MIRA promote and implement that are consistent with the CMMS.

As part of DEEP's review of our permit modification application, DEEP will determine whether the activities that MIRA proposes to undertake – i.e., activities that are in addition to transferring MSW – are consistent with furthering the goals of the CMMS.

Examples to be included in the permit application include:

- MIRA's RFPs have been structured to solicit prospective vendors for undertaking diversion, recycling, etc. activities in addition to straight transfer of MSW, if/where possible.
  - MIRA has an ongoing Partnership with Zero Waste to put Unit Based Pricing Pilot programs in place if a MIRA municipality wants to do so.
  - MIRA inspects, and where necessary rejects, loads of recyclables delivered to its Murphy Road facility in the event the loads contain an unacceptable quantity of non-recyclable material. The additional cost that the hauler/municipality delivering the material will have to pay (\$105 per ton) is an incentive for them to reduce contamination and improve the quality of the material.
  - Retaining the capacity of 680 tons per day in central Connecticut is preferable to losing this capacity by simply closing the facility, and will serve as a short term solution to ensuring capacity while the state determines a long term solid waste management solution is developed.
  - Maintaining permit authority for solid waste activities at this site provides additional time for stakeholders to determine whether it is in the states interest to foreclose permanently the authority to manage solid waste at this site versus siting a new/emerging solid waste management technology at the site.
- Annual Plan of Operations (APO) DEEP has stated that MIRA's APO is relevant to the permit modification. DEEP would like MIRA to submit a new APO, and would expect that it look at activities and programs that MIRA can undertake to enhance and increase source and diversion.

## **B. Public Outreach to the Hartford Community**

- Although the statutory Environmental Justice requirements do not apply to MIRA's permit modification, DEEP would expect MIRA to hold an informational meeting for stakeholders in Hartford, and otherwise communicate in an informative and transparent manner to such stakeholders.
- DEEP's Environmental Justice program director recommends reaching out to:
  - Hartford Solid Waste Task Force.
  - City Council
  - Mayor
  - City of Hartford, Office of Sustainability  
<https://www.hartfordct.gov/Government/Departments/Mayors-Office/Mayor-Initiatives/Sustainability>