

The New Jersey WasteWise Business Network

November 13, 2012

To: Members and Prospective Members of the New Jersey WasteWise Business Network

From: Steven Rinaldi, Co-Chair
New Jersey WasteWise Business Network
NJDEP, Bureau of Recycling and Planning

Subject: Minutes from the Network meeting of November 8, 2012

Minutes:

Welcome – Network Co-Chair Steve Rinaldi, (Steven.Rinaldi@dep.state.nj.us) discussed the national and New Jersey WasteWise programs, meeting agenda and reviewed administrative details. While attendance was down for the meeting due to the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy and the November 7th snowstorm, the meeting turnout was still good. Thanks to all for coming out despite the storms. Note: The presenters for the topic “Computer Reuse for the Advancement of Education” were not able to make it the meeting due to the storm.

1. **Recycling Fluorescent Bulbs and Ballasts** – Joe Puro, National Bulb Recycling, Inc. (ameliap@nationalbulbrecycling.com) discussed the need for recycling fluorescent bulbs and ballasts from an environmental and public health perspective and also discussed the recycling services offered by his company. Mr. Puro indicated that only 2% of the spent fluorescent bulbs that are currently generated are collected for recycling. All fluorescent bulbs contain mercury so this low recycling rate is a concern since mercury that gets out into the environment can have many serious health impacts, especially upon the neurological development of fetuses and young children. People in the U.S. are mainly exposed to methylmercury, an organic compound, when they eat fish and shellfish that contain methylmercury. Ballasts are also a concern since many of them contain PCBs. Proper storage of both ballasts and bulbs was stressed by Mr. Puro. National Bulb Recycling, Inc. provides its customers with boxes for the bulbs and drums for the ballasts and will manage these materials from cradle to grave for its customers. Mr. Puro’s company also provides its customers with a certification that the materials collected were recycled. In regard to the bulbs, Mr. Puro indicated that the mercury and phosphates contained in the bulb are recycled, as are the metal and glass components.
2. **Homasote Still Going Strong** – Pete Tindall, Vice President of Operations for the Homasote Company (ptindall@homasote.com), gave an overview of Homasote’s recycling process and various recycled products. Homasote has been in operation since 1909 and is one of the few remaining paper mills in New Jersey. The company recycles

post-consumer newsprint (which provides 75% of their fiber supply) and pre-consumer mill cutoffs and overruns and post-industrial paper mill sludge waste (which provides 25% of their fiber supply) using a pulping process, molding system and board drying operation. Mr. Tindall noted that the company does not accept paper from curbside single stream recycling programs due to contamination concerns. With single stream recycling gaining in popularity, Homasote has needed to procure paper from more distant sources than in the past and has been looking for fiber sources other than curbside, such as those noted above. The company's two main product lines are industrial packaging and building products for construction. Industrial packaging includes steel and glass separators and floor protection products, among other things. Homasote produces a variety of building products made from recycled paper, including sound barriers, roof decking, floor decking, comfort base, expansion joints and interior designer products (cork, fabric and burlap covered boards). Homasote products are not only environmentally-friendly (post-consumer recycled content), but are also durable, non-staining, of uniform strength and ASTM tested to resist water. Homasote building products can also be used in projects to earn credits towards LEED™ (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) green building certification.

3. **Bayshore Recycling Corporation's "Mega-Mall of Recycling"** – Gary Sondermeyer, Vice President of Operations (GSondermeyer@bayshorerecycling.com), spoke about the many different, but related, recycling activities housed at Bayshore's Keasbey facility. The company, which is permitted to process over 10,000 tons per day of secondary materials, operates a Class B recycling center for asphalt, concrete, bricks and block, a Class B facility for both clean and treated wood scrap, a scrap metal yard, a contaminated soil recycling facility, a transfer station/materials recovery facility, a dredge processing facility, an electronic waste handling facility and has plans to start up a Class A recycling center for single stream recyclables (bottles, cans and paper) and a food waste recycling facility. Bayshore is also looking into the possibility of starting a tire recycling center, an auto shredding operation and a plastics-to-fuel operation that would use SPI Code #3-7 plastics. The company sells a variety of recycled products from its operations including recycled concrete aggregate and wood mulch. Mr. Sondermeyer stated that Bayshore's goal is to be a 100% green business powered by 100% green energy. He further indicated that numerous solar panels are already used on site to provide some of the company's power supply and that the company is exploring the ideas of wind power, tidal power and combined heat and power biomass gasification systems.
4. **Bristol-Myers Squibb's Waste Reduction, Recycling and Recycled Product Procurement Program** – Dave Matthews (dave.matthews@bms.com), Manager – Environmental Services, discussed Bristol-Myers Squibb's various initiatives to advance the cause of sustainability at the company. Mr. Matthews explained that sustainability is part of the company's leadership strategy and that BMS has a company-wide "Go Green" team that meets monthly in order to look for ways to improve company sustainability programs, reduce the company's waste stream and save money. Employee awareness was cited as one of the keys to the success for any recycling

program or sustainability program. As such, the company not only trains its new employees about the company's recycling program and other environmental programs, but also its existing staff, as well as the contractors that supply goods and services to BMS. In addition, BMS holds Earth Day celebrations for staff at all 51 of its worldwide facilities. CFL bulbs, eyeglasses, household batteries and cell phones are recycled at the BMS Earth Day events. Mr. Matthews indicated that BMS has reduced its non-hazardous waste stream by 42% over the past decade and hopes to reduce packaging waste by another 5% by 2015. BMS has eliminated the use of Styrofoam cups at its cafeterias and is working to replace paper cups with a program that encourages staff to bring in a reusable mug from home. BMS has also eliminated the use of plastic bags from its cafeterias and is looking at ways to save paper, such as using wider margins and paper with reduced thickness. The company operates a dual stream recycling program at its site and has found that it gets a high level of compliance with this system. Mr. Matthews also noted that his company won an Environmental Stewardship award from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Bristol-Myers Squibb's 2010 sustainability report is available online at <http://www.bms.com/sustainability/Pages/home.aspx>.

The following is the list of attendees for the 11/08/12 meeting:

Speakers:

Steve Rinaldi, NJDEP, Bureau of Recycling and Planning, Steven.Rinaldi@dep.state.nj.us
Joe Puro, National Bulb Recycling, Inc., ameliap@nationalbulbrecycling.com
Pete Tindall, Homasote Company, ptindall@homasote.com
Gary Sondermeyer, Bayshore Recycling Corporation, gsondermeyer@bayshorerecycling.com
Dave Matthews, Bristol-Myers Squibb, dave.matthews@bms.com

Attendees:

Haroon Aslam, University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey, aslamha@umdnj.com
Kyle Battaglia, Township of Hamilton, kbattaglia@hamiltonnj.com
Eric Babek, NJ Turnpike Authority, babak@turnpike.state.nj.us
Kathy Bailey, Mannington Mills, Inc., Kathryn_Bailey@mannington.com
John Bennevich, Subcontractor with the NJ Civil Service Commission, jbennevich@att.net
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Jeff Caldwell, New Jersey American Water, Jeff.Caldwell@amwater.com
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Keith Lamb, Township of Pennsville, Dana Lawson, NJDEP, Dana.Lawson@dep.state.nj.us
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SR: Minutes November 8 2012