



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

April 15, 2010

Mr. Dominick D'Altilio, President
Association of New Jersey Recyclers
120 FINDERNE AVENUE
BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807

Dear Mr. D'Altilio:

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak before your organization on March 31st. As promised, I wanted to reply to the questions that were asked of me at the event.

Regarding the timing of the next round of Recycling Enhancement Act grants to counties, please be advised that we anticipate that the next round of grant guidelines and applications will be distributed by June 1st of this year. As you know, procedurally the department has to receive financial information from Treasury, then apply the formula for grant distribution contained in the law, update the application guidelines as necessary to reflect any changes in scope, legal requirements and so forth.

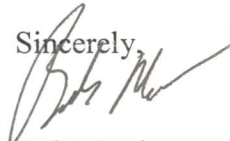
As for the Clean Communities grants, the Department anticipates full funding of this program into the foreseeable future. In regard to the question about the related "Clean Shores" program, please know that the Department understands that this program is valued by many of New Jersey's coastal communities because it provides a cost-effective way to remove hundreds of tons of trash and debris that washes onto the state's tidal shorelines each year, and helps to keep our bathing beaches free of floatable debris. Regrettably, the program, entirely funded by the sale of the "Shore-to-Please" license plates, has been temporarily suspended due to a drop in license plate sales and subsequent loss of revenue.

The Department is evaluating options that will allow cleanup operations to resume at coastal towns on a limited basis this fiscal year, and on a more robust basis again next year. None of these options would involve using general state funds. It also appears that license plate sales may be increasing and that could help to restore cleanup operations. If more information is needed on how a town can work with DEP to clean a particular tidal waterway, please contact Virginia Loftin of my staff at 609-984-5599.

In reference to the question on grants to counties for "e-waste" recycling, be advised that the law was changed that originally had the Department administering a fund to reimburse counties and towns for TV recycling programs. Current law requires the manufacturers of the affected products (TVs, computers and monitors) to bear the entire financial burden for the collection and recycling of these products. It is our understanding at this time that many manufacturers have indicated a willingness to enter into agreements with public e-waste collection programs, but this won't be certain until their required collection/recycling plans are submitted to the Department later this year. Of course the Department will keep you informed as this program is implemented.

I trust that the above clarifies those points which needed additional information. If there are any further questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Martin", written over the word "Sincerely".

Bob Martin
Commissioner