



# Town Manager's Report to the Town Council

Submitted by:  
Michael W. Heavener  
March 8, 2016

*Town of Winslow - In the heart of Central Maine representing People, Pride and Progress.*

## **MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE UPDATE**

The owner of Fiberight, Craig Stuart-Paul, will be attending our March 14th Council meeting to discuss the proposed Fiberight option for our municipal solid waste (MSW) disposal post 2018. Some of our neighboring municipal leaders are planning to attend as well. For further information about Fiberight please see the attached information.

On February 17th, members of our MSW Committee attended a presentation by Exeter Agri-Energy / Agri-Cycle Energy. The company involves the use of anaerobic digestion technology to convert animal and food waste into heat and electricity, as well as other environmentally responsible products. At the MSW Committee's next meeting on Tuesday, March 29th, at 5:30 PM they will be discussing the possibility of creating a pilot project for the collection of food waste in conjunction with Agri-Cycle Energy. For more information please see the attached flyer.

## **ORDINANCE # 2-2016 (CHICKEN ORD)**

At next Monday's Council meeting we will be conducting a public hearing on the proposed Chicken ordinance. Due to some of the questions and concerns that have already been expressed I recommend that the Council table the ordinance and send it back to the Agricultural Commission so they can address the questions and concerns. The Commission can then return the ordinance to the Council with any proposed amendments.

## **Town Office Hours**

In the Council packet is Order No. 2-2016, which if approved will authorize me to change the Town Office hours of operation. I have reviewed the three options attached to the Order

with Town Office Staff. All of the staff prefer that the office hours remain the same as they are now. If the Town Office hours, however, must be changed then they prefer option #1 over the other two options.

## **Heating Fuel Agreement**

In the Council packet is Resolution No. 8-2016 which will authorize me to sign a heating fuel agreement with Spring Brook Ice & Fuel Co. for our heating fuel for FY2017. Due to favorable heating oil prices this agreement is \$11,832 less than our current agreement.

## **Agricultural Commission Update**

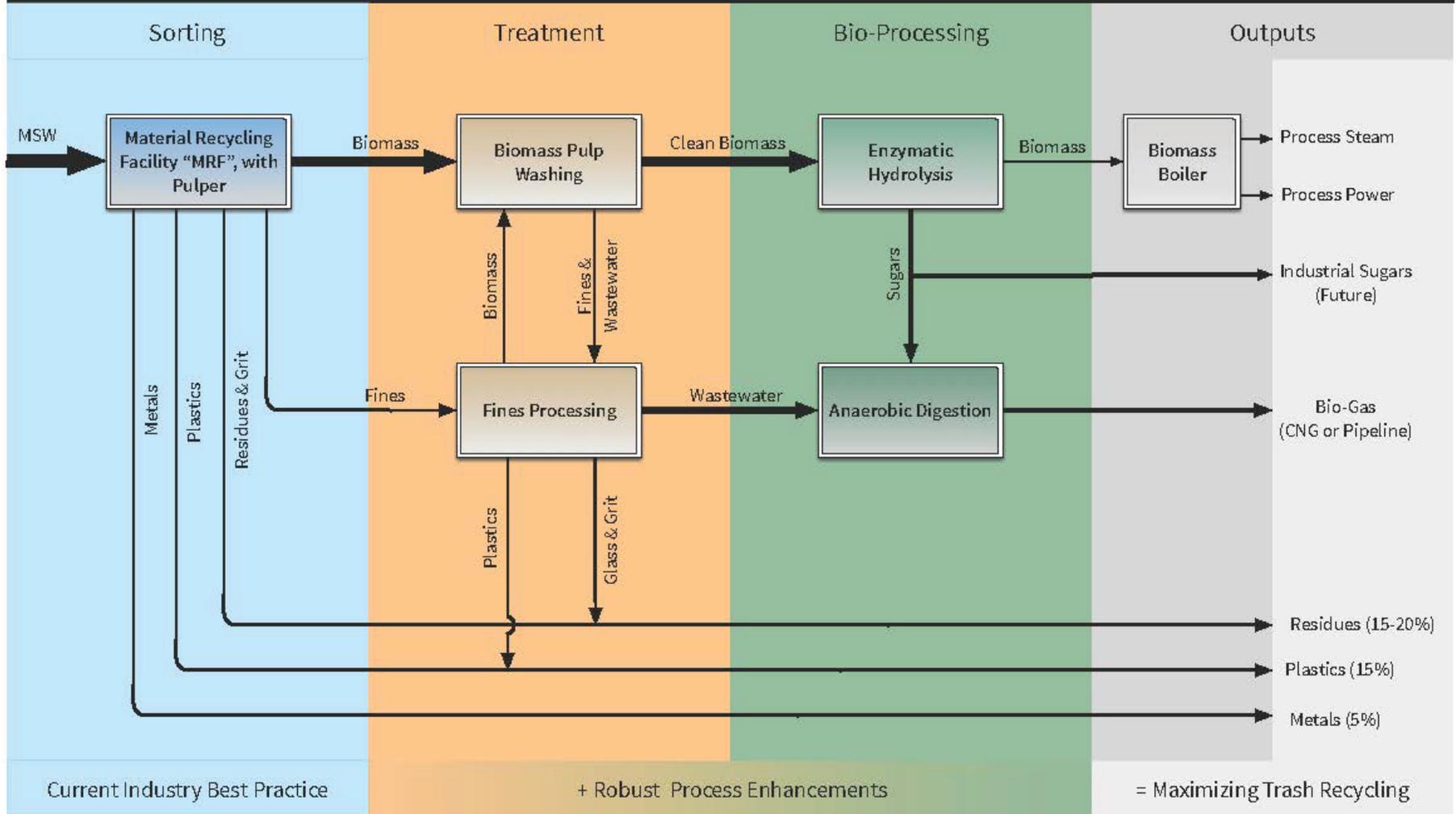
The Agricultural Commission has been working on a Voluntary Municipal Farm Support Program (VMFSP). If adopted by the Town Council the program would allow qualifying farmland and farm buildings to receive a property tax break in exchange for a 20 year conservation easement for the associated farmland. Like a TIF, each application for the program must be approved by the Town Council.

I have scheduled a **Town Council workshop for Monday, March 28th, at 6:00 PM.** During the workshop the Agricultural Commission will present the Town Council with details about the program and will discuss why such a program is necessary to help preserve our existing farmland. The Commission will also provide information on what the property tax implications will be for such a program. I plan to provide each Councilor with a VMFSP informational packet the Wednesday before the workshop.

The Commission is hopeful that the Council will take action on the program at the April 11th Town Council meeting.



# Fiberight Process Pathway





## ***We're asking for your continued support.***

Soon your community will be discussing and deciding on a new arrangement for handling municipal trash.

The current agreement terminates in 2018.

Your community has most likely been a member of the Municipal Review Committee (MRC) since 1991 (some communities joined later) and benefits from its oversight, experience and advocacy as it pertains to trash, recycling and municipal solid waste best practices.

Because of a drastically changing economic model in 2018, the facility that has served our needs for nearly 30 years will not be viable past 2018.

Therefore a new solution is needed.

After an eight year effort, we have selected a solution that aligns with the current and future collective needs of our members.

But to ensure this opportunity becomes reality, we need commitment from all individual member municipalities.

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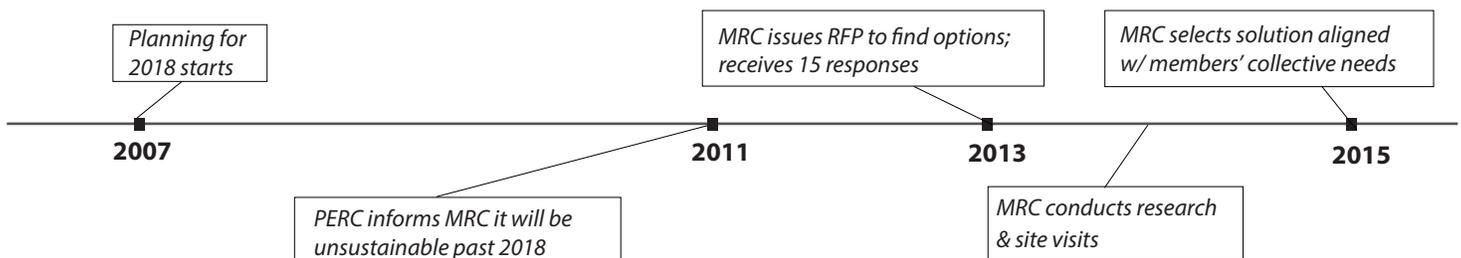
## **Who Is MRC?**

MRC, the Municipal Review Committee, was formed by municipalities in 1991 and has played a critical role in ensuring our long-term, affordable and environmentally sound waste disposal ever since.

- 187 Communities
- Elected 9 Member Board
- 25 Year History

## **The Background**

*An eight year path to find the recommended solution for our future needs*



### The MRC Plan For 2018

The building of a next-generation materials recovery and conversion facility, with recovery of recyclables and conversion of organics to biomethane, in-house power and heating needs and other high-value products. This will help us increase recycling, decrease the volume of disposal and save time, travel and money with a single facility to serve our processing needs.

#### Who's Involved:

**MRC** - Advocacy & Oversight

**Fiberight** - Innovative Technology Partner

**Covanta** - Strong Financial & Technical Backing

#### Where Will It Be Built:

Hampden, ME.

## Evaluating The Options

	<b>MRC/Fiberight</b>	<b>PERC Plan</b>
<b>Tipping Fees</b>	\$70/ton	\$84.36/ton
<b>Fee Adjustments</b>	Annually (by CPI)	Quarterly (by CPI)
<b>Rate Guarantee</b>	Yes - In Writing	No
<b>Rebates / Revenue Sharing</b>	Yes - In Writing	No
<b>Organics Program Cost</b>	Yes - Included	No - Billed Extra
<b>Out-Of-State Waste</b>	Not Allowed	Allowed
<b>MRC Oversight</b>	Yes	No
<b>MRRA* Endorsed</b>	Yes	No

*\*Maine Resource Recovery Association*

### Community Benefits Of MRC's Recommended Solution

- Predictable cost and budgeting formula
- One-stop location for municipal solid waste (MSW), organics & single-stream recyclables
- No change required to current trash and/or recycling programs
- Communities joining before deadline share in facility revenue
- Plan does not rely on or allow out-of-state waste
- Organics program does not require households to sort separately from trash and recycling

### Project Timeline

- **Spring 2016:** Communities sign joinder agreements before deadline
- **Summer 2016:** Land purchased, roads & utilities construction begins
- **Fall 2016:** Site work and facility construction begins
- **April 1, 2018:** Facility ready to receive MSW

## QUESTIONS?

Please contact: **Greg Louder**, Executive Director

Phone: 207-664-1700

Email: [glouder@mrcmaine.org](mailto:glouder@mrcmaine.org)



**Agri-Cycle Energy (ACE)** is a reliable, cost-effective food waste collection company dedicated to helping you meet your organics recycling goals via anaerobic digestion. We operate six days a week and have a fleet of trucks dedicated to solid and liquid food waste collection in Maine.

**Exeter Agri-Energy (EAE)** is a Maine-based renewable energy company using proven anaerobic digestion technology to convert animal and food waste into heat and electricity, as well as other environmentally responsible products.

### **Pricing for Organics Collection and Processing via Anaerobic Digestion**

1. **Tip fee for processing at Exeter Agri-Energy**
  - \$40 - \$55 per ton depending on contract term, materials, etc.
2. **ACE transportation fee from local transfer site**
  - \$5 - \$30 per ton, depending on frequency, volume, and distance from EAE
3. **Residential curbside service**
  - Co-collection or dedicated service upon further analysis of municipal data

### **Exeter Agri-Energy Facts:**

The EAE facility is one of a handful in the United States equipped for large-scale co-digestion:

- Dual vessel, one-megawatt system with a total daily treatment volume of approximately 32,000 gallons, or approximately 150 wet tons
- A 16-cylinder, 1,500 horsepower engine that burns biogas comprised of approximately 60% methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and 40% carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)
- Replaces 700 gallons of heating oil daily, enough to heat 300 New England homes a year
- Produces 23,500-kilowatt hours of electricity every day, enough electricity to power as many as 1,000 households annually
- Holds a lifetime solid waste permit to include all forms of clean organic waste

### **Agri-Cycle Energy Facts:**

- Collects & processes nearly 25,000 tons annually with ability to scale up exponentially
- Strategic partnerships with AD facilities throughout New England
- Service area throughout Maine, with trucking capabilities of up to six days per week