

State of New Jersey

#### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

SITE REMEDIATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

401 East State Street

P.O. Box 420, Mail Code 401-06

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420 Tel. (609) 292-1250 • Fax (609) 609-777-1914

www.nj.gov/dep

SHAWN M. LATOURETTE

Acting Commissioner

SHEILA Y. OLIVER

PHILIP D. MURPHY

Governor

Lt. Governor

FEB 2 3 2021

The Honorable Alexander Mirabella Union County Board of County Commissioners Union County Administration Building 10 Elizabethtown Plaza Elizabeth, NJ 07207

Dear Mr. Mirabella:

I am pleased to inform you that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has approved the Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment adopted by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders (now referred to as "County Commissioners") on October 1, 2020. The certification is enclosed.

The approved Amendment proposes inclusion of Linden Renewable Energy, LLC Class C Recycling Center to be located at 4900 Tremley Point Road in the City of Linden to receive up to 1,400 tons per day of food waste.

We recognize and appreciate the leadership and commitment that the County Commissioners demonstrated in working collaboratively with the Union County Municipal Utilities Authority, the Union County Solid Waste Advisory Council, elected officials, and residents to formulate the Amendment.

Sincerely

Mark J. Pedersen

Assistant Commissioner

Enclosure



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# CERTIFICATION OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2020 AMENDMENT TO THE UNION COUNTY DISTRICT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

#### BY ORDER OF THE DEPARTMENT:

#### Introduction Α.

The New Jersey Solid Waste Management Act ("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 County Commissioners and the Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission (previously known as the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission, and now known as New Jersey Sports & Exposition Authority or NJSEA) develop comprehensive plans for waste management in their respective districts. On August 13, 1980, the Department of Environmental Protection ("Department" or "DEP") approved the Union 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 Union County Board of County Commissioners completed such a review and on October 1, 2020 adopted an amendment to its approved County Plan.

The October 1, 2020 Amendment ("Amendment") proposes County Plan inclusion of Linden Renewable Energy, LLC Class C Recycling Center to be located at Block 587, Lot 8.02 with a street address of 4900 Tremley Point Road in the City of Linden to receive up to 1,400 tons per day of food waste and identified the facility's operating schedule as 24 hours per day, Monday through Sunday. Delivery to the facility will be by 6,000-gallon capacity tanker trucks and by barge.

The Amendment was considered complete for review by the Department on October 23, 2020 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 Commissioners on October 1, 2020 is approved as provided in N.J.S.A. 13:1E-24.

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

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:1E-24a(1), I have studied and reviewed the 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 proposing inclusion of Linden Renewable Energy, LLC Class C Recycling Center is consistent with the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan. In this regard, the County Commissioners are notified of the elements of the Amendment which are included below.

### Elements of the October 1, 2020 Amendment

### **Element: Facility Operations**

The Amendment proposes County Plan inclusion of Linden Renewable Energy, LLC Class C Recycling Center to be located at 4900 Tremley Point Road, Block 587, Lot 8.02 in the City of Linden to receive up to 1,400 tons per day of food waste and identified the facility's operating schedule as 24 hours per day, Monday through Sunday.

# **Element: Regulatory Requirements**

The owner or operator of a Class C recycling center must obtain a Class C Recycling Center General Approval prior to commencement of regulated recycling activities and shall also follow all pertinent regulations found at <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 7:26A-3.1 <u>et seq.</u> and the design and operational standards at <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 7:26A-4.1.

Recycling centers are subject to the provisions of <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 7:27-5, "Prohibition of Air Pollution." This regulation prohibits the release of odors and other air contaminants which interfere with the enjoyment of life and property. In addition, the owner or operator of a recycling center may require an air quality preconstruction permit and operating certificate in accordance with <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 7:27-8.2(c) dependent upon the equipment and type of operations conducted at the Facility. Facilities operating diesel and gas vehicles are subject to the provisions of <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 7:27-14 and <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 7:27-15 requiring that vehicles comply with idling regulations.

Finally, if any operation of a recycling center will discharge pollutants as defined in N.J.A.C. 7:14A-1.2, the owner or operator of that recycling center must secure a New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and /or Treatment Works Approval for pollutant discharges prior to operation.



# C. Certification of the Union County District Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment

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 district solid waste management plans, I have reviewed the Amendment to the approved County Plan and certify to the County Commissioners that the Amendment is approved as further specified below.

The County Plan inclusion of Linden Renewable Energy, LLC Class C Recycling Center to be located at 4900 Tremley Point Road, Block 587; Lot 8.02 in the City of Linden to receive up to 1,400 tons per day of food waste is approved.

This Certification shall not be construed as an expression of the Department's intent to issue a recycling center approval to the owner or operator of any recycling center for Class C materials. A recycling center approval shall only be issued where the applicant has submitted an administratively complete application, as per N.J.A.C. 7:26A-3.5, where all the substantive criteria for approval set forth in N.J.A.C. 7:26A-3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 are satisfied, where a fee has been paid in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:26A-2, and where none of the criteria for denial of a recycling center approval are present, as per N.J.A.C. 7:26A-3.12.

# 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 seq., in violation of N.J.A.C. 7:26A1.1 et seq., 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 N.J.S.A. 13:1E-9 and 12, N.J.A.C. 7:26A-9.1 et seq., and all other applicable laws and regulations.

# 2. Certification to Proceed with Implementation of Amendment

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



### 3. Definitions

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 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 13:1E-3 and -99.12, <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 7:26-1.4 and -2.13, and <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 7:26A-1.3.

# 4. Effective Date of Amendment

The approved components of this Amendment 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 includes the compilation of individual county plans and amendments as they are approved.

# E. <u>Certification of Approval of the Amendment by the Department of Environmental Protection</u>

In accordance with the requirements of <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 13:1E-1 <u>et seq.</u>, I hereby approve the Amendment, as outlined in Section C. of this Certification, to the Union County District Solid Waste Management Plan which was adopted by the Union County Board of County Commissioners on October 1, 2020.

2/23/2021 Date

Mark J. Pedersen Assistant Commissioner