From:	Gold, Ruth (DEM)
To:	Lancey, Susan
Cc:	Whitney, Aleida (DEM); Delsesto, David (DEM); St. Amand, Stephen (DEM); Bird, Patrick; McCarthy, Elizabeth; Kudarauskas, Elizabeth A.
Subject:	Re: [EXTERNAL] : FW: Public concerns regarding location MED RECYCLER Facility being proposed for1600 Division Road, West Warwick
Date:	Tuesday, March 24, 2020 2:54:25 PM
Attachments:	image0.jpeg

Hi Susan,
I filled in the information you requested below. Thanks for passing this on.

Ruth A. Gold
Supervising Air Quality Specialist
Office of Air Resources
RI Dept. of Environmental Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908
Tel: 401-222-2808, Ext. 7110
Fax: 401-222-2017
E-Mail: ruth.gold@dem.ri.gov
Web: http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/air/

From: Lancey, Susan <lancey.susan@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2020 1:06 PM
To: Gold, Ruth (DEM) <ruth.gold@dem.ri.gov>
Cc: Whitney, Aleida (DEM) <aleida.whitney@dem.ri.gov>; Delsesto, David (DEM) <david.delsesto@dem.ri.gov>; St. Amand, Stephen (DEM) <Stephen.StAmand@dem.ri.gov>; Bird, Patrick <Bird.Patrick@epa.gov>; McCarthy, Elizabeth <McCarthy.Liz@epa.gov>; Kudarauskas, Elizabeth A. <Kudarauskas.Beth@epa.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : FW: Public concerns regarding location MED RECYCLER Facility being proposed for1600 Division Road, West Warwick
Hi Ruth,
We received the emails below from a concerned citizen about the medical waste pyrolysis unit proposed to be constructed in West Warwick. We drafted the response below, mainly encouraging her to follow up with the state and local offices. Could you please review this draft response and let us know if you have any comments? Could you also provide us with a RI DEM air contact name and number, solid waste contact name and number, wastewater contact name and number, and a contact name and number at the local West Warwick office?
Thanks for any feedback. Let us know if you would like to set up a time to discuss.
***DRAFT ***
Ms. Lopez,
We appreciate you reaching out to us regarding the Medrecycler facility proposed to be constructed in West Warwick, Rhode Island. We have been coordinating with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RI DEM) about this proposed facility. RI DEM is reviewing the proposed facility with respect to all applicable state air quality, solid waste, and wastewater regulations, as well as delegated federal regulations. We are working with RI DEM in reviewing applicable requirements that apply to the proposed facility. RI DEM has the primary responsibility to issue any air quality, solid waste, and wastewater permits required for this operation. We encourage you to contact RI DEM directly regarding your questions about permitting approvals that are required and opportunities for the public to provide input. The contact at RI DEM for air questions is Ruth Gold at 401-222-2808 extension 7110 or ruth.gold@dem.ri.gov, the contact for solid waste questions is Mark Dennen, at 401-222-2797 extension 7112 or mark.dennen@dem.ri.gov, and the contact for wastewater questions is Nicholas Pisani at 401-222-4700 extension 7423 or nicholas.pisani@dem.ri.gov.
In addition to state regulatory requirements, we encourage you to contact the local planning board and other local offices regarding their requirements and opportunities for public input at the local level. Please contact Mark Carruolo at 401-827-9025 in West Warwick for questions about requirements at the local level.
***
Susan Lancey
U.S. EPA New England
5 Post Office Square
Suite 100 (Mail Code: 05-2)
Boston, MA 02109
Phone: (617) 918-1656

From: Denise Lopez <denisealopez35@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2020 10:49 AM
To: Lancey, Susan <lancey.susan@epa.gov>

Cc: Bird, Patrick <Bird.Patrick@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Public concerns regarding location MED RECYCLER Facility being proposed for1600 Division Road, West Warwick
Thank you . As you can see from the aerial pic below , although the facility is technically being proposed for West Warwick it is right on the EG line near residential areas , New England Tech as well as a day care .
There are many concerns including..
- How close should this be to a preschool / daycare and residential homes (see aerial view below)? Although technically in West Warwick is right on EG line near residential area as well as abutting Coventry , West Warwick .
- are there requirements for filters on any air stacks ?
- how is this plant cleaned and how often ?
- wastewater concerns as this property is on a pond and in a well water area .
- will this be regulated by the Clean Air Act ?
- there has been NO safety planning committee produced and even the R.I. DEM seemed concerned with little to no testing being done on such experimental technology.
Thank you again and look forward to hearing from you .
Best Regards ,
Denise Lopez

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 18, 2020, at 2:00 PM, Lancey, Susan <lancey.susan@epa.gov> wrote:

Thank you for your message. We will look into your questions and get back to you soon.
Susan Lancey
U.S. EPA New England
5 Post Office Square
Suite 100 (Mail Code: 05-2)
Boston, MA 02109
Phone: (617) 918-1656
From: Denise Lopez <denisealopez35@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 11:14 AM
To: Bird, Patrick <Bird.Patrick@epa.gov>; Lancey, Susan <lancey.susan@epa.gov>
Cc: stephen.stamand@dem.ri.gov
Subject: Public concerns regarding location MED RECYCLER Facility being proposed for1600 Division Road, West Warwick

"A relatively untested technology that cooks medical waste to generate electricity is proposed for a local office and warehouse building." https://www.ecori.org/renewable-energy/2020/2/23/ck9nv4mw8075yzszrdvy2tb3ep2xe5?fbclid=IwAR38milruzHw0rdYR161WSm3jaaBWOe2pI7G4ywMy21Kkx076mpgqMji0-A [gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com]

" The Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) has noted that emissions from pyrolysis contain cancer-causing compounds. The ash consists of dioxins, mercury, and heavy metals — pollutants that can make their way into waterways and drinking water supplies. The applications submitted to DEM says the facility will emit or have as byproducts carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, silicon dioxide, magnesium oxide, iron oxide, sodium chloride, and sodium sulfide"

As an East Greenwich resident this is NOT something I want close to my home .

I am writing to register my concern regarding the permit approval for the proposed Med Recycler site for 1600 Division Rd. This facility is very close to the residential area where I live , Signal Ridge, as well as many of the homes here are on well water. In fact, I have already seen that the "MED RECYCLER" name has been added to the 1600 Division Rd sign which seems a bit premature.

The petition below further elaborates community concerns as in less than 2 days it has gotten 600 signatures (and counting) representing how alarmed the community is with this project. It was also request that West Warwick and Coventry residents be added as they also have issue with the facility in a residential community.

https://www.change.org/p/west-warwick-town-council-stop-proposed-med-recycler-site-for-1600-division-rd-approval/u/25946141 [gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com]

I would like additional information on where this stands with EPA approval and when the public will be able to weigh in with their concerns regarding the location.

Thank in advance for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you .

Denise Lopez