

**NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

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March 23, 2015

STATE OF VERMONT  
House of Representatives  
Committee on Natural Resources and Energy  
115 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05633-5301

RE: Funding for Act 148 – Vermont's Universal Recycling Law

Chairman Klein,

It has recently come to my attention that there may not be any funding bills moving forward regarding the funding of Act 148. During my testimony a few weeks ago we seemed to get off track, but it is extremely important that a funding source be identified and implemented. The Solid Waste Infrastructure Advisory Committee (SWIAC) spent a significant amount of time identifying the infrastructure needs and potential funding sources. More importantly, the hauling community in the NEK is expecting our District to conduct a feasibility study to determine the viability of a single-stream transfer station – one of the recommendations in the SWIAC report. I think this study can be conducted this spring, but delaying the identification of a funding source delays any infrastructure improvements by at least a year. We cannot begin to consider some of the improvements in the report until we know whether or not funding will be there to support our efforts.

During the last legislative session, we were denied funding because we hadn't provided the legislature with clearly articulated needs. I think the SWIAC committee provided the missing clarity. While we are all generally supportive of Act 148, we need funding to make it happen.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Most sincerely,

  
Paul Tomasi, Executive Director