

Chapter 11

Fair and Competitive Markets

The Business of Solid Waste Management

Cumberland and all other Pennsylvania counties have a primary responsibility outlined in Act 101 to secure sufficient disposal capacity. Similar requirements exist in nearby states and throughout the nation. In fulfilling its Act 101 obligations, Cumberland County will not hamper the ability of waste management facilities to function in the marketplace. Additionally, the County will not act to obstruct other counties from obtaining necessary disposal capacity.

EQUITABLE ACCESS TO AVAILABLE CAPACITY

During the planning process it was determined that Cumberland County was best served by utilizing the services of existing transfer, processing and disposal facilities. The County's municipal waste is delivered to disposal and processing facilities operating both within Cumberland County and also to facilities in other counties and, potentially, in other states. Some of the facilities are owned and operated by the private sector. Others are public sector operations. The use of multiple facilities, as demonstrated throughout the plan, allows for a fair and open market and provides sufficient capacity to the County. The same approach is commonly utilized in other county plans. Many of them use the same landfills as Cumberland County and in fact export their waste to facilities located here.

The County respects the contractual obligations of these facilities to serve other counties as well as Cumberland. In addition, it understands their need to design, finance and construct reasonable expansions to meet the required capacity specifications. Therefore, the County will not interfere with the normal operational and regulatory process involved with such expansions. The County will neither inhibit the free enterprise of these facilities nor prevent them from generating the necessary profits to support those projects.

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