

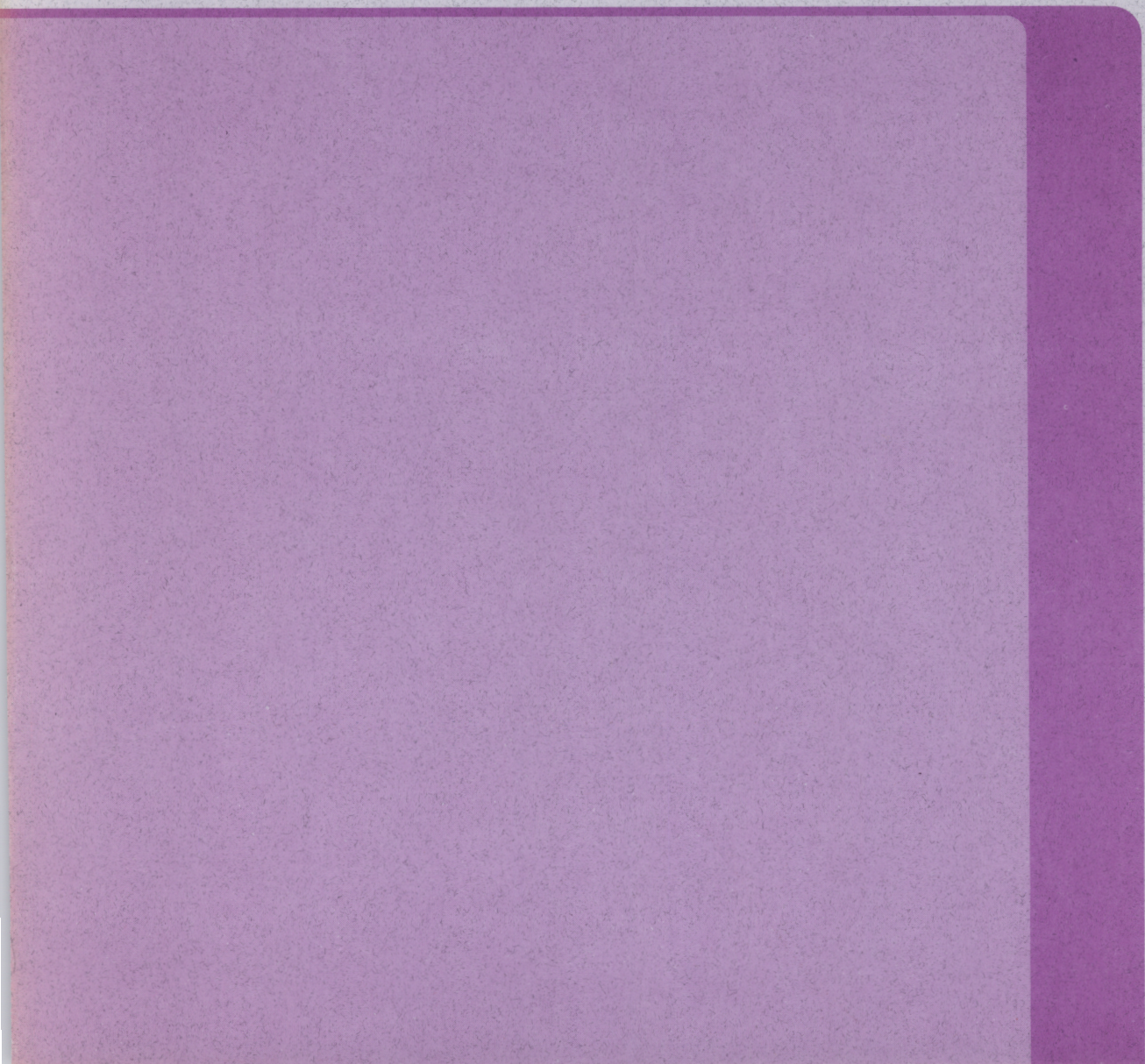
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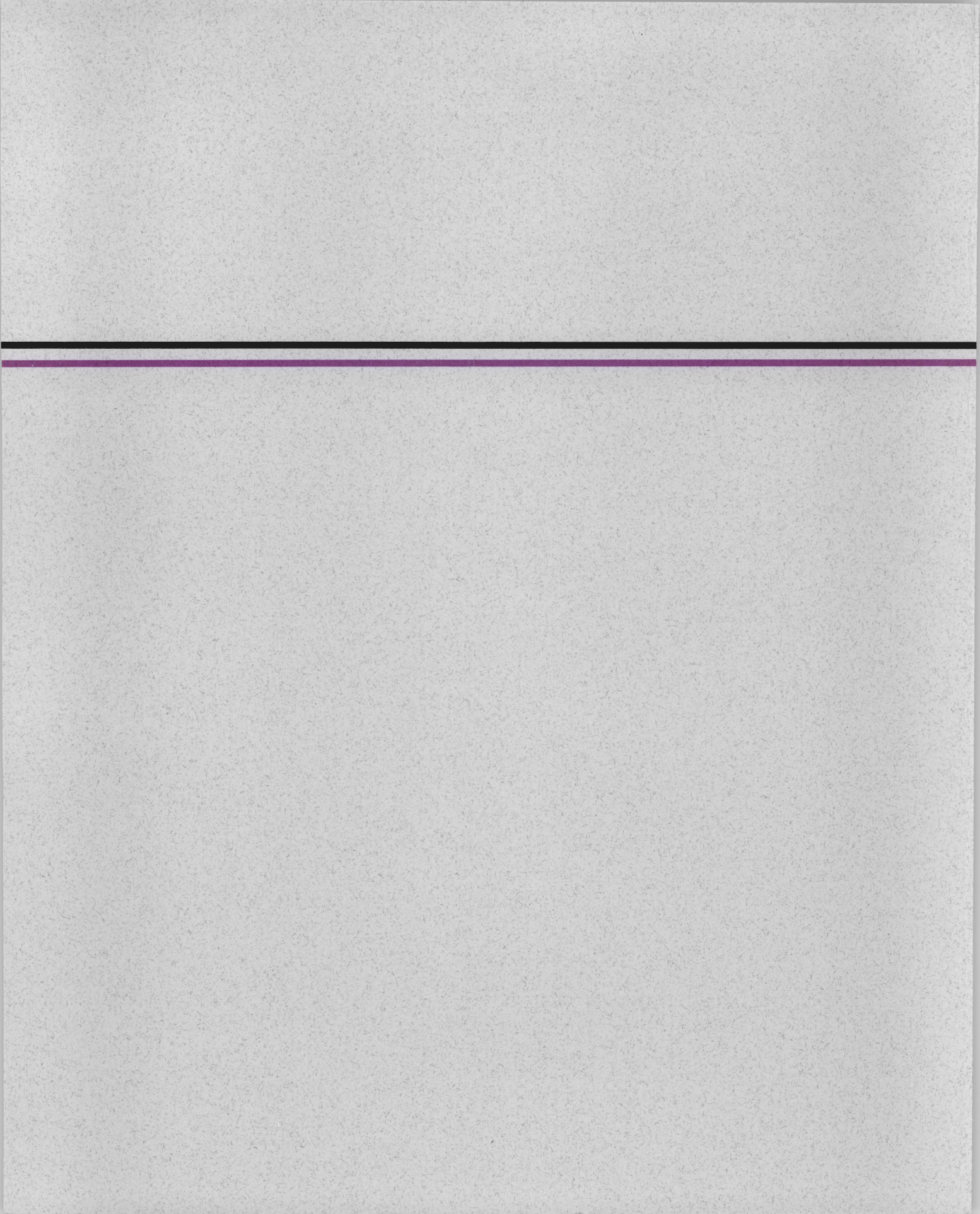
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New Jersey  
Hazardous  
Waste  
Facilities  
Siting  
Commission



# Annual Report for 1985





The Honorable Thomas H. Kean  
Governor of the State of New Jersey  
Members of the New Jersey Legislature

It is my pleasure to submit the Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Commission's 1985 Annual Report for your review and consideration. The Report summarizes our work on many fronts, including studies of source reduction and small quantity generators, as well as the Commission's most controversial task, siting new major hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal facilities.

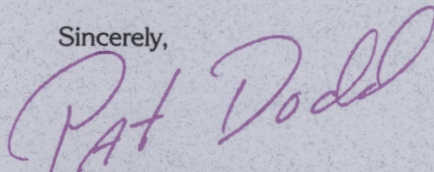
As in past years, the Commission relied on support from other state agencies to help implement its programs. The Departments of Environmental Protection, Commerce, Treasury, Transportation, Health and Community Affairs, as well as the Offices of the Attorney General and the Public Advocate, provided essential services and information to the Commission.

Work begun in 1985 continues into 1986. The Commission's site search is nearing completion. Once on-site tests are completed at all eleven potential sites, the Commission's site search consultant will review the information and make recommendations to the Commission. In turn, the Commission will consider these recommendations and hear public comment before choosing one or two sites for an incinerator, and one site for a land emplacement facility.

In order to improve hazardous waste management in the future, the Commission also continues to refine its knowledge of current hazardous waste management practices in New Jersey. Research on source reduction in four major industries is on-going, and surveys of firms that generate small amounts of waste are now being conducted. With the assistance of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Source Reduction/Recycling Task Force, the Commission is developing new ways to encourage further hazardous waste reduction, recycling and exchange.

The Commission is thankful for the support it has received in its efforts to improve hazardous waste management in New Jersey. 1986 will be a very controversial year for the Commission, and I am hopeful the Commission will continue to merit your support in the future.

Sincerely,



Frank J. Dodd



## Introduction

Several trends have heightened the need for new major commercial hazardous waste facilities in New Jersey. While large strides were made in the remediation of New Jersey's abandoned waste sites, sources to fund these projects were held in question due to the failure to reauthorize Superfund legislation. On the state level, major legislation was introduced to provide long-term financing for remediation of hazardous waste sites.

The gathering momentum for site remediation was accompanied by stricter regulations facing those currently generating hazardous waste. The impact of the 1984 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act amendments began to be felt across the state as generators recognized the limitations the new regulations place on waste disposal practices.

In 1985, the Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Commission and the Hazardous Waste Advisory Council made important contributions to improving hazardous waste management in New Jersey by:

- adopting a **Hazardous Waste Facilities Plan** in March, 1985;
- initiating **Siting Update**, the Commission's newsletter;
- awarding a contract to conduct a site search for new facilities in May, 1985;
- completing a report analyzing the state's abandoned site remediation program in December, 1985;
- initiating a study to survey the needs of firms that generate small amounts of hazardous wastes;
- managing a research project to identify current source reduction practices in four major industries in the state.
- coordinating the activities of the Consortium of State Hazardous Waste Siting Authorities.

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These tasks are described further in the following sections of this report. The responsibilities of the Commission have grown as the complexity of hazardous waste issues has increased. The state is now in transition between less-structured and regulated waste disposal and a new hazardous waste management system that ensures the maximum level of waste treatment, remediation of abandoned waste sites, and a stable source of funds to achieve these ends. The work of the Commission, in coordination with other state agencies, has helped move New Jersey one step closer to more responsible hazardous waste management.



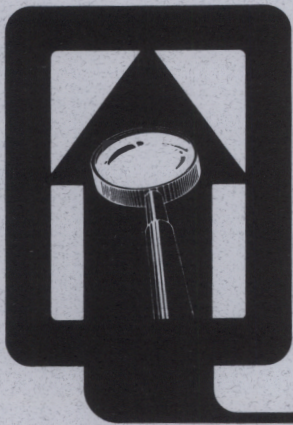
## Facilities Plan

Public comment on the **New Jersey Hazardous Waste Facilities Plan** was received until its adoption by the Commission in March, 1985. The Plan analyses current hazardous waste generation, estimates future waste generation to 1988, and identifies the immediate need for one or more incinerators to satisfy a shortfall in capacity of 50,000 to 75,000 tons per year, and for a land emplacement facility to manage up to 110,000 tons per year of wastes that have undergone previous treatment or for which there is currently no treatment.

The assignment of waste to these new facilities is directed by the Commission's adopted waste management hierarchy, which, in order of preference, includes:

- source reduction;
- recycling;
- recovery;
- treatment and incineration; and
- secure disposal.

The recommendations in the Plan have been used by the Commission to guide its site search.



## Site Search

The Commission's state-wide search for hazardous waste facility sites builds on work done by the Hazardous Waste Advisory Council and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in 1982 and 1983. These bodies developed and adopted siting criteria (N.J.A.C. 17:26-13.1, et. seq.) to guide the Commission in choosing sites.

On April 30, 1985, the Commission awarded a contract to Rogers, Golden and Halpern to conduct a site search on behalf of the Commission. The site search has used a wide variety of information, including computerized mapping systems maintained by the DEP, aerial photographs, satellite imagery, computerized industrial databases and other resources. Exclusionary criteria were mapped to allow the consultant to focus on remaining areas.

In order to remove any personal biases resulting from knowing the location of potential sites, the Commission chose to rank the relative importance of various factors for an incinerator site and for a land emplacement facility without knowing what sites were actually being considered. These relative preferences allowed the consultant to

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determine which sites were most likely to meet the major concerns of the Commissioners, in addition to the regulatory criteria cited above.

After collecting inferential data on groundwater and hydrology, on February 14, 1986 the consultant recommended eleven sites for further investigation, including on-site soil sampling and drilling. The on-site investigations will allow the Commission to determine if a site meets the groundwater criteria. The Commission anticipates receipt of the consultant's recommendations in the summer of 1986; based upon these recommendations and other considerations, the Commission will choose one to three sites for designation.



## Other Commission Activity

The Siting Act also provides an "alternate or additional" method of siting facilities. Industrial firms that believe they have a suitable site for a hazardous waste facility may submit an application for site designation to the Commission. The Commission will review any application against the siting criteria and the *Plan*.

Envirocare, International of Springfield, New Jersey, submitted an application in April, 1985. Following Commission staff review, the company filed a revised application in December. This application is undergoing further review by Commission staff and consultants.

As part of its overall responsibilities, the Commission has undertaken a survey of firms that generate small amounts of hazardous wastes (referred to as Small Quantity Generators, or SQGs). These firms produce less than 100 kilograms of hazardous waste per month, and may legally dispose of that waste with municipal solid waste or into public sewers. In order to estimate the amount of wastes being generated by such firms, their current management practices, and future trends in management, the Commission awarded a contract to the Technology Information Policy Program at Syracuse University to conduct a survey of SQGs. Information gathered from this survey will assist the Commission in future revisions of its *Plan*, and will provide valuable information to DEP on current waste management practices among SQGs.



## Consortium of State Hazardous Waste Siting Authorities

In April, 1985, the Commission's Executive Director, Richard J. Gimello, was elected President of the Consortium of State Hazardous Waste Siting Authorities. The Consortium, which currently includes seventeen States as well as three Canadian Provinces, was formed to promote communication about siting activities throughout North America.

The Consortium provides a forum which allows the Commission to monitor changes in the marketplace and in regulations which may affect the New Jersey's hazardous waste management plans. Arrangements are now underway to hold a national conference on hazardous waste facility siting to be jointly sponsored by the Consortium and the States of New York and New Jersey.



## Hazardous Waste Advisory Council

Under the leadership of Dr. John Liskowitz, the Hazardous Waste Advisory Council advises both the DEP and the Commission on hazardous waste issues. In 1985, the Council's major responsibility was to review the **Analysis of New Jersey's Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Program**, prepared under contract by ICF, Incorporated of Washington, D.C. This document, issued as a draft for public comment in April and adopted in final form in December, reviewed New Jersey's hazardous waste site cleanup program, identified program issues, and developed recommendations to improve the program. The report focused on four issues:

- the ranking system used by the EPA to rank sites and determine which will receive priority;
- present limitations in contracting authority within DEP;
- short-term and long-term funding sources for site remediation;
- the role of local government in protecting public health and in actual site cleanup.

For each of these issues, the report developed an overview of the problem, discussed alternative solutions, and gave recommendations to alleviate the problem. These recommendations include:

- development of a separate site ranking system for New Jersey;
- preparation of a petition to the EPA giving recommendations for changes to the EPA site ranking system;
- delegation of specific contracting authorities to the DEP;

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- creation of a financing package to include an expanded transfer tax on hazardous substances, a broad-based business tax on firms benefitting from hazardous substances but not now contributing to the Spill Fund, general revenue appropriations, and expanded general obligation bonding authority;
  - development of guidelines that set forth the responsibilities of local governments at each stage of the site remediation process.

In addition to this work, the Council has also reviewed proposed siting criteria for “non-major” hazardous waste facilities (having storage capacities below 250,000 gallons), and has advised the Commission on the site search process.



## Source Reduction/Recycling Task Force

The Commission, in its Plan, established a waste management hierarchy that prefers waste reduction, recycling and reuse to other forms of waste management. The Source Reduction/Recycling Task Force is helping to implement that hierarchy by working on policies to encourage hazardous waste source reduction and recycling in order to reduce the volume of waste treated off-site.

In July, 1985, the Task Force held its second annual Roundtable, which examined the success of Technical Assistance Programs in other States. Representatives from industry, government, academia, and public interest groups explored the applicability of an assistance program for New Jersey.

The Task Force also developed a proposal to study the current hazardous waste management practices of four major industrial groups in New Jersey:

- industrial inorganic chemical manufacturers;
- plastic materials manufacturers;
- electroplaters;
- electronic components and accessories manufacturers.

The objectives of the project are to assess the potential for hazardous waste source reduction, refine the state's list of

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hazardous waste generators in these industries, understand current efforts to reduce and recycle hazardous wastes, and propose policy and regulatory changes to encourage source reduction in these industries.

The Task Force has also been involved in DEP revisions of current regulations to encourage the exchange of wastes between industries, so that waste from one manufacturer may be used as a resource by another industry. In addition, the Task Force endorsed DEP's land disposal restriction regulations.



## Public Participation

Public concern about hazardous waste in New Jersey continues to grow. The Siting Act creating the Commission built public participation into the siting process. Public input helped develop the siting criteria, the **Plan**, and the implementation of the criteria during the site search.

The Commission initiated its newsletter, **Siting Update**, in February, 1985. The purpose of the publication is to present updates on all aspects of the Commission's work. To gain a greater understanding of readership needs, the Commission conducted a reader's survey in December, 1985. The results of this survey are now being analyzed.

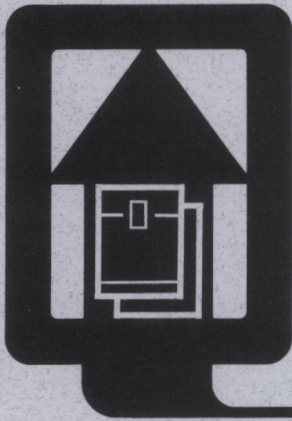
The Commission has also held regular informational meetings in the areas where potential sites have been recommended. These meetings have provided valuable public input into the siting process, and will help the Commission make the difficult decisions to propose sites.

The public will continue to be involved during the final choice of sites. Specifically, the Commission will provide grants to the municipalities where sites are proposed, to allow them to independently study the site's suitability. The conclusions of this study and comments from other

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interested parties will be heard before an administrative law judge, who will make a recommendation on site adoption to the Commission. At the time the Commission decides on site adoption, two local representatives are added to the Commission as voting members.

The Commission is convinced that an impartial decision on siting hazardous waste facilities can take place only when open discussion is held on the merits of each site, and when political influence on the final choices is avoided. While it is difficult to maintain a process that is both open and focuses on technical and environmental suitability rather than political feasibility, this balance is essential in order to achieve the most equitable and environmentally suitable siting result.



## Recent Commission Publications

The following publications are available from the Commission at no cost:

**Analysis of New Jersey's Hazardous Discharge Site Cleanup Program.**

**Basis and Background Document for New Jersey Major Commercial Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Criteria.**

**Methodology for New Jersey Hazardous Waste Facility Site Search.**

**An Analysis of the New Jersey Manifest Information 1981-1982.**

**New Jersey Hazardous Waste Facilities Plan: Executive Summary.**

**Siting Update** (Commission newsletter).

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## **Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Commission**

Pat Dodd (Chairman)  
Ann Auerbach  
Roy T. Gottesman  
Thomas Leane

Gordon Millsbaugh  
George Polzer  
Max Weiss

## **Hazardous Waste Advisory Council**

John Liskowitz (Chairman)  
William Bobsein  
James Butler  
Patricia Dagnall  
Robert C. Gregory

Thomas Hellman  
Cynthia Jacobson  
Harry Moscatello  
Millard Wilkinson  
H. George Buckwald

## **Hazardous Waste Source Reduction And Recycling Task Force**

Robert C. Ahlert  
Ken Brown  
James Hulm  
Vito Luciano

William Payne  
David J. Sarokin  
Diane Walker  
Paul Wyszowski

## **Staff**

Richard J. Gimello ..... Executive Director  
Susan B. Boyle ..... Assistant Director  
William G. Guthe ..... Technical Assistant  
Marianne Verde ..... Administrative Assistant  
Maryann Farfalla ..... Secretary

Graphic Design by Paul Kraml of the Resources Interpretive Service (R.I.S.)

# WASTE NEEDS SPACE

**Almost every week, somewhere in New Jersey, hazardous waste is discovered improperly stored in some abandoned building, or illegally dumped in some open field.**

And immediately the cries are heard: "Get it out!" "Clean it up!" "Do it today!"

Answering those cries will require the construction of new, clean facilities to properly treat, suitably recycle, or safely store those hazardous wastes.



**HAZARDOUS  
WASTE  
FACILITIES  
SITING  
COMMISSION**

Without such facilities we'll only be moving our hazardous wastes from one community to another, in a very dangerous kind of shell game.

And the longer we keep playing that game in New Jersey, the more every New Jerseyan stands to lose.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE.  
Think about it,  
or it won't ever go away.**

For further information contact: Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Commission, CN 406, Trenton, NJ 08625



New Jersey Hazardous Waste  
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