

Appendix E

City of Bristol Letters of Support

April 14, 2020 Letter

October 13, 2020 Letter

Letter of Support Dated April 14, 2020



ELLEN ZOPPO-SASSU
MAYOR

City of Bristol
RESPICE, ADSPICE, PROSPICE
Look to the Past, Look to the Present, Look to the Future

April 14, 2020

Mr. Robert Isner
Director, Waste Engineering & Enforcement
Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm St.
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

SUBJECT: Covanta Bristol Solid Waste Disposal Authorization

Dear Mr. Isner:

This letter is sent to encourage DEEP to favorably consider the application by Covanta to receive and process regulated medical waste (RMW) at the Covanta Bristol resource recovery facility. I note here that the City of Bristol has partnered with Covanta for thirty-five years in a successful relationship to responsibly manage waste.

It is our understanding that Covanta has demonstrated to DEEP the limited capacity available to handle these materials, as well as the distance to the facilities permitted in other states. Further, Covanta has experience handling special waste, including RMW. We believe it is vital to public health to have appropriate, local disposal of biomedical waste which could be provided by the Bristol facility, exclusive of human tissue or anatomical organs.

We recognize that Covanta has invested considerable resources into developing their proposal, including a public presentation at the City of Bristol Council Chambers. Thus far, we are not aware of any opposition to the proposal, and Covanta has demonstrated its presence as a community leader and good neighbor. With proper oversight and reporting, we see no reason to reject the RMW component of the company's Solid Waste Disposal Authorization.

Finally, we note the Commissioner's 20 by 20 goals No. 1 – permitting timeframes and No. 18 – opportunities for innovate partnerships, provide guidance for DEEP to expeditiously conduct its review.

Sincerely,

Ellen Zoppo-Sassu
Mayor, City of Bristol

cc: James Belden
Mark Bobman

Letter of Support Dated October 14, 2020



ELLEN ZOPPO-SASSU
MAYOR

City of Bristol

RESPICE, ADSPICE, PROSPICE

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October 14, 2020

Mr. Robert Isner
Director, Waste Engineering & Enforcement
Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm St.
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Dear Mr. Isner,

This letter is sent to recognize the tremendous work that Covanta Bristol, Inc. (Covanta) has done as a service provider for the City of Bristol. Covanta has consistently maintained itself as a good neighbor in the 35 years that the City and Covanta have managed the city's waste. It is our intent that this working relationship will continue in the years to come.

The City of Bristol and the 13 other communities which comprise the Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee strongly support Covanta's plans to process biomedical waste at the Bristol Resource Recovery Facility (RRF). Throughout all project development and permitting processes, Covanta continues to keep my office and my Public Works Solid Waste team informed and equipped with the critical information that we need to perform our responsibilities and respond to community concerns. Through its Public Participation Plan, which was developed and implemented in 2018-2019, Covanta allowed our community to meaningfully participate in the discussions related to any and all operational changes, and to address any topics surrounding environmental and health related concerns.

The City of Bristol and Covanta have a long-standing agreement which has afforded us financial resources to use to benefit the environment. For example, this host community benefit agreement has allowed the city to:

- Use funds to create our award-winning Outdoor Classroom and Garden programs at our local schools which was recently featured on CPTV;
- Invest in the health and wellbeing of our city through sponsored drug takeback programs in conjunction with the Police Department;
- Launched a diversion program called "Trash to Treasure" to keep large items out of the waste stream. Items in good condition are put aside at the Transfer Station instead of sent for incineration. The items are then brought to the Saturday Farmers Market and given away free to residents.

In November 2018, the agreement was amended to address Covanta's proposed processing of regulated biomedical waste at the Bristol RRF.

In addition to our scope of work at the city level, Covanta has consistently gone above and beyond their expected level of service by participating and supporting the community through:

- Sponsor lower income and minority families through their partnership and continued support of the Bristol Boys and Girls Club
- Support members of our community that were impacted by the pandemic through Covanta's recent donation to the city for COVID relief
- Creating and funding scholarships to promote STEM programs in our schools

As the chief elected official of the City of Bristol, I wish to reiterate our City's support for Covanta and their proposed plan to process regulated biomedical waste at the Bristol RRF as communicated previously to you in my April 14, 2020 letter (Attached). Opposition from the community to Covanta's proposal has not been communicated to us in the 6 months since I sent you that letter. As our local government continues to monitor potential community concerns, we encourage DEEP to favorably consider Covanta's pending permit application and expeditiously conduct its review.

Sincerely,



Mayor Zoppo-Sassu

cc: Ben Gassaway
Mark VanWeelden
Mark Bobman