

P O P E MINNESOTA
C O U N T Y

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POPE COUNTY RESOLUTION 202012
ADOPTION of JOINT SOLID WASTE DESIGNATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the Pope/Douglas Joint Solid Waste Management Board ("Joint Board") was established pursuant to a Joint Powers Agreement for Solid Waste Management between the counties of Douglas and Pope ("Member Counties") dated December 7, 1983, which was amended by a Joint Powers Agreement dated April 9, 1997, and a Second Amended Joint Powers Agreement dated August 22, 2003, and a Third Amended Joint Powers Agreement dated April 2, 2019, (collectively, the "Agreement");

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Agreement, the Counties are authorized to jointly conduct solid waste planning and management activities pursuant to Minn. Stat. Chap. 400, and have established an integrated solid waste system ("System") to be managed and operated by the Joint Board;

WHEREAS, the Joint Board plans for and operates the System to protect the public health, welfare, and safety of the citizens in the Member Counties as well as to protect the environment in a manner consistent with the goals of the Minnesota Waste Management Act (Minn. Stat. Chap. 115A);

WHEREAS, the Joint Board plans to upgrade its programs and facilities in the near future and has obtained the support of each of the Member Counties for this expansion;

WHEREAS, the Joint Board should be managing all Acceptable Waste generated in the Member Counties now and in the future and at least 3,000 to 6,000 tons per year of Acceptable Waste currently generated in the Member Counties is not delivered to the Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management System;

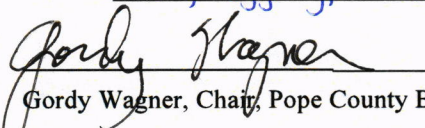
WHEREAS, the Joint Board and Member Counties plan to implement a waste designation program pursuant to Minn. Stat. Sections 115A.80 to .893 for all Acceptable Waste generated in the Member Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Board approved a Draft Joint Waste Designation Plan ("Plan") on March 19, 2020, and recommended that each Member County approve the Draft Plan for submission to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency ("MPCA") for review and approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Pope County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Draft Joint Waste Designation Plan, allowing for minor modifications to the Plan as needed to obtain approval by the MPCA.

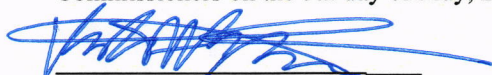
ADOPTED at Glenwood, Pope County, Minnesota this 5th day of May, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Gerde, Haggerty, Lindor, Rogahn, Wagner NAYS: _____


Gordy Wagner, Chair, Pope County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

I hereby attest that the foregoing Resolution was duly executed by the Chair of the Pope County Board of Commissioners on the 5th day of May, 2020.



Kersten Kappmeyer
Pope County Coordinator

Seal



August 20, 2020

Mr. Paul Gerde, Chairman
Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management
2115 Jefferson Street
Alexandria, MN 56308

RE: Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management Designation Plan

Dear Chairman Gerde:

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has approved the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order for approval of the Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management's (PDSWM) Designation Plan. The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order document finds and concludes that PDSWM and the plan satisfied the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 115A.84. Approval of the plan is the first step in the process for PDSWM to direct waste to the waste to energy facility in Alexandria, MN.

I want to express my appreciation to PDSWM significant ongoing efforts to implement cost effective and sustainable waste management measures. Please feel free to call on me, or David Crowell of my staff, to assist you as you move forward.

Sincerely,

Heidi Kroening

This document has been electronically signed.

Heidi Kroening, Supervisor
Solid Waste Management Unit
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

HK/DC:pp

cc: Steve Vrchota, Executive Director - PDSWM
Nathen Reinbold, Environmental Coordinator - PDSWM

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY**

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF THE
POPE/DOUGLAS JOINT WASTE DESIGNATION PLAN**

**FINDINGS OF FACT,
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW,
AND ORDER**

Pope County and Douglas County, through the Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management joint powers board, submitted a Joint Waste Designation Plan on May 27, 2020, to the Commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for review and approval or disapproval pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 3. Having reviewed the designation plan, the MPCA makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Authority and Background

1. Minn. Stat. § 115A.80-.893 authorize counties and qualifying solid waste management districts to designate a solid waste processing or disposal facility as the place where all or a portion of the solid waste generated within its boundaries is required to be delivered.
2. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 3, requires a county, before commencing the designation process, to submit a designation plan to the MPCA for review and approval. A county's designation plan must be consistent with its solid waste management plan or master plan and with statewide and regional solid waste management goals.
3. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 3(a) requires that as part of the designation process a county or district must submit a designation plan to the MPCA Commissioner for review and approval or disapproval. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 3(b) provides that the Commissioner shall approve the designation plan if the plan satisfies the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2. The Commissioner has 120 days after submission of the plan to make a decision 115A.84, subd. 3(b).
4. In the early 1980's Pope and Douglas Counties formed the Pope/Douglas Joint Solid Waste Management Board (Pope/Douglas) pursuant to a joint powers agreement under state law Minn. Stat. §471.59 subd. 11 and Minn. Stat. §400.04 to jointly manage waste generated in the two counties. The joint powers agreement that created Pope/Douglas specifically authorized the joint entity to plan and manage waste for both counties as one unit.
5. The MPCA approved the Pope/Douglas County Solid Waste Management Plan on March 15, 2013 (Solid Waste Plan). The Solid Waste Plan stated that Pope/Douglas would consider designation during the plan period.

6. Pope/Douglas submitted the Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management Joint Waste Designation Plan, dated May 5, 2020 (Designation Plan), to the MPCA on May 27, 2020 for review and decision.
7. The Designation Plan proposed to designate solid waste generated within the boundaries of Pope County and Douglas County to their jointly owned waste-to-energy facility located in Alexandria, MN (Pope/Douglas Facility).
8. The Designation Plan defines the designation service area as all of Pope and Douglas Counties. Acceptable waste is defined in the Designation Plan and generally includes waste that can be processed at the Pope/Douglas Facility or those wastes included in the unacceptable list to be updated as needed.

Consistency with the County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and Statewide Goals and Policies

9. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 1 provides that a county's designation plan must be consistent with the county's comprehensive solid waste management plan and with local, regional and state waste management goals. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2(b)(6) says that the designation plan must evaluate whether the designation takes into account and promotes local, regional, and state waste management goals.
10. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2(a)(1) requires that the designation plan evaluate the benefits of designation, including the furtherance of local and any district or regional waste management plans and policies, and the state policies in Minn. Stat. § 115A.02.
11. State waste management goals, policies, and purposes are contained Minn. Stat. § 115A.02 and Minn. Stat. § 115A.551.
12. Minn. Stat. § 115A.02 states that the goals of Minn. Stat. § 115A are to protect the state's land, air, water, and other natural resources and public health by reducing the amount and toxicity of waste generated, recovering materials and energy from waste, reducing land disposal, coordinating waste management among political subdivisions, providing for the development and financial surety of waste facilities, and fostering an integrated waste management system.
13. Minn. Stat. § 115A.02(b) provides that the waste management practices in order of preference are: (1) waste reduction and reuse; (2) waste recycling; (3) composting of source-separated compostable materials, including but not limited to, yard waste and food waste; (4) resource recovery through mixed municipal waste composting or incineration; (5) land disposal which produces no measurable methane gas or which involves the retrieval of methane gas as a fuel for the production of energy to be used on site or for sale; and (6) land disposal which produces measurable methane and which does not involve the retrieval of methane gas as a fuel for the production of energy to be used on site or for sale.
14. Minn. Stat. § 115A.551, subd. 2a sets the recycling goal for a county in the non-metro counties at 35 percent by weight of total solid waste generation.

15. The Designation Plan is consistent with the Solid Waste Plan and local, regional, and state waste management goals, and evaluates whether designation takes into account and promotes the goals. The County's Solid Waste Plan includes a draft designation ordinance as an option to direct waste to the Pope/Douglas Facility. The Pope/Douglas Facility would manage wastes in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 115A.02 by utilizing materials recovery and energy recovery which is higher on the state's waste hierarchy.
16. The Designation Plan evaluates the benefits of designation, including furtherance of local and regional waste management plans and policies, and the state policies in Minn. Stat. §115A.02. Pope/Douglas is implementing policies that are consistent with and support the goals in Minn. Stat. § 115A.02 including: reducing land disposal of solid waste, recovering materials and energy from solid waste, supporting orderly and deliberate development of waste facilities including landfills for residuals and ash, providing an optimal waste supply, providing for the development and financial surety of waste facilities, fostering an integrated waste management system, and coordinating waste management among political subdivisions.
17. Pope/Douglas' solid waste plan proposes working toward establishing an integrated solid waste system consistent with Minnesota's waste hierarchy. The recycling rate achieved by Pope/Douglas in 2019 was 40.4%.
18. The solid waste management system, as described in the Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Plan, protects the state's land, air, water and other natural resources and public health by improving waste management. The proposed designation is consistent with the Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Plan as required by Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 1, the legislative declaration of purpose and goals and the hierarchy of waste management practices as described in Minn. Stat. § 115A.02, and the county recycling goal as required by Minn. Stat. § 115A.551.

Conservation and Recovery of Resources or Energy from Materials

19. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2 (a)(1) and (b)(2) require that the designation plan evaluate the benefits of designation, including the public purposes achieved by the conservation and recovery of resources, and whether the designation will result in the recovery of resources or energy from materials that would otherwise be wasted.
20. The Designation Plan proposes designating waste to the Pope/Douglas Facility, which is a waste-to-energy (WTE) facility that recovers recyclable materials from the waste prior to conversion of the waste to energy. The Pope/Douglas Facility will seek to develop waste delivery agreements with haulers.
21. The designation to the Pope/Douglas Facility supports and enables the Counties to participate in an integrated solid waste management system that results in the recovery of resources and production of energy from waste that would otherwise be lost. The Designation Plan adequately evaluated the benefits described in Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2.

Estimated Cost of the Designation

22. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2 (a)(2) requires that the designation plan evaluate the estimated costs of the designation, including the direct capital, operating and maintenance costs of the facility designated, the indirect costs, and the long-term effects of the designation.
23. The Designation Plan outlines the direct capital costs and the operating and maintenance costs are those associated with the capital investment and financing of the operations of the Pope/Douglas Facility. The indirect costs include enforcement, route rearrangement, and other long term impacts.
24. The Designation Plan states that annual tip fee is expected to range from \$80 to \$115. Sale of recyclables and steam generated at the facility will provide the remainder of the facility operating income which will be as much as \$2 million in year 2035.
25. The Designation Plan describes route rearrangement is an indirect cost of designation. Transportation of MMSW from waste generators to a processing or disposal facility is a regular and routine cost for waste management. The Designation Plan states that route disruption should be minimal as the facility is currently the primary delivery option within the two counties.
26. The Designation Plan outlines the enforcement of designation as an indirect cost of implementing designation. The costs related to enforcing county ordinances are variable. The Counties plan to adopt the same designation ordinances to reduce the potential for confusion among haulers and generators and make inadvertent violations less likely.
27. The Designation Plan includes the information to be evaluated concerning the cost of the designation in accordance with the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2.

Lessen the Demand for and Use of Land Disposal

28. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2 (b)(2) requires that the designation plan evaluate whether the designation will lessen the demand for and use of indiscriminate land disposal.
29. The Designation Plan evaluates whether the proposed designation will reduce the need for land disposal. Pope/Douglas estimates that the designation will divert approximately 3,000 to 6,000 additional tons per year of Mixed Municipal Solid Waste (MMSW) from going to out of county landfills.
30. The Designation Plan states that the environmental benefits of waste to energy are the primary drivers of the designation plan.
31. The Designation Plan outlines that the designation will cause MMSW currently being disposed in landfills to be redirected to resource recovery and thereby will lessen the demand for and use of

indiscriminate land disposal, as required in Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2.

Financial Support of the Facility

32. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2 (b)(3) requires that the designation plan evaluate whether the designation is necessary for the financial support of the facility.
33. The Designation Plan describes the loss of revenue would be detrimental to cover the bonds used to provide improvements to the Pope/Douglas Facility. It goes on to say that other assurance methods rely on multiple factors that are outside of the authority of Pope/Douglas.
34. The Designation Plan evaluated whether the designation was necessary for the financial support of the facility in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2.

Less Restrictive Methods

35. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2 (b)(4) requires that the designation plan evaluate whether less restrictive methods are available for ensuring that an adequate solid waste supply is available.
36. The Designation Plan described the following alternatives to designation: 1) relying on negotiated contracts, 2) publicly owned collection services, 3) enforcement of public entities statutes, and 4) closure of landfills.
37. The Designation Plan stated the following regarding negotiated contracts: Negotiating contracts without designation is inefficient in several respects: 1) it only reaches those haulers willing or available to enter into the contracts and only applies so long as the contract is in effect, 2) it is subject to the efficiency and effectiveness of the negotiation process and may be costly if it requires substantial incentives to persuade parties to enter into the contract, and 3) the contracting process does not reach self-haulers whereas designation will. While the Member Counties will negotiate contracts with the licensed haulers, having designation ordinances in place will serve as a crucial safety net because designation will still apply to those without waste supply agreements.
38. The Designation Plan explored publicly owned collection services: There are no publicly owned collection systems in the Member Counties. Pope/Douglas could invest in the equipment necessary to operate a publicly owned collection service, but that would be expensive and administratively burdensome. Overall, the region as a whole depends on private collection and it would be disruptive, expensive, and potentially inefficient to redo the existing system with public collection.
39. The Designation Plan explored enforcement of laws governing the management of public entity waste: The public entities in both member counties all are required to have their waste delivered

to the Pope/Douglas Facility. No publicly owned collection nor organized systems are within the counties. Although the public entities do assist in the delivery of acceptable waste to the facility, they do not address the comprehensive approach provided by the waste designation process.

40. The Designation Plan explored closure of landfills: The Member Counties do not own nor operate a landfill and there are no existing landfills in the counties that accept MMSW. The counties do not have the ability to close or order the closure of landfills in other jurisdictions.
41. The Designation Plan concluded that designation is the most comprehensive, fair and economically efficient means of ensuring delivery to the Pope/Douglas Facility. The Designation Plan adequately evaluated less restrictive methods in accordance with the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2.

Feasible and Prudent Waste Management Alternatives

42. Minn. Stat. §115A.84, subd. 2 (b)(5) requires that the designation plan evaluate other feasible and prudent waste management alternatives for accomplishing the purposes of the proposed designation, the direct and indirect costs of the alternatives, including capital and operating costs, and the effects of the alternatives on the cost to generators.
43. The Designation Plan evaluated the above described alternatives to the proposed designation: (1) relying on negotiated contracts, 2) publicly owned collection services, 3) enforcement of public entities statutes, and 4) closure of landfills). The Designation Plan finds that designation is the most comprehensive, fair and economically efficient means of ensuring delivery of Acceptable Waste generated in the Member Counties to the Pope/Douglas Facility.
44. The Designation Plan adequately evaluated feasible and prudent waste management alternatives for purposes of accomplishing the designation, and fulfills the requirements of Minn. Stat. §115A.84, subd. 2.

Designation to Disposal Facilities

45. Minn. Stat. §115A.84, subd. 2 (c) requires evaluation of additional elements when a designation plan proposes designation to disposal facilities.
46. The Designation Plan does not propose designation to a disposal facility.

Exclusion of Certain Materials and Materials Separated at Certain Facilities

47. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 4 allows for resource recovery facilities to request an exclusion materials from the designation.

48. No request for an exclusion of materials under Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 4 has been made.

49. Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 5 allows for materials to be excluded if they will be separated for recycling at a transfer station located outside of the designation area.

50. No request for an exclusion of materials under Minn. Stat. §115.A.84, subd. 5 has been made.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The MPCA has the authority under Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 3 to review and approve the Pope/Douglas Waste Designation Plan.
2. The Designation Plan satisfies the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 2.
3. Any findings that might properly be termed conclusions and any conclusions that might properly be termed findings are hereby adopted as such.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 3, the Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management Joint Waste Designation Plan, dated May 5, 2020 (received May, 27, 2020) is approved.

_____*Heidi Kroening*_____

Heidi Kroening, Supervisor
Solid Waste Management Unit
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

_____*8/20/20*_____

Date

POPE COUNTY
SOLID WASTE DESIGNATION ORDINANCE
(Effective on _____, 2022)

DRAFT

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POPE COUNTY

SOLID WASTE DESIGNATION ORDINANCE

(Effective on _____, 2022)

Section 1. PURPOSE

An ordinance regulating the transportation and delivery of Solid Waste generated within Pope County, Minnesota; defining the geographic area and the types and quantities of Solid Waste subject to designation; specifying the points of delivery of the Designated Waste; requiring that Designated Waste be delivered to a Designated Facility; excepting from the ordinance certain waste materials; and stating additional regulations governing Haulers; and other matters.

The County Board of Pope County (“County”), Minnesota does ordain:

Section 2. FINDINGS

The County Board hereby finds, determines and declares as follows:

Subsection 2.1.

Pursuant to a Joint Powers Agreement originally executed in 1983 and as amended in 1997 and 2003 (the “**Joint Powers Agreement**”), Pope and Douglas Counties (the “**Counties**”) established the Pope/Douglas Joint Solid Waste Management Board (“**Joint Board**”) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §471.59 to provide for the joint ownership, management and operation of the Pope/Douglas Resource Recovery Facility (“**Designated Facility**”) and to provide for the cooperation on other Solid Waste management activities among the two counties.

Subsection 2.2.

The County has approved and adopted the Joint Board’s Joint Designation Plan, consistent with Minnesota Statutes §§115A.80 to 115A.893. The Joint Designation Plan was approved by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on August 20, 2020, as required by Minnesota Statutes §115A.84.

Subsection 2.3.

The Joint Designation Plan contemplates the adoption of this Designation Ordinance in Pope County and a similar designation ordinance in Douglas County to ensure that all Designated Waste is delivered to the Designated Facility.

Subsection 2.4.

In accordance with Minn. Stat. §115A.85, subd. 2, the County conducted a public hearing on designation in the County on November 17, 2020, after providing the notice required by Minn. Stat. §115A.85, subd. 2.

Subsection 2.5.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §115A.85, subd. 3, during the 90-day minimum period following the hearing in Subsection 2.4, the Joint Board negotiated with persons entitled to written notice under Minn. Stat. §115A.85, subd. 2, for the purpose of developing contractual agreements between the Joint Board, Haulers, and Self-Haulers for the use of the Designated Facility.

Subsection 2.6.

This Designation Ordinance is necessary to assure the delivery of Acceptable Waste to the Designated Facility to ensure proper management of Solid Waste in the County and the financial success of the Designated Facility. This Designation Ordinance will further the purposes and policies set forth in Minnesota Statutes, Sections 400.01 and 115A.02, specifically, the reduction of Solid Waste generated, separation and recovery of energy and materials from Solid Waste, reduction in indiscriminate dependence on land disposal of Solid Waste, coordination of Solid Waste management among political subdivisions, and the orderly and deliberate development and financial security of Solid Waste facilities.

Section 3. TITLE AND PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS

The Title of this Ordinance is the Pope County Solid Waste Designation Ordinance.

The purpose of this Ordinance is to assure that Designated Waste is managed in an environmentally sound manner in order to protect the public health and welfare, environment and investments in the integrated Solid Waste management system of the Counties made pursuant to State mandates governing Solid Waste management.

The capitalized terms defined in Sections 1 and 2 shall have the same meanings throughout this Designation Ordinance. In addition, the following words and phrases when used in this Designation Ordinance, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this Section.

“**Acceptable Waste**” means garbage, refuse and other Solid Waste from residential, commercial, industrial, and community activities in the Designated Area that the Generator of the waste aggregates for collection and that meets the acceptance requirements of the Designated Facility, but specifically excludes Unacceptable Waste.

“**Agency**” means the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, its Commissioner, or representatives.

“**Agreements**” means the Waste Delivery Agreements between the Joint Board and the Haulers requiring the delivery of Acceptable Waste to the Designated Facility.

“Construction and Demolition Debris” means Solid Waste resulting from construction, remodeling, repair, erection and demolition of buildings, roads and other artificial structures, including: concrete, brick, rubble, bituminous concrete, untreated wood, masonry, glass, trees, rock, plastic building parts, plumbing fixtures, roofing materials, wallboard, and built-in cabinetry. Construction and Demolition Debris does not include: asbestos waste. Mixture of Construction and Demolition Debris with other Solid Waste is not Construction and Demolition Debris.

“Designated Area” means the geographical boundaries of the County.

“Designated Facility” means the Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management Facility located at 2115 Jefferson Street, Alexandria, Minnesota 56308.

“Designated Waste” means Acceptable Waste that is generated in the Designated Area and which is not exempted in Section 7.

“Designation” means the process authorized by Minn. Stat. §§ 115A.80 to 115A.893.

“Designation Ordinance” means this Ordinance.

“Effective Date” means the date that this Designation Ordinance shall be in full force and effect which shall not be less than sixty (60) days after adoption of this Designation Ordinance by the County.

“Generator” means any Person who produces Solid Waste in the Designated Area.

“Haulers” means any person that provides collection or transportation services for Solid Waste or source separated materials but does not include self-hauler.

“Hazardous Waste” means any refuse, sludge, or other waste material or combinations or refuse, sludge, or other waste materials in solid, semi-solid, liquid, or contained gaseous form which because of its quantity, concentration, or chemical, physical, or infectious characteristics may: (a) cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible illness; or (b) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored transported, or disposed of, or otherwise managed. Categories of hazardous waste materials include, but are not limited to: explosives, flammable, oxidizers, poisons, irritants, and corrosives.

“Holidays” are New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

“Joint Designation Plan” means the Joint Board’s Joint Designation Plan as approved by the Agency on August 20, 2020.

“Member County” means Pope or Douglas County.

“Person” means any human being, any municipality or other governmental or political subdivision or other public agency, any public or private corporation, any partnership, firm, association, or

other organization, any receiver, trustee, assignee, agent, or other legal representative of any of the foregoing, or any other legal entity.

“**Recyclable Material**” means materials that are separated from Solid Waste for the purpose of recycling or composting, including paper, glass, plastics, metals, automobile oil, batteries, source-separated compostable materials, and sole source food waste streams that are managed through biodegradative processes. Refuse-derived fuel or other material that is destroyed by incineration is not a Recyclable Material.

“**Resource Recovery**” is defined in Minn. Stat. Section 115A.03, subd. 27 as the reclamation for sale, use, or reuse of materials, substances, energy, or other products contained within or derived from waste.

“**Resource Recovery Facility**” is defined in Minn. Stat. Section 115A.03, subd. 28 as a “waste facility established and used primarily for resource recovery, including related and appurtenant facilities, such as transmission facilities and Transfer Stations primarily serving the resource recovery facility”.

“**Self-Hauler**” means a generator who does not contract with a commercial hauler, but instead collects and transports its own Solid Waste. A self-hauler shall not provide collection and transportation services to someone else for compensation.

“**Solid Waste**” means garbage, refuse, Construction and Demolition Debris, sludge from a water supply treatment plant or air contaminant treatment facility and other discarded waste materials and sludge, in solid, semi-solid, liquid, or contained gaseous form, resulting from industrial, commercial, mining and agricultural operations, and from community activities. It does not include Hazardous Waste, animal waste used as fertilizer, earthen fill, boulders, rock, sewage sludge, solids or dissolved material in domestic sewage or dissolved materials in irrigation return flows or other common pollutants in waste resources, such as silt. It does not include dissolved or suspended solids in industrial waste water effluents or discharges which are point sources subject to permits under Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended. It also does not include source, special nuclear, or by-product materials as defined by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

“**Tipping Fee**” means the fee at a waste facility for waste delivered to that facility based upon the weight, volume, character, or type of waste.

“**Unacceptable Waste**” means those Solid Wastes that cannot be accepted for processing or disposal by the Designated Facility, as determined by the Designated Facility, and as modified by the Designated Facility.

“**Waste**” means any type of waste material.

Section 4. APPLICATION OF ORDINANCE

This Designation Ordinance shall govern all Persons who generate, transport or dispose of Designated Waste or contract for transportation or disposal of Designated Waste generated within the Designated Area.

Section 5. DESIGNATION

Except as otherwise provided herein, on and after the Effective Date, all Designated Waste generated within the Designated Area must be delivered to the Designated Facility, as detailed below, and may not be delivered to any other site or facility for final disposal. This requirement is binding on all Persons.

Designated Facility: Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management Facility
2115 Jefferson Street
Alexandria, MN 56308

Section 6. UNACCEPTABLE WASTE

The Designated Facility has the right to reject Unacceptable Waste delivered to the Designated Facility. If at any time the Designated Facility decides that certain substances previously classified as Acceptable Waste are harmful to the operation of the Designated Facility, or to public health and safety, the Designated Facility as applicable may reclassify such substances as Unacceptable Waste, and shall notify all Persons subject to Designation.

Section 7. MATERIALS NOT SUBJECT TO DESIGNATION

Designation does not apply to:

1. Materials that are separated from Solid Waste and recovered for reuse in their original form or for use in manufacturing processes. For the purposes of this section, “manufacturing processes” does not include the treatment of waste after collection for the purpose of composting.
2. Materials that are processed at a Resource Recovery Facility, other than the Designated Facility, at the capacity in operation at the time the Joint Designation Plan was approved by the Agency.
3. Materials that are separated at a permitted transfer station located within the boundaries of the County for the purpose of recycling the materials if:
 - a) The transfer station was in operation on January 1, 1991; or
 - b) The materials were not being separated for recycling at the Designated Facility at the time the transfer station began separation of the materials.
4. Recyclable Materials that are:
 - a) Generated in the County that are being recycled, and residuals from the recycling if there is at least an 85 percent volume reduction in the Solid Waste processed at the recycling facility and the residuals are managed as separate waste streams; or

- b) Separated for recycling at a transfer station located outside the Designated Area, that meet the volume reduction and residual management criteria in Section 7(4)(a) above, and that have been excluded from Designation pursuant to the process set forth in Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 5.
5. Acceptable Waste that is delivered to the Designated Facility pursuant to a Waste Delivery Agreement with the Joint Board for the term of the Agreement, and any mutually agreed upon renewals of any such Agreement.
6. Unacceptable Waste.
7. Any waste materials excluded pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 115A.84, subd. 4, or the petition process provided in Minn. Stat. § 115A.893.

Section 8. SUSPENSION OF DESIGNATION REQUIREMENT

The County, by resolution of the County Board, may suspend the Designation requirement at any time. Reasons the County may suspend the Designation requirement include, but are not limited to, the following: natural disaster, or damage to or closure of part or all of the Designated Facility. If the County suspends the Designation requirement, no Person may deliver any waste to the Designated Facility unless in accordance with the resolution of the County Board or until such time as the County reinstates the Designation requirement. This provision does not relieve any Person of any obligation to comply with all other applicable federal, state or local laws or ordinances. The County will provide reasonable notice of any suspension and subsequent reinstatement of the Designation requirement to Haulers and other Persons in the County.

Section 9. RATES AND CHARGES

Persons delivering waste to the Designated Facility shall pay the Joint Board a tipping fee for each ton of waste delivered. The tipping fee shall be posted by the Joint Board at the Designated Facility, on the Joint Board's web page, and may be amended from time to time pursuant to the procedures of the Joint Board.

Section 10. TITLE TO DESIGNATED WASTE

Generators, Haulers, and Self-Haulers retain all of their respective rights, title (ownership) and responsibilities with respect to all Designated Waste until the Designated Waste is delivered to the Designated Facility pursuant to this Ordinance, and is deemed by the Designated Facility to be Acceptable Waste. Once deemed as Acceptable Waste, the Joint Board shall obtain all rights, title (ownership) and responsibilities with respect to the Designated Waste. The Joint Board shall not obtain all rights, title (ownership) and responsibilities with respect to Designated Waste where the Designated Facility rejects delivered Waste as Unacceptable Waste. All Persons delivering Designated Waste will defend, indemnify and hold the County and the Joint Board harmless from any and all claims of ownership brought against the County and the Joint Board with respect to said Designated Waste which may affect the clear title of the Joint Board to said Designated Waste at the time of its acceptance by the Designated Facility.

Except as otherwise agreed in writing with the County, nothing in this Section shall be construed as the County agreeing to indemnify or hold harmless Generators, Haulers and Self-Haulers from any claims relating to the actions governed by this Designation Ordinance brought by any party under federal or state law, including but not limited to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act; Hazardous Materials Transportation Act; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; and Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Act, each as amended.

Section 11. DELIVERY OF DESIGNATED WASTE

All deliveries to the Designated Facility shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the County's Solid Waste Ordinances and in compliance with delivery instructions and procedures set forth by the Designated Facility.

Subsection 11.1. Delivery of Unacceptable Waste. Each Person shall use its best efforts to deliver only Acceptable Waste to the Designated Facility and will comply with the terms and conditions of County Ordinances and policies and procedures pertaining to the Designated Facility. The Hauler, Self-Hauler, or Generator shall be responsible for removal and proper disposal of Unacceptable Waste delivered or caused to be delivered by the Hauler, Self-Hauler, or Generator to a Designated Facility but not detected prior to delivery. All costs of such removal and disposal shall be borne by the Hauler, Self-Hauler, or Generator. Such removal shall be accomplished promptly after notice, verbal or written, is received by the Hauler, Self-Hauler, or Generator from the Designated Facility that any Waste previously delivered is Unacceptable Waste. The Designated Facility, at its option, may remove and dispose of the Unacceptable Waste and charge the costs of such removal and disposal and the cost of any necessary repair or decontamination of the Designated Facility to the Hauler, Self-Hauler, or Generator.

Subsection 11.2. Form of Acceptable Waste. All Designated Waste shall be in substantially the same form and consistency as when it came under the control of the Person transporting the waste except that such Designated Waste may be compacted when compaction is desirable for transportation. No person shall mix Acceptable Waste with Unacceptable Waste as a method of diverting Acceptable Waste from the Designated Facility or enabling the delivery of Unacceptable Waste to the Designated Facility. Waste generated within the Designated Area shall not be mixed with Waste generated outside the Designated Area, except as Hauler, Self-Hauler, or Generator has been given prior approval by the County to do so.

Subsection 11.3. Equipment. All equipment used by the Hauler, Self-Hauler or Generator for collection and transportation of Acceptable Waste pursuant to this Ordinance shall comply with such equipment specifications as may be established or amended from time to time by the County, the Joint Board, or other regulatory agencies. Waste delivered by equipment in violation of the aforementioned equipment specifications may be rejected by the Designated Facility. The Hauler, Self-Hauler or Generator shall supply the County information concerning the Hauler's, Self-Hauler's, or Generator's equipment as may be requested from time to time by the County.

Section 12. DUTY TO ACCEPT DESIGNATED WASTE; TEMPORARY INABILITY TO ACCEPT DESIGNATED WASTE

Notwithstanding anything in this Designation Ordinance to the contrary, the Designated Facility will accept all Designated Waste to the extent required by applicable Minnesota Law. If at any time after the Effective Date the Designated Facility is temporarily unable to receive all or any part of Designated Waste, the Joint Board and/or County shall notify Persons via notice at the Designated Facility. In such event, each Person shall be responsible for the transportation of the Designated Waste to another permitted waste management facility. However, for the duration of the temporary period when the Designated Facility is unable to accept Designated Waste, the Joint Board or County may direct Designated Waste to an alternate permitted waste management facility or as otherwise required by contract with the Joint Board. All costs of such transportation and disposal shall be borne by the Hauler, Self-Hauler, or Generator.

Section 13. DESIGNATION RECORDS; INSPECTION**Subsection 13.1. For the purposes of this section:**

1. “Origin” means a general geographical description that at a minimum names the local governmental unit within the County from which Designated Waste was collected; and
2. “Type” means a best estimate of the percentage of each truck load that consists of residential, commercial, industrial, Construction and Demolition Debris, or any other general type of waste.

Subsection 13.2. Records; haulers; facilities. Each Person who collects Solid Waste including, but not limited to all Haulers and Self-Haulers, shall maintain records regarding the volume or weight, type, and origin of Waste collected or transported. Each day, a record of the origin, type, and weight of the Waste collected that day and the identity of the Waste facility at which that day’s collected Waste is deposited must be kept on the Waste collection vehicle. Global Positioning System (“GPS”) records may be used to assist in developing such information. If the Waste is measured by volume at the Waste facility at which it is deposited, the record may show the volume rather than the weight of the Waste.

The Designated Facility shall maintain records regarding the weight of the Waste, or the volume of the Waste if the Waste is measured by volume; the general type or types of Waste; the origin of the Waste delivered; the date and time of delivery; and the name of the Hauler or Self-Hauler that delivered the Waste.

Subsection 13.3. Inspection. A Person authorized by the County, anywhere in the State, may:

1. Upon presentation of identification and without a search warrant, inspect or copy the records required to be kept on a Waste collection vehicle under subdivision 13.2, above, and inspect the Waste on the vehicle at the time of deposit of the Waste at a facility;

2. When reasonable notice under the circumstances has been given, upon presentation of identification and without a search warrant, inspect or copy the records of an owner or operator of a Solid Waste facility that are required to be maintained under subdivision 13.2, above;
3. Request, in writing, copies of records of a Hauler or Self-Hauler that indicate the type, origin, and weight or, if applicable, the volume of Waste collected, the identity of the facility at which the Waste was deposited, and the date of deposit at the facility; and
4. Upon presentation of identification and without a search warrant, inspect or copy that portion of the records of a Hauler or Self-Hauler necessary to comply with clause (3), above, at the central record-keeping location of the Hauler or Self-Hauler only if the hauler fails to provide copies of the records within 15 days of receipt of a written request for them, unless the time has been extended by agreement of the parties.

Records or information received, inspected, or copied by the County under this section may be classified as nonpublic data as defined in Minn. Stat. § 13.02, subd. 9, and may be used by the County solely for enforcement of this Ordinance. A Hauler, Self-Hauler, or the owner or operator of a Waste facility shall maintain records needed to comply with this section for two years, or as may be required by contract with the County.

Section 14. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

Subsection 14.1. Criminal Enforcement.

- a) **Citations.** Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this Designation Ordinance is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished as provided by law. A separate offense shall be deemed committed upon each day during or on which a violation occurs or continues. The issuance, form and process associated with such citations shall follow the procedures set forth in the County's Solid Waste Ordinance.
- b) **Venue and Prosecution.** The County Attorney shall have authority to prosecute violations of any provisions of this Designation Ordinance. Such prosecutions shall be venued in District Court.

Subsection 14.2. Civil Enforcement; Venue.

- a) The County may enforce this Designation Ordinance by commencing an action in District Court. The court may compel performance in any manner deemed appropriate by the court, including, but not limited to, issuance of an order to show cause, a temporary restraining order, or an injunction for a violation or threatened violation of this Designation Ordinance. In addition, the court may order payment of damages, including interest, or a civil penalty, or both. In an action brought to enforce this section in which the County substantially prevails, the court may order payment by the defendant of the costs of mitigating any damages caused by the

violation, and other County costs and disbursements, including reasonable attorney fees.

- b) A Person who fails to comply with this Designation Ordinance is subject to penalties including, but not limited to, the following:
1. An order to compel performance or to restrain or enjoin any activity that interferes with the requirements of this Designation Ordinance to keep records in Subsection 13.2, above, or the requirement to allow timely entry and inspection in Subsection 13.3 above;
 2. Damages caused by the failure to keep records or by refusal to allow timely entry or inspection;
 3. A civil penalty for failure to comply with the requirements of this Designation Ordinance payable to the County of up to \$10,000 per day for each day of violation; or
 4. Any or all of the above.

Section 15. GENERAL TERMS

Subsection 15.1. Each Person's Mandatory Obligations. All obligations to make payments due to the County under this Designation Ordinance shall be absolute and unconditional. No Person shall be entitled to any abatement, diminution, setoff, abrogation, waiver or modification thereof, nor to any termination of this Designation Ordinance regardless of any rights of setoff, recoupment or counterclaim that each Person might otherwise have against the County or any other party or parties and regardless of any contingency, unforeseen circumstance, or event, except upon written approval by the County for good cause shown through submission of a written application and, at the County's option, attendance at an informal meeting. The County shall set forth its determination on the application in a written decision.

Subsection 15.2. Severability. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Board of Commissioners of the County that the provisions of this Designation Ordinance are severable in accordance with the following:

- a) If any court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge any provision of this Designation Ordinance to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect any other provisions of this Designation Ordinance not specifically included in said judgment.
- b) If any court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge invalid the application of any provision of this Designation Ordinance to a particular structure, site, facility or operation, such judgment shall not affect the application of said provision to any other structure, site, facility or operation not specifically included in said judgment.

Subsection 15.3. Provisions Are Cumulative. The provisions in this Designation Ordinance are separate, distinct, and cumulative. Any additional limitations heretofore passed, or which may be

passed hereafter, covering any subject matter in this Designation Ordinance, shall not affect any other provisions of this Designation Ordinance not specifically included in said limitations.

Subsection 15.4. No Consent. Nothing contained in this Designation Ordinance shall be deemed to be a consent, license, or permit to locate, construct or maintain a Solid Waste Management Facility, or to carry on any activity related to Solid Waste management.

Subsection 15.5. Non-Liability. Neither the County, nor the Joint Board, nor any officer or employee thereof shall be held liable for any damage to Persons or property by reason of any investigation, reinvestigation, failure to investigate, inspection, reinspection or failure to inspect, or by reason of the approval or disapproval of equipment or the granting, not granting, suspending or revoking of any license, nor for any action in connection with the inspection or control of Designated Waste or in connection with any other official duties.

Subsection 15.6. Amendments. This Designation Ordinance may be amended pursuant to Minn. Stat. §115A.86, Subdivision 5.

Subsection 15.7. Rights and Duties of Authority. The County may assign rights, duties and responsibilities to enforce, comply with, or perform the requirements of this Designation Ordinance to the Joint Board as authorized by Minn. Stat. §471.59 and the Joint Powers Agreement.

Subsection 15.8. Publication. The Clerk shall cause this Designation Ordinance to be published and recorded as provided in Minn. Stat. §375.51 and Minn. Stat. §115A.86.

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