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**Press Release**

**NEWS**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**COUNTY SAVES \$3.3 MILLION ON LANDFILL OPERATIONS CONTRACT**

**Five Year Agreement Awarded to Waste Management Follows Competitive Bid Process**

Burlington County Freeholders today awarded a contract for operation of the County landfill that is projected to save \$3,324,767 over the next five years.

The new contract, which results from a lengthy competitive bid process that involved three vendors, was awarded to Waste Management, Inc., the current landfill operator.

“From a fiscal perspective, this contract award could not be more timely,” said Freeholder Mary Ann O’Brien, who oversees the County’s Department of Solid Waste. “It will enable us to keep our tipping fees low, which benefits both our municipalities and the private waste haulers, all of whom are struggling to survive the current economic environment.”

Solid Waste is funded by a utility budget that is separate and apart from the County’s regular operating budget, and includes both landfill operations, and the recycling and household hazardous waste programs. Burlington County remains the only county in the State that administers a countywide curbside recycling program at no additional cost to the towns.

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**PRESS RELEASE: Landfill Contract – 4/28/10 – Add One**

The Solid Waste budget for 2010 is projected at \$31,047,500, or \$1,451,890 less than in 2009.

Waste Management was selected as landfill operator for the next five years because the company offered the lowest price and best level of service, said O'Brien. Pricing for the first year was set at \$3,116,500 – down from \$3,742,725 annually under the existing contract.

The new contract also requires the landfill operator to improve the roads and landfill dumping areas that municipal and private trash trucks must use when delivering their waste.

“This requirement will improve the turn-around time for our municipal and private customers, allowing them to spend more time collecting waste and less time disposing of it,” said O'Brien.

The landfill, which opened in 1989, accepts 275,000 tons of waste annually from residents, businesses and institutions throughout Burlington County.

The resolution adopted by freeholders today to enter into the new five-year agreement with Waste Management calls for a pro-rated payment of \$1,943,623 covering the period May 17, 2010 to December 31, 2010, or the remainder of the current budget year.

Waste Management is expected to be paid a total \$16,545,922 over the life of the contract, which terminates in May of 2015.

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