

Wheelabrator Technologies completes purchase of Hudson Falls waste-to-energy facility

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Wheelabrator Technologies Inc.

Media

Melissa Lohnes
(603) 929-3193
mlohnes@wm.com

HUDSON FALLS, N.Y. — January 18, 2012 — After a competitive procurement process and seven years of proven operations, Wheelabrator Technologies Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Waste Management, purchased the Hudson Falls waste-to-energy facility from the Warren/Washington Counties Industrial Development Agency (WWIDA) for \$3.13 million on Nov. 07, 2011. Wheelabrator assumed management of the operation, which is now officially called Wheelabrator Hudson Falls LLC.

“The agency is pleased that Wheelabrator has taken full ownership of the Hudson Falls waste-to-energy facility. Wheelabrator has proven to be an excellent operator of the facility since taking over from Foster Wheeler in 2003. The working relationship between the agency and Wheelabrator has been excellent from day one,” said Nick Caimano, chairman of the WWIDA. “Wheelabrator has been proactive in suggesting ways to reduce costs of operations and increase revenue, resulting in substantial savings for the counties. We welcome Wheelabrator as a fully fledged member of the local business community.”

The WWIDA and Wheelabrator began their partnership in October 2003 with the signing of an operating service agreement. Since then, Wheelabrator has made \$12.8 million in capital improvements to the facility while operating it in full compliance with state and federal regulations. The facility continues to improve every year, reaching all time highs of processing more than 172,000 tons and reaching boiler availability of 94 percent in 2009 and 2010.

“The WWIDA and Wheelabrator have worked cooperatively and in good faith over the last eight years, and the result has been excellent waste-to-energy services for the residents of Washington and Warren counties. The current contract allowed the authority to refinance its debt, saving the counties approximately \$6 million over the life of the contract,” said Wheelabrator Hudson Falls Plant Manager Maurice Holcomb. “We are very pleased with the operation and the strong relationship that has been built with the counties. We look forward to providing many more years of safe, reliable solutions for the counties’ waste needs.”

The Wheelabrator Hudson Falls facility processes approximately 170,000 tons of municipal solid waste a year, or about 500 tons a day, generated in New York State and Vermont. The plant annually provides an average of approximately 84,800 megawatt hours (MWH) of electricity to the local utility company, Niagara Mohawk -- enough energy to power almost 10,000 homes.

Leading up to the closing of the sale, Wheelabrator began preparing for ownership of the facility by finalizing new waste-supply agreements with Warren and Washington counties and private commercial haulers. Wheelabrator also negotiated a new electric-power purchase agreement with National Grid.

“The upstate New York market area for Waste Management is looking forward to working closely with the Hudson Falls Wheelabrator facility to provide environmentally sound waste management solutions for all of our customers. We believe this partnership will truly benefit our loyal customers whether they are homeowners or business owners,” said Dave Balbierz, area vice president for Waste Management. “Having a facility in Eastern New York owned and operated by Wheelabrator will solidify our capabilities to continue to provide stellar customer service.”

“Precision Industrial Maintenance, Inc. has always had positive experiences with utilizing the Wheelabrator Hudson Falls plant for our disposal needs,” said William Verhayden, compliance manager for Precision Industrial Maintenance. “Wheelabrator has always been extremely accommodating with our scheduling needs, and provides a safe and efficient offload process at the plant for our drivers. We consider the Wheelabrator Hudson Falls plant, along with professional staff, to be a valued business partner.”

“We were pleased the transition went so smoothly - it was business as usual other than some minor paperwork. We are very happy with the situation and with the people we work with at Wheelabrator,” said Michael Wright, president of Ace Carting Corp.

Last year, Wheelabrator Hudson Falls marked 14 years of participation in the Occupational Health and Safety Administration’s Voluntary Protection Program. The program is OSHA’s highest national rating for voluntary safety practices, a distinction earned by less than 0.03 percent of the seven million regulated workplaces in the U.S.

About Wheelabrator Technologies

A wholly owned subsidiary of Waste Management of Houston, Texas, Wheelabrator Technologies Inc. is a world leader in the safe and environmentally sound conversion of municipal solid waste and other renewable waste fuels into clean energy. Wheelabrator’s 17 waste-to-energy facilities provide safe waste disposal for towns and cities across the U.S. Wheelabrator also operates five independent power plants designed to generate electricity using an assortment of fuels, including waste wood, tires, waste coal, and natural gas. In addition to producing electricity, some of these facilities also produce steam sold to nearby government and commercial establishments. Wheelabrator’s 22 facilities have a combined electric generating capacity of 896 megawatts, enough energy to power more than 985,000 homes. To learn more, visit www.wheelabratortechnologies.com.

About Waste Management

Waste Management, based in Houston, Texas, is the leading provider of comprehensive waste management services in North America. Through its subsidiaries, the company provides collection, transfer, recycling and resource recovery, and disposal services. It is also a leading developer, operator and owner of waste-to-energy and landfill gas-to-energy facilities in the United States. The company’s customers include residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal customers throughout North America. To learn more, visit www.wm.com or www.thinkgreen.com.

###