

June 8, 2020

Re: Part 115

To whom it may concern,

Networks Northwest's Materials Management Advisory Committee (MMAC) was formed in 2005 consisting of representatives of the ten-county area to discuss regional solid waste and recycling issues in Northwest Michigan. Our region represents nearly 125,000 households and over 8500 businesses that generate waste and recyclable materials. MMAC goals include providing a forum for regional networking, needs identification, and providing a framework for joint program implementation. MMAC also seeks to cooperatively develop solid waste plans, both county and regional, to serve the public good.

The group is in support of the work the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy with stakeholders to substantially update and amend Part 115 (Michigan's Solid Waste statute) for the advancement of local, county, regional, and state recycling goals through:

- Incentivizing counties to set recycling goals and plan for holistic discard management.
- Considering and planning for the development of facilities necessary to manage these materials in a way to protect the environment.
- Make recycled materials available for remanufacturing purposes.
- Increased funding available with the goal of improving Michigan's recycling rate by allowing for:
 - County Materials Management Planning,
 - Regional Materials Management Planning,
 - Development of markets for recyclable materials, and
 - Education to help residents use recycling systems effectively and appropriately

Please let me know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



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