



State of Utah

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*Lieutenant Governor*

Department of  
Environmental Quality

Alan Matheson  
*Executive Director*

DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT  
AND RADIATION CONTROL  
Scott T. Anderson  
*Director*

April 12, 2017

Dear Colleague:

During the 2017 General Session of the Utah Legislature, H.B. 115, Solid Waste Revisions, was passed and subsequently signed by Governor Herbert. This bill amends both the Solid and Hazardous Waste Act and the Solid Waste Management Act and requires the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to revise the existing state fees associated with the management of solid waste within the state.

Making changes to a fee structure that has been in place for several years is inherently a challenging effort and requires significant communication with the many stakeholders from both public agencies and private businesses that are part of Utah's solid waste management system. During the legislative process for H.B. 115, various concerns, interests and perspectives were raised and discussed about the direct and indirect impacts associated with an overall change to the state solid waste fees.

H.B. 115 also requires DEQ to report to the Legislature's Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee by November 30, 2017 regarding the proposed revised solid waste fee schedule. The new fee system is to be in place by July 1, 2018. In order to meet this schedule, the Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control will need to have a proposed new fee schedule as part of its annual budget preparation process by the beginning of August, 2017. The proposed fee schedule will then become part of DEQ's annual process of holding a formal public comment period and hearing on the agency's fee schedule for the next fiscal year (e.g., FY 2019). Following the public comment period, a fee schedule will then be submitted to the governor's office and in turn provided to the Legislature for its consideration and action during the 2018 General Session. Based on the Legislature's action, the approved new fee schedule will then take effect on July 1, 2018.

Given the importance of such a significant change to the state solid waste fees, the Division is holding meetings throughout the state to directly engage stakeholders on this matter. This letter serves as an invitation for your participation in the meeting(s) outlined in the enclosed schedule. If you are unable to attend any of the scheduled meetings, please feel free to submit written comments or contact our agency directly.

Each of the meetings will be conducted as an informal, interactive opportunity to discuss the establishment of a new solid waste fee schedule. At the meetings, Division staff will provide information about the process and timeframe to develop the new fee schedule and our agency's costs in administering the Utah solid waste program and will also present potential options or scenarios for the

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structure of a new fee schedule, as envisioned by H.B. 115. This will give added context for stakeholders so they can be better informed as they offer comments and provide critical feedback to the Division. Consequently, I am very interested in your participation and input in establishing a new fee schedule that meets the legislative intent to be “fair and equitable” for all entities that will be subject to the new fee structure.

Following the meetings, we will evaluate all stakeholder input and make available a proposed new solid waste fee schedule as part of DEQ’s proposed fee schedule that will be issued for public comment as explained above. Revisions to the proposed fee schedule based on comments may be made and incorporated into the agency’s FY 2019 budget submittal to the governor’s office.

Again, I recognize the importance of this effort and the value of reaching out to all those who have a vital role in Utah’s solid waste management network. I look forward to your participation in this process and hope that one or more of the upcoming meetings will be convenient with your schedule and allow you to attend. Please share this information with anyone you know who might be interested in participating in this process.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at [standerson@utah.gov](mailto:standerson@utah.gov) or (801) 536-0203 or Allan Moore at [allanmoore@utah.gov](mailto:allanmoore@utah.gov) or (801) 536-0211. Alternatively, you may also send your comments to [dwmrcpublic@utah.gov](mailto:dwmrcpublic@utah.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott T. Anderson", written over a horizontal line.

Scott T. Anderson, Director  
Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control

STA/RL/al

Enclosure: Solid Waste Fees Proposed Revisions Stakeholder Meeting Schedule (DSHW-2017-003041)

c: Representative Mike McKell (Email)  
Senator Curtis Bramble (Email)  
Alan Matheson, DEQ (Email)