



July 16, 2014

Ms. Lori Miser  
Chair  
Board of Public Works  
City of Indianapolis  
200 East Washington Street, Room 2460  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

**RE: Opposition Letter to the Proposed Mixed Waste Processing Facility (MWPF)**

Dear Chair Miser:

**The Glass Packaging Institute (GPI) and its members oppose the planned Mixed Waste Processing Facility (MWPF), to be placed alongside, and to work in tandem, with the existing Covanta Waste to Energy (WTE) facility in Indianapolis.** *To be clear, the GPI and its members are not opposed to the broader utilization and operations of WTE facility as a source of energy and power. Our opposition is focused on the plan to have this new MWPF directly feed waste and recyclables into the WTE facility, with no consideration for recovering glass for recycling, as explained below.*

The GPI is the North American trade association for the glass container manufacturers, glass recyclers, and suppliers of materials, equipment and transport to the industry. The glass container industry and glass recycling footprint within Indianapolis, and the state of Indiana, is among the strongest in the country. Our member companies operate a glass container recycling plant within the city limits, as well as several glass container manufacturing and glass recycling facilities located around the state, employing over 2,000 residents in good paying jobs with benefits.

It is our understanding that the planned MWPF will not attempt to recycle or separate out glass containers as part of the MWPF sorting process. As glass is a 100% and endlessly recyclable product (meaning glass bottles can be re-melted to make new glass bottles infinitely), this is a missed opportunity for the Indiana glass container industry and a waste of valuable natural resources.

When glass plants can increase the level of recycled glass as part of the overall batch mix, they reduce furnace temperatures, resulting in reduced energy use and lower greenhouse gas emissions. One ton of carbon dioxide is eliminated for every six tons of recycled container glass

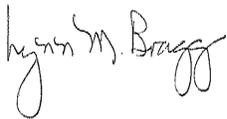
used in the manufacturing process. Energy use at glass plants also drops about 2-3% for every 10% recycled glass used in the manufacturing process. This results in cleaner air for Indiana.

The planned 20% recovery at the MWPF in Indianapolis also runs counter to the state's recent enactment of House Bill 1183, which established a goal of 50% recycling for municipal solid waste. The addition of organics and other materials via the MWPF will make sorting efforts and extraction of recyclables challenging and difficult. Glass and many other types of recyclables processed through the MWPF will be lost to increased contamination and incineration.

The glass sent through the incinerator will turn into a byproduct, and will end up at the disposal site. It will not contribute to future energy production at the WTE facility, and there will be no possibility for the glass container industry to recycle this glass into new containers.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. Please consider the GPI as a resource and advocate for recycling practices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn M. Bragg". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "L".

Lynn M. Bragg  
President

Cc: Members, Indianapolis Board of Public Works:  
Robert Parrin  
Laura Sniadecki  
John Charleston  
Gregory Garrett  
Neil Bloede