

Date: May 6, 2008

To: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro and Members,
Board of County Commissioners

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager

Subject: Resource Conservation Committee Annual Report FY 2007

Agenda Item No. 12B4

RECOMMENDATION

I am pleased to present to the Board the attached 'Executive Summary' of the Miami-Dade County Resource Conservation Committee (RCC), which covers the period from October 2006 to September 2007. This summary provides an update on the status of the County's Recycling and Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) activities found in the RCC Annual Report 2007, which may be viewed at the RCC's website: http://www.miamidade.gov/derm/conservation_about_us.asp.

BACKGROUND

In 1992, the Recycling Management Committee was created pursuant to Resolution No. R-214-92. This resolution established "a procurement policy for Metropolitan Dade County favoring waste-reduction and implementing a program to purchase commodities containing recycled or recyclable content." In addition, this resolution was passed in order to facilitate meeting and exceeding the mandates of the Florida Solid Waste Act of 1988, which called for a 30% reduction in the solid waste stream by 1994, as well as Florida Statute 403.7065, which states in part "...any State agency or agency of a political subdivision of the State which is using State funds...is required to procure products or materials with recycled content when those products or materials are available at reasonable prices." At that time, the Committee was chaired by the Director of GSA Procurement Management or a designee, and was comprised of representatives from "departments most affected by the recycling program." The primary responsibility of the Committee has been to promote recycling to County departments, facilitate departments' recycling activities, and assist GSA Procurement Management in promoting the "use of waste-reducing products, recycled products and recycleable products."

When the Department of Procurement Management separated from General Services Administration in 2000, the Committee realized that it would be necessary to either sunset the Committee, re-establish the Committee under the new Department of Procurement Management, or re-establish the Committee under a different department. Since most departments already had established recycling programs, the Committee decided to begin focusing more efforts on promoting the use of waste reducing, recycled, and recycled products, and determined that the Committee could facilitate these activities better under the direction of the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM).

Furthermore, the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners on April 22, 2003 passed Resolution No. R-374-03, which established a policy for the County to favor waste-reduction, environmentally preferred promotional activities, and purchases of commodities containing recycled or recycleable content. As a result of R-374-03, the Recycling Management Committee was renamed the Resource Conservation Committee (RCC) and the Director of the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) or his designee was named as the RCC Chairperson. The first annual report, entitled "Summary Report for Recycling and Environmentally Preferable Purchasing for the Period of April 1, 2003 – March 31, 2004" was submitted to the Board on August 3, 2004. The report summarized the efforts of the committee and recommended implementation of policies and guidelines to encourage waste reduction, promote recycling activities, and initiate Environmentally

Preferable Purchasing (EPP) activities among County departments. Additionally, Resolution No. R-702-05, sponsored by Commissioner Sorenson and passed on June 7, 2005, "set forth long term goals (5-year) which provide for:

1. Increasing the percentage of County purchases of office goods containing recycled material and/or identified as an environmentally preferred product;
2. Increasing the rate of participation in recycling by County agencies;
3. Increasing the overall percentage of the County operational waste stream that is eliminated or diverted through recycling and conservation efforts; and
4. Reducing operational costs through environmentally preferable products, services and practices.

The annual report of the RCC shall be provided to each member of the Board and should be issued, if possible, to coincide with the annual celebration of Earth Day."



Alex Muñoz
Assistant County Manager



Executive Summary

Resource Conservation Committee

Annual Report - FY 2007

Background:

On April 2003, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) adopted Resolution No. R-374-03, establishing a policy for Miami-Dade County to favor waste reduction, environmentally-based promotional activities, and purchases of commodities-containing recycled or recyclable content. Additionally, the resolution effected the renaming of the Recycling Management Committee to the Resource Conservation Committee (RCC) and placed the Chairmanship under the Director of the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) or his designee.

Resolution No. R-702-05, adopted June 2005, set forth the long-term, 5 year goals for the RCC:

1. Increasing the percentage of County purchases of office goods containing recycled materials and/or qualifying as an environmentally preferred product.
2. Increasing the rate of participation in recycling by County agencies.
3. Increasing the overall percentage of the County's operational waste stream that is eliminated or diverted through recycling and conservation efforts.
4. Reducing operational costs through environmentally preferable products, services and practices.

Achievements in FY 2007 listed below correspond to the above goals:

1. Compared to FY 2006, the purchasing of Environmentally Preferable Products (EPP) remained constant for FY 2007. In 2006, \$1,148,622 was spent on twenty (20) EPP items and in 2007, \$1,148,642 was spent on twenty two (22) EPP items.
2. Using toner recycling services as an example, approximately 77% of County departments are participating compared to 28% in FY 2006. Also, more departments are participating in paper recycling activities in FY 2007.
3. Improvements in operational procedures, increases in recycling activities, and increases in EPP have been reported by Finance, ETSD, MDAD, WASD, MDP&R, MDT, and GSA. See report for details.
4. The capturing and use of methane gas as a fuel source by WASD is one example of reducing operating costs while reducing wastes, resulting in annual savings of approximately \$200,000. See report for details.

The full report contains information provided by all participating departments and can be accessed at: http://www.miamidade.gov/derm/conservation_about_us.asp. Departments and their designees are listed in Exhibit B of the report.