

C. OFFICE WASTE PAPER

1. Statement:

White ledger paper is about 50% of the waste stream from most offices. While Governor Kean's Executive Order #57, 1983, mandates office paper recycling programs in all State facilities, much needs to be done to encourage and expand other office paper recycling programs.

3. Proposed Regulatory/Policy Changes:

- a. To encourage the participation of employees and to pay for the cost of administering the State office paper recycling program, a portion of the revenues derived from the sale of recovered high-grade paper should be returned to the State agencies and institutions that implement office paper programs. The remaining money should be returned to the Office of Recycling to improve and expand office paper programs in State government. The funds resulting from the sale of State office waste paper are presently deposited in the general treasury.
- b. The lease agreements of all buildings occupied by State agencies should be revised to include an agreement by the lessor to assist in the implementation of office paper recycling programs as required by Executive Order #57, 1983.
- c. All State owned facilities should take into consideration the existence of recycling programs when calculating contracts for solid waste collection and disposal.

D. PLASTICS

1. Statement:

Many plastics are recyclable. However, a high degree of post-consumer plastic recycling will become feasible only if an effective and reliable collection and processing system for recovering this material is developed.

New Jersey local governments have encountered formidable obstacles in their efforts to recover plastic containers from solid waste. All plastic containers possess a low material density and a low intrinsic value. While this property is very desirable for product distribution, it also serves to undermine municipal attempts to recycle empty plastic containers by making their collection through depot or curbside programs very expensive. For example, a very small quantity of whole plastic PET containers can very easily overwhelm the capacity of even a

2. Proposed Regulatory/Policy Changes:

- a. A committee representing the plastics packaging industry should be formed to work with the Office of Recycling to develop a post-consumer plastic materials collection system. In addition, this committee should also design a coding system that would help the consumer to identify recyclable plastics.
- b. If an industry sponsored collection program has not been instituted by July, 1986, the Legislature should examine the feasibility of a refundable deposit system for plastic containers. Consideration should be given to a deposit on all plastic food and beverage and other onetime use containers (including alcoholic beverages). The deposit should be graduated from \$.10 to \$.25 depending on the size of the container and a portion of the deposit (\$.05 per container) should be returned to the State for a plastic recycling and processing program. In addition all unclaimed deposits should be returned to the State for recycling activities.
- c. Polyvinyl Chloride Plastics (PVC)

All types of plastics are rapidly increasing in the waste stream. These materials have limited recycling markets and often replace recyclable material in product packaging. Although plastics do have an energy value, products made from polyvinyl chloride and polyvinylidene chloride result in the release of hydrochloric acid emissions when burned. Polyvinyl chloride and polyvinylidene chloride are two materials that are increasing in product packaging such as vegetable oil bottles, liquor bottles and packaging wrap. It is therefore recommended that the manufacturers of PVC packaging products develop a program for recycling these materials by July, 1986, if such a program is not implemented the State should consider imposing a ban on the use of this material for products that have a short life and that are frequently disposed of, such as food, beverage and other types of one time use containers and packaging.

2. TIRES

1. Statement:

Every year an estimated 7,000,000 waste tires are generated in New Jersey. At least 6,000,000 of these are either landfilled or improperly disposed. Technology has been developed for methods of proper disposal of tires. However, little effort has been made to develop tire recycling facilities in New Jersey.