From: **director** < <u>director@nekwmd.org</u>> Date: Mon, Jan 27, 2014 at 11:55 AM

Subject: S0229 & S0208 To: jrodgers@leg.state.vt.us

Cc: rhartwell@leg.state.vt.us, bobh1552@gmail.com

## Dear Senators Rodgers and Hartwell,

I am emailing you to let you know that the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District (NEKWMD) is generally supportive of S0229 and S0208 — more specifically the provisions that would allow the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources to allow exemptions for parallel collection of recyclables.

We recognize the increased burden Act 148 (the Universal Recycling law) will place on our local hauling community. There are 33 registered haulers of solid waste within the NEKWMD. Nearly all of these haulers are small business owners with one or two trucks. The parallel collection requirement will not only drive their costs up, but also drive up the cost to their constomers. While we recognize the potential for increased recycling in our area, we feel that other provisions of Act 148 will help accomplish this goal. These other provisions include unit-based pricing and landfill bans of certain recyclables.

I would welcome the opportunity to testify on behalf of either bill. I would also like to emphasize the importance of one of these bills passing during this legislative session. Our Board is in the process of determining how we might help the local hauling community adapt to this changing landscape. This also includes how the District will respond to processing requirements in the future. The deadline for parallel collection to begin is July 1, 2015. Having some sort of resolution at the end of this legislative

session will, hopefully, allow sufficient time for the District and the haulers to respond to this changing landscape.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this correspondence.

Most sincerely,

Paul Tomasi, Executive Director

Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District

802-626-3532

"The one natural resource that the world has left in infinite quantity is human ingenuity."

Vijay Vaitheeswaran

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