# **Energy Justice Network**



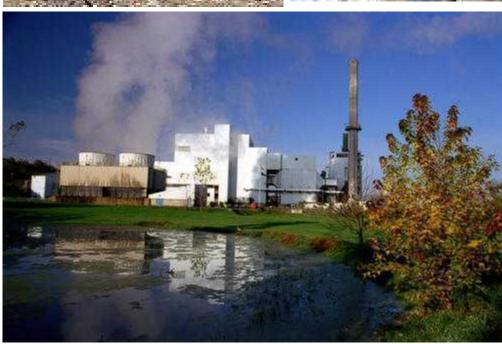
...helping communities protect themselves from polluting energy and waste technologies

# ENERGYJUSTICE.net

#### **Biomass / Waste Incineration**









www.EnergyJustice.net/incineration/

#### Incinerators: Names Used

- Waste-to-energy (WTE)
- Energy from waste (EfW)
- Trash-to-steam
- Conversion technologies
- Biomass
- Advanced Thermal Tech
- Waste to fuel



BURN Baby BURN

# **Technologies**

- Mass Burn
- Gasification
- Pyrolysis
- Plasma Arc
- Catalytic cracking
- Thermal Depolymerization
- Cement kilns
- Industrial Boilers (paper mills, utility boilers)
- Fischer-Tropsch / Gas-to-Liquids (gasification/liquefaction)
- Cellulosic Ethanol (waste-to-ethanol)
- Fluidized Bed



## EPA says pyrolysis = incineration

#### 40 CFR 60.51a:

- Municipal waste combustor, MWC, or municipal waste combustor unit: (1)

  Means any setting or equipment that combusts solid, liquid, or gasified

  MSW including, but not limited to, field-erected incinerators (with or without heat recovery), modular incinerators (starved-air or excess-air), boilers (i.e., steam-generating units), furnaces (whether suspension-fired, grate-fired, mass-fired, air curtain incinerators, or fluidized bed-fired), and pyrolysis/combustion units.
- Pyrolysis/combustion unit means a unit that produces gases, liquids, or solids through the heating of MSW, and the gases, liquids, or solids produced are combusted and emissions vented to the atmosphere.

"A municipal waste incinerator 'combusts' solid waste and thus is functionally synonymous with municipal waste combustor."

(www.epa.gov/ttn/nsr/gen/rm\_2.html)

# Pyrolysis is a failed technology

#### Patent review company:

- has been seeing pyrolysis projects for 14 years
- none of them are legitimate
- they're just splitting combustion into two steps, making it more expensive, less efficient and not any cleaner
- sees a steady stream of guys in their 50s-70s who worked at corporations, thought it's a great idea, and go out and promote it and get money by whatever means and get some patent coverage mainly to help get the money, but none are legit

# Pyrolysis is a failed technology

#### **Rubber Manufacturers Association:**

- "Major tire companies like Goodyear and Firestone once invested 'immense resources' in pyrolysis but could not find markets for the byproducts or even a way to integrate them into their own products. And scores of start-ups have tried and failed to make money from tire pyrolysis."
- "The road is littered with the carnage of people who were trying to make this technology viable."

# Pyrolysis is a failed technology

- Not intended for continuous operation
  - Runs batch processes
  - Mainly used at demonstration scale
- Can only operate on homogenous fuels

#### **Environmental Protection Agency:**

 While technically feasible, tire pyrolysis – a process in which tires are subjected to heat in an oxygen-starved environment and converted to gas, oil and carbon char – has been inhibited by the high capital investment required and steep operating costs



#### Technologies and Risk

Source: Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, Inc. August 2012

Alternative	Risks/Liability	Risk Summary
Mass Burn/WaterWall	Proven commercial technology	Very Low
Mass Burn/Modular	Proven commercial technology	Low
RDF/ Dedicated Boiler	Proven commercial technology	Low
RDF/Fluid Bed	Proven technology; limited U.S. commercial experience	Moderate to Low
Anaerobic Digestion	Proven technology; limited U.S. commercial experience	Moderate to Low
Mixed-Waste Composting	Previous large failures; No large-scale commercially viable plants in operation; subject to scale-up issues	Moderate to high
Pyrolysis	Previous failures at scale, uncertain commercial potential; no operating experience with large - scale operations	High
Gasification	Limited operating experience at only small scale; subject to scale-up issues	High
Chemical Decomposition/ Depolymerization	Technology under development; not a commercial option at this time	High



# Pyrolyzer's Proposed Facility in Logansport, Indiana



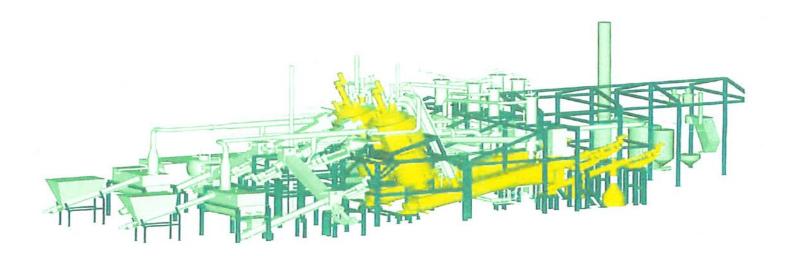
LMU RFP Response Proposal for Waste to Energy Facility

Proposal:

**LMU Electric Generating Plant** 

For:

300 MW Waste to Energy Facility



# Pyrolyzer equipment



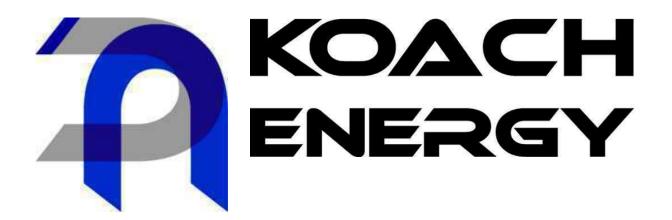
# 6,000 tpd facility proposed in Logansport, IN points to a two reference plants:

- Undisclosed location, Germany
  - only 4 tpd
  - only operated 'over' 2,500 hours in 14 years (about 7 1/2 days per year)
  - described as "not intended for continuous operation."
- Eilenburg, Germany
  - 37 ton per day but did not achieve this only ran 1600 hours in it's life
  - Only processed total of 2,500 tons in a year (2002)
  - Longest continuous run was 15 days
  - Contract cancelled due to financial reasons!

# William O. Howland, Jr., Director, Department of Public Works:

"The technology the vendor is proposing - plasma gasification and combined cycle WTE - has not been successfully modeled either in the United States or abroad. In the US, there is a plant on the drawing board in Florida which has been significantly downsized since its inception and is still not operational. Further, the project has run into problems getting a turbine manufacturer to accept the risk and provide a warranty because the derived fuel is not sufficiently clean of metals and other particulate matter. Japan has several gasification facilities that vary in size and are <u>run intermittently</u>. Further, <u>these</u> facilities rely on a more homogenous feedstock than MSW. A mixed product like MSW will create additional challenges to keep a facility up and running on a constant basis."

-November 13, 2009 email to DC Mayor's Office



"Environmentally Friendly Tire recycling to Petroleum"

...would have been the world's largest tire incinerator, using a pyrolysis / gasification system to process 1,200 – 2,400 tons of tires/day



# Chester, Pennsylvania Mayor:

Feb 4th, 2008: "[I]t is clear to me that Koach Energy is not the type of business that is consistent with the city's current or future development efforts. They very well may be an attractive addition to some other municipality's business base, but the City of Chester and my administration have fought for far too long in our efforts to transform our local economic base away from this type of industry. ...we are not interested and would not support bringing in businesses that would further feed into the perception that potentially polluting industries are welcome in the City of Chester. In the past, that may have been acceptable to some but my interest is in the future and my focus will continue to be centered on how we move this city forward with new and exciting developments that build upon the momentum we have generated. Now is not the time to take a step backwards and focus on drawing in industries that interestingly always seem to think the City of Chester needs them more than they need us.

As Mayor, I feel it is my duty to clearly state that <u>Koach Energy</u>, <u>regardless of their job creation claims and their alleged charitable benefits</u>, is not aligned with the future <u>direction of the City of Chester</u>. I will not support businesses that will directly harm the city's current positive economic trend which further reinforces the perceptions that some apparently have had that Chester should be the home for potentially polluting industries.



# Koach Energy in NJ

After kicking it out of Chester City, Pennsylvania, the company teamed up with Rutgers University's EcoComplex in New Jersey.

#### The experimental pilot project:

- lost \$1 million last year
- couldn't find investors
- was fairly polluting ("black smoke")
- the pyrolysis side of the project failed
- The test equipment will be sold for scrap

#### **Basic Lessons**

- Garbage-in, Garbage-out.
- Nothing is 100%.
- Small amounts matter, especially if they're a small % of a BIG number.
- This probably won't be built at all... over 90% are defeated and many fail on their own.
- If incineration is the answer, someone asked the wrong question

Incinerators are...

Trash-to-Steam

Trash to toxic ash and toxic air emissions

Incinerators are...

Waste-to-Energy

Waste-OF-energy

#### Incinerator, Not a Power Plant

"a waste-to-energy plant is designed to manage solid waste... the electricity output is a secondary function"

Ted Michaels, President, Energy Recovery Council, March 18, 2013 testimony before Washington, DC City Council

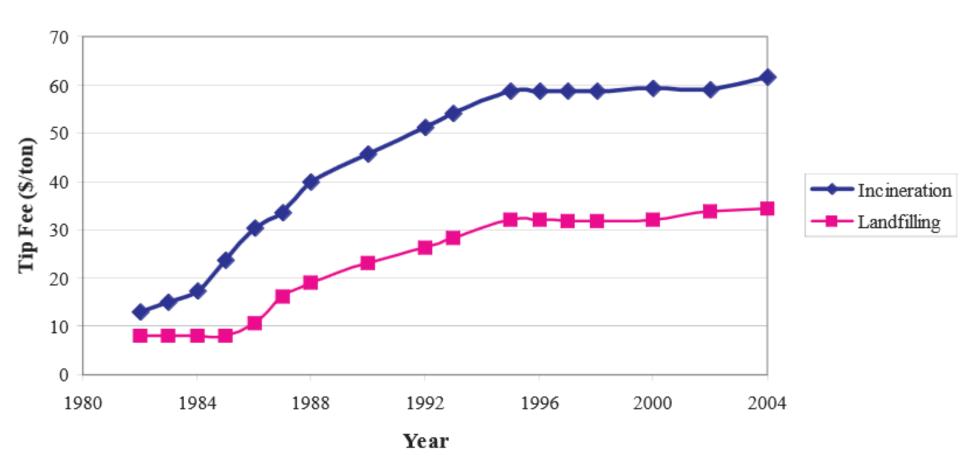
## Most Expensive Way to Manage Waste

"Waste-to-energy is an additional capital cost. That is not in dispute, compared to a landfill... compared to a landfill, which is a less capital-intense structure – it is more expensive. If you had a landfill next to a waste-to-energy facility, then almost in every case, you would think the landfill is going to be cheaper."

Ted Michaels, President, Energy Recovery Council, March 18, 2013 testimony before Washington, DC City Council

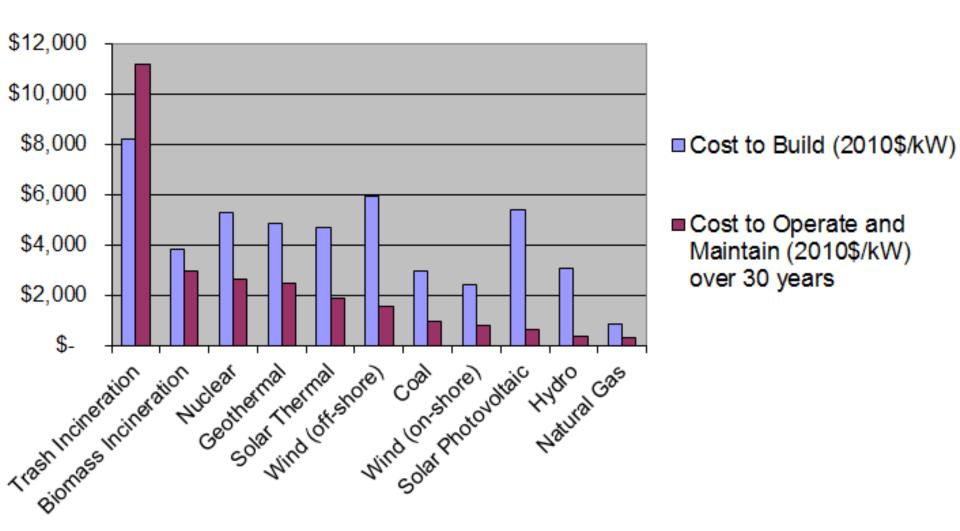
## Most Expensive Way to Manage Waste

Figure 3. Landfill and Incinerator Tip Fees



Source: National Solid Waste Management Association 2005 Tip Fee Survey, p4.. www.environmentalistseveryday.org/docs/Tipping-Fee-Bulletin-2005.pdf

#### Most Expensive Way to Make Energy



#### Problems with Incinerators: Economics

- Capital Intensive (Expensive)
- Requires long-term monopoly contracts "Put-or-Pay" contracts including "put or pay" clauses that punish local governments if they recycle / compost
- Competes with zero waste AND energy alternatives
  - Competes with wind and solar in Renewable Portfolio Standards
- Economic incentives encourage burning more dangerous wastes (getting paid to take waste vs. paying for fuels)

#### **Incineration Competes with Recycling**

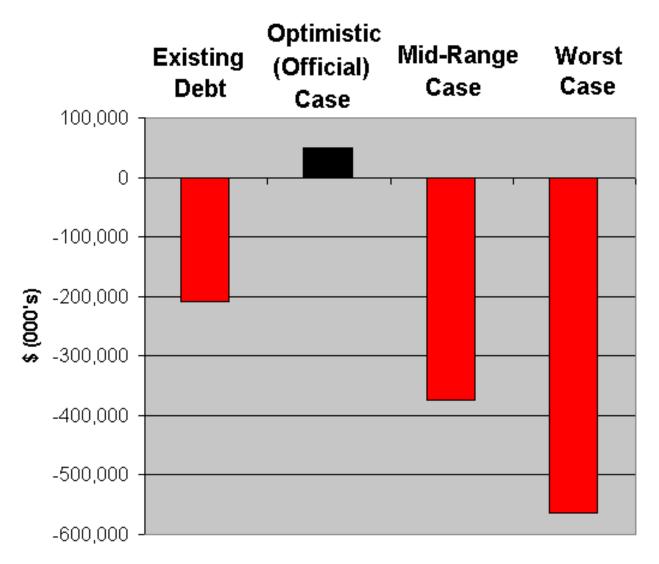
- Needs paper and plastics (and wood and tires) to burn effectively
- Must be fed enough waste
- Waste contracts are designed to punish recycling

# A Critical Look at the Harrisburg Incinerator Project Finances

November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Coalition Against the Incinerator www.StopTheBurn.com

# Existing Debt vs. Incinerator Project Possibilities



#### Recent Harrisburg Headlines

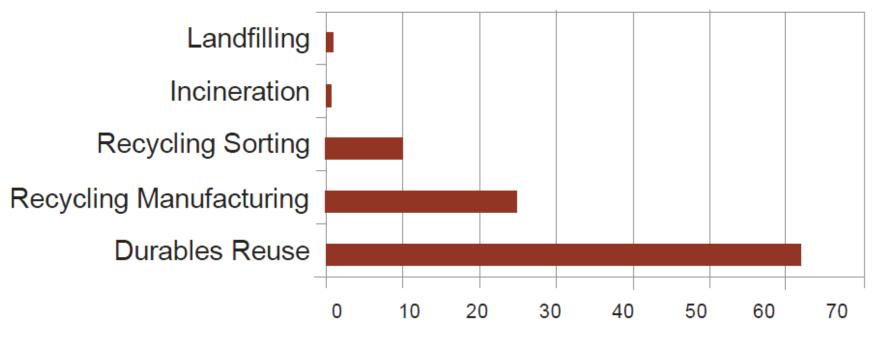
- "City of Harrisburg chapter 9 bankruptcy dismissed"
- "Harrisburg, Pennsylvania Bankruptcy Filing Rejected By Federal Judge"
- "Troubled Harrisburg now state's problem"
- "How A City Goes Broke"
- "Harrisburg Receiver Plans To Complete Transactions By June Reports"
- "Feds: Harrisburg incinerator audit 'under review"
- "Pa. Official: Corruption Led to Harrisburg's Money Woes"
- "Trying To Save A Broke City"
- "Harrisburg receiver says lawyers looking at incinerator audit"

#### **Incinerators Burn Money**

- Claremont, NH: 20-year "put-or-pay" contracts caused 29 towns to file for bankruptcy in 1993, which the court denied, requiring that taxes be raised to pay back the incinerator for waste the towns did not even produce
- Hudson Falls, NY and Lake County, FL deep incinerator debt due to long-term contracts favorable to the industry
- Poughkeepsie, NY incinerator fails to bring in enough revenue from tipping fees and electric sales to operate without millions in annual subsidies from the county
- Detroit, MI the nation's largest incinerators by design capacity has cost the ailing city \$1.2 billion in debt payments over 20 years, bringing the city close to bankruptcy on three occasions.
- All of New Jersey's five trash incinerators had to be bailed out by the state taxpayers with over \$1.5 Billion because they could not attract enough waste to operate at capacity.

#### Worst Way to Create Jobs

#### Job Creation: Reuse & Recycling vs Disposal



Jobs per 10,000 tons of materials per year

Source: Institute for Local Self Reliance

#### Job Creation: Reuse & Recycling Versus Disposal in the United States

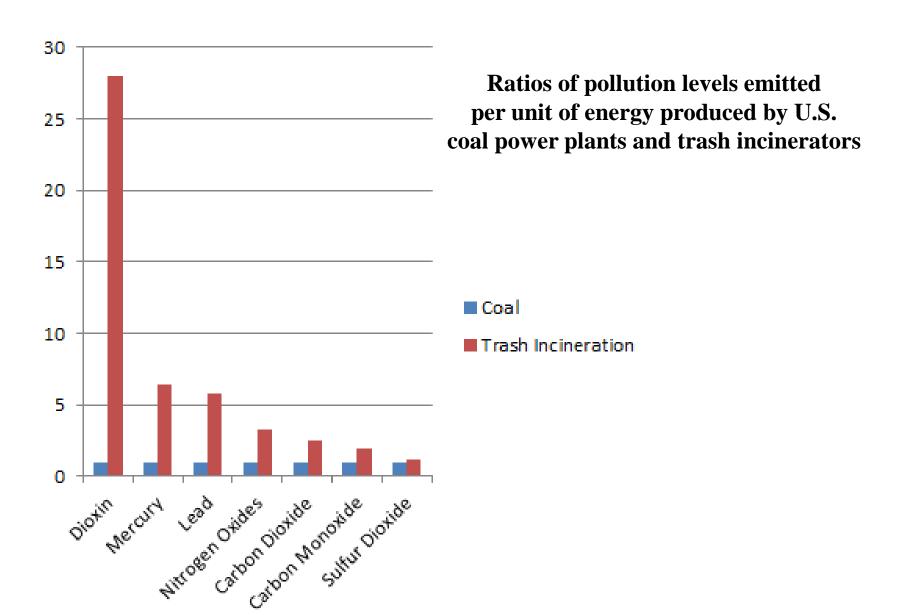
Type of Operation	Jobs Per 10,000 Tons per Year
Product Reuse	
Computer Reuse	296
Textile Reclamation	85
Misc. Durables Reuse	62
Wooden Pallet Repair	28
Recycling-Based Manufacturers	25
Paper Mills	18
Glass Product Manufacturers	26
Plastic Product Manufacturers	93
Conventional MRFs <sup>101</sup>	10
Composting	4
Incineration	1
Landfilling	1

#### **Incineration Worse than Coal**

#### Toxic Air Emissions are...

- **Dioxins / furans** (28 times as much)
- Mercury (6-14 times as much)
- Lead (6 times as much)
- Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) (3.2 times as much)
- Carbon Monoxide (CO) (1.9 times as much)
- Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) (20% worse)
- Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) (2.5 times as much)

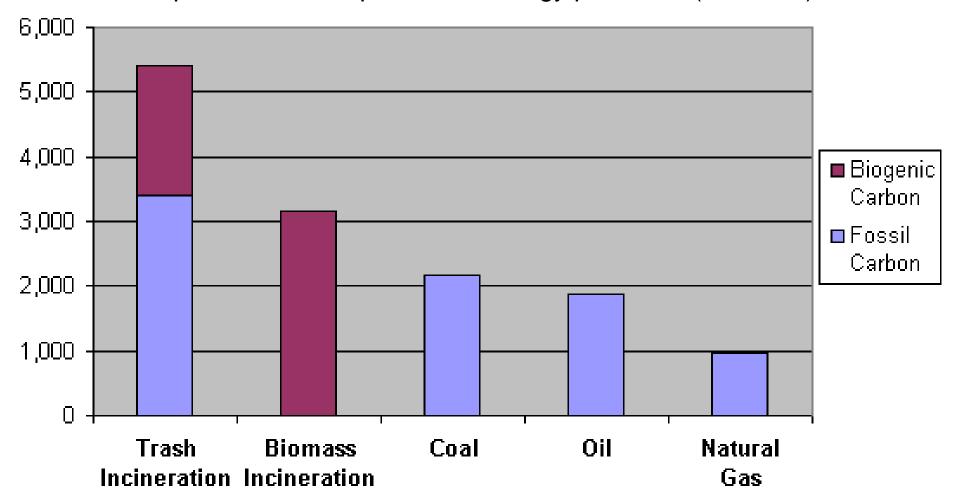
#### **Incineration Worse than Coal**



# Global Warming Pollution

#### **Smokestack CO2 Emissions from U.S. Power Plants**

in pounds of CO2 per unit of energy produced (lbs/MWh)



Source: U.S. EPA eGRID 2012 Database

#### **Incineration Worse than Landfills**

- Makes landfills more toxic (from ash or slag dumped) ...or worse, they try to reuse them
- Liquid wastes (more common to fuels conversion technologies)
- Air Pollution
  - Organic pollutants (Dioxins/furans, Volatile Organic Compounds / PAHs)
  - Toxic metals (mercury, arsenic, lead, cadmium, etc.)
  - Acid Gases (Hydrogen Fluoride, Hydrochloric Acid, Sulfuric Acid)
  - Particulate matter
  - Nitrogen Oxides (NOx), Sulfur Oxides (SOx)

#### **Lack of Monitoring**

Alvaro Almuina, project manager:

"Compliance with emissions limits and other environmental performance requirements must be demonstrated through continuous measurement of pollutants and operating parameters that serve as indicators of environmental performance. Periodic testing will be required for other pollutants."

Pyrolyzer CEO, Frank Canterbury:

"burst disks in multiple locations that, if pressure exceeds 1.45 PSI, the disks burst and the gases are vented to the emergency flare where it is burned off harmlessly."

## **Continuous Emissions Monitors**

- Only generally used for 3 pollutants: sulfur oxides (SOx), nitrogen oxides (NOx) and carbon monoxide (CO) plus opacity, oxygen and temperature
- Technology now exists to continuously monitor:

```
Ammonia (NH<sub>4</sub>)
                                                       Metals:
                                                            Antimony (Sb)
Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)
                                                            Arsenic (As)
Hydrogen Sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S)
                                                            Barium (Ba)
                                                            Cadmium (Cd)
Acid Gases:
                                                            Chromium (Cr)
     Sulfuric Acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>)
                                                            Lead (Pb)
     Hydrofluoric Acid (HF)
                                                            Manganese (Mn)
     Hydrochloric Acid (HCI)
                                                            Mercury (Hg)
                                                            Silver (Ag)
Products of Incomplete Combustion (PICs):
                                                            Nickel (Ni)
     Dioxins & Furans
                                                            Zinc (Zn)
     Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
                                                            ...and more
     Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
```

## **Incineration Worse than Landfills**

- Incinerators still require landfills for their toxic ash
- Choice is NOT landfill vs. incinerator, but:

#### landfill

VS.

incinerator AND a smaller, more toxic landfill

## **Incineration Worse than Landfills**

- Incinerators still require landfills for their toxic ash
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#### landfill

VS.

incinerator <u>AND</u> a smaller, more toxic landfill

**OR...** 

**Zero Waste and minimal landfilling** 

## **Incineration Worse than Landfills**

 Incinerators still require landfills for their toxic ash / char



## Incinerator Ash = Hazardous Waste

Incinerator ash is toxic, but the U.S. EPA allows a special test that enables it to test as non-hazardous, saving the industry a lot of money



# **Trash Incinerator Health Impacts**

- Increased dioxins in blood of incinerator workers
- Increased cancers, especially:
  - laryngeal and lung cancers
  - childhood cancers
  - colorectal
  - liver
  - stomach
  - leukemia
  - soft-tissue sarcoma
  - non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Increases in babies born with spina bifida or heart defects

# **Trash Incinerator Health Impacts**



## **Medical Professionals Oppose Incineration**

#### National:

- American Academy of Family Physicians
- American Lung Association
- British Society for Ecological Medicine

#### State / regional:

- American Lung Association in Florida
- American Lung Association in Georgia
- American Lung Association in Massachusetts
- American Lung Association of New England
- Florida Medical Association
- Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition
- Massachusetts Medical Society
- North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians
- Washington State Medical Association

#### Local

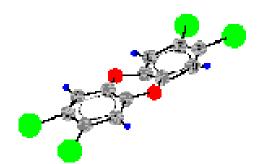
- Erie County Medical Society (Pennsylvania)
- Capital Medical Society (Tallahassee, Florida)
- Lane County Health Advisory Committee (Oregon)
- Physicians for Social Responsibility / Pioneer Valley (Massachusetts)

Copies of all of these groups' statements are available online at www.energyjustice.net/biomass/health/

## Dioxin Facts

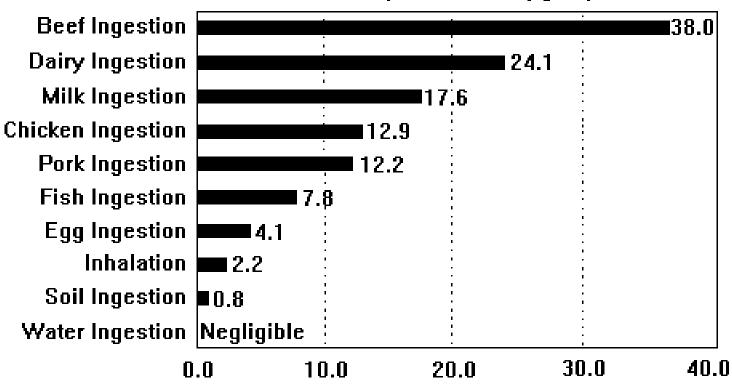
- Dioxins and furans are the most toxic chemicals known to science. They are highly toxic even in miniscule amounts.
- Dioxins cause infertility, learning disabilities, endometriosis, birth defects, sexual reproductive disorders, damage to the immune system, cancer and more.
- 93% of dioxin exposure is from eating meat and dairy products.

www.ejnet.org/dioxin/



# Exposure to Dioxins





North American Daily Intake (pg/day) of TEQ

## How to make dioxin

- Dioxins are created by burning hydrocarbons (methane) with chlorine (present in landfill gas) in the presence of oxygen.
- Dioxin emissions increase when:
  - More chlorine is in the fuel/waste stream
  - Certain metal catalysts are present (Copper, Iron, Zinc...)
  - The gases stay in a low temperature (200-450°C)

## Dioxin Confusion

Alvaro Almuina, project manager, Pyrolyzer, LLC:

"dioxins are formed when organic matter and materials containing chlorine are burned in the presence of oxygen at very high temperatures"

#### Claims:

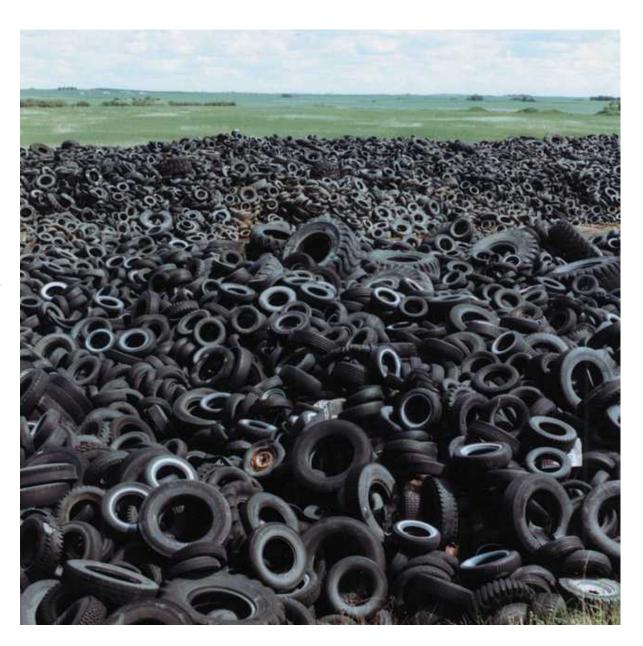
- Pyrolysis runs at low temperatures
  - True: and dioxins are formed at low temperatures
- Pyrolysis operates in the "absence of oxygen"
  - False: 20% oxygen in pyrolysis syngas

# Pyrolysis Project in Wisconsin

- Oneida Seven Generations Corporation proposed a waste-to-energy pyrolysis facility in Green Bay, Wisconsin.
- City Council revoked permit due to knowingly false claims of company in pursuit of permits
- Court upheld revocation
- Tribal members voted to reject similar plastics to energy project on reservation

## Tire Pile Problems

- Tires cause health problems (mosquitoes)
- Can catch fire
- Expensive to get rid of



## Tire Derived Fuel – US EPA

#### General Information

- In 2003: 130 million scrap tires used as fuel (45% of amount generated)
- Shredded or whole tires used

#### Claimed Advantages

- Tires produce the same amount of energy as oil and 25% more energy than coal
- The ash residues from TDF may contain a lower heavy metals content than some coals.
- Results in lower NOx emissions when compared to many U.S. coals, particularly the high-sulfur coals.

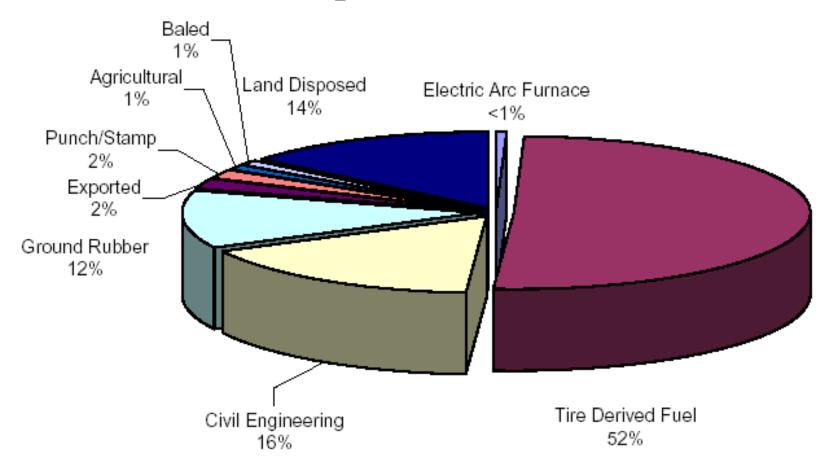
#### EPA

• The Agency supports the responsible use of tires in Portland cement kilns and other industrial facilities



## Tire Incineration in U.S.

• 52% of U.S. scrap tires are burned



#### 2005 US Scrap Tire Market Summary

(millions of tires)

Tire-Derived Fuel (TDF)	
Cement Kilns	58.0
Pulp & Paper Mills	39.0
Electric Utilities	27.0
Dedicated Tire Incineration	10.0
Industrial Boilers	21.0
Total TDF	155.1
Products	
Ground Rubber	37.5
Cut/Punched/Stamped	6.1
Civil Engineering	49.2
Misc./Agriculture	3.1
Electric Arc Furnaces	1.3
Export	6.9
TOTAL USE	259.2
TOTAL GENERATION	299.2

- Most tire incineration is done in cement kilns and paper mills
- These are also very polluting and have been fought by community groups

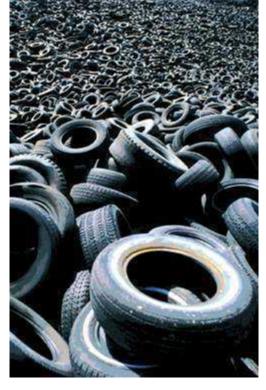
# Alternatives to Burning Tires

- Source Reduction
- Toxics Use Reduction
- Reuse (Retreading)
- Recycling
- Devulcanization
- Rubberized Asphalt Concrete
- Monofills



## **Dedicated Tire Incinerators**

- Modesto Energy LP Westley, CA
  - Giant tire pile fire in 1999, closing plant
- Exeter Energy LP Sterling, CT
  - Opened in 1991; extensive history of violations
  - Its ash is considered hazardous waste due to high levels of toxic metals; ash was improperly sold as fertilizer in Washington state in the mid-1990s
- Geneva Energy, LLC Ford Heights, IL
  - Opened in 1996
  - fire on the conveyor feeding the boiler shut it down; reopened in recent years
- Heartland Energy and Recycling, LLC Preston, MN
  - Never built
  - Defeated by community opposition in 2005





## Tire Pile Fires

- Companies usually ship in whole tires (complete with pooled water and mosquitos) and chip tires on site
- Some tires will have to be piled while waiting for the shredder
- Chipped/shredded tires will still be stockpiled onsite, either in a building or outdoors
- Shredded tires have a higher surface area with more air exposure and catch fire more quickly.



# Westley, CA Tire Fire

• Tire incinerator is near land that had been used as a tire dump for years. The pile was struck by lightning Sept. 22, touching off a fire that burned for a month and consumed nearly 5 million of the 7 million tires that had been stored there.



# Westley, CA Tire Fire



# Chemical Composition of Tires

Typical types of materials used to manufacture tires:

Synthetic Rubber

**Natural Rubber** 

Sulfur and sulfur compounds

Silica

Phenolic resin

Oil: aromatic, naphthenic, paraffinic

Fabric: Polyester, Nylon, Etc.

Petroleum waxes

Pigments: zinc oxide, titanium dioxide, etc.

Carbon black

Fatty acids

Inert materials

Steel Wire



# Chemical Composition of Tires

Description	% By Weight, as Received		
Moisture	0.62		
Ash	4.78		
Carbon	83.87		
Hydrogen	7.09		
Nitrogen	0.24		
Sulfur	1.23		
Oxygen (by difference)	2.17		
Total	100		
Elemental Mineral Analysis (Oxide Form)			
Zinc	1.52		
Calcium	0.378		
Iron	0.321		
Chlorine	0.149		
Chromium	0.0097		
Fluoride	0.001		
Cadmium	0.0006		
Lead	0.0065		

Representative Analysis of TDF Produced By WRI

(Source: TDF Produced From Scrap Tires with 96+% Wire Removed)



# Chemical Composition of Tire Ash

COMPOUND	SAMPLE 1	SAMPLE 2	AVERAGE
Total Carbon %	0.071	0.258	0.164
Aluminum	0.128	0.283	0.206
Arsenic	0.002		0.001
Cadmium	0.001	0.001	0.001
Chromium	0.978	0.068	0.523
Copper	0.255	0.32	0.288
Iron	95.713	96.721	96.217
Lead	0.001	0.001	0.001
Magnesium	0.058	0.059	0.058
Manganese	0.058	0.307	0.416
Nickel	0.241	0.093	0.167
Potassium	0.01	0.015	0.012
Silicon	0.34	0.246	0.293
Sodium	0.851	0.701	0.776
Zinc	0.052	0.16	0.106
Tin	0.007	0.006	0.006
Sulfur	0.766	0.762	0.764

Preliminary Results Of Slag (Bottom Ash) Analysis



# Chemical Composition of Tire Ash

Contents	Weight by	Weight by Percentage		
Zinc	51.48%			
Lead		0.22%		
Iron		6.33%		
Chromium		0.03%		
Copper		0.55%		
Nickel		0.03%		
Arsenic		0.02%		
Aluminum		0.76%		
Magnesium		0.50%		
Sodium		0.01%		
Potassium		0.01%		
Magesium Dioxide		0.36%		
Tin		0.03%		
Silicon		6.85%		
Cadmium		0.05%		
Carbon		32.20%		
	Total	99.43%		

Note: These results are from incineration of 100% tire fuel.

Sources: Radian Corporation, Results From Sampling and Analysis of Wastes From the Gummi Mayer Tire Incinerator, May 1985.



## Tire Derived Fuel Emissions

- Data on emissions from tire burning varies
- Some studies compare a mixture of tires and coal to 100% coal; others compare to other mixtures of fuels
- Chemical composition of coal can vary by coal type and region
- Data is from cement kilns, paper mills or other industrial boilers
- Operating conditions may vary



## Tire Derived Fuel Emissions

Common trends in comparing TDF/coal mixture to 100% coal

INCREASE	POSSIBLY INCREASES	DECREASE
Chromium	Arsenic	Fluoride
Copper	Barium	Nitrogen Oxides
Lead	Beryllium	
Nickel	Cadmium	
Zinc	Chlorine	
Dioxins/Furans	Hydrochloric Acid	
PCBs	Magnesium	
PAHs	Manganese	
Sulfur Dioxide	Mercury	
Carbon Monoxide		
Benzene		

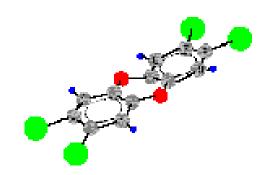
## Chlorine in Tires

- Add Chlorine to tires
  - Aromatic extender oils
  - "Salt-bath" vulcanization process
  - Halogenated butyl rubber liners
- California study: Tires have 2-5 times the chlorine level of western coal
- EPA survey: chlorine levels in tires 2% higher than the national average for bituminous coal



# Dioxin Emissions from Tire Burning

Data From	TDF Content (% TDF compared to 100% coal)	Dioxins/Furans
4 California Cement Kilns	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Increased between 53% and 100%
		Increased 37% and 247% in two tests
5 Canadian Cement Kilns		Decreased 54% and 55% in two other tests
		Dioxins increased 139-184%
Victorville, CA Cement Kiln	24.60%	Furans increased 129%
Cupertino, CA Cement Kiln		Increased 30%
		Dioxins increased 398% and 1,425% in two
		tests
Davenport, CA Cement Kiln	30%	Furans increased 58% and 2,230% in two tests
Davenport, CA Cement Kiln	20%	Increased 25%
Lucerne Valley, CA Cement Kiln	20%	Dioxins and some dibenzofurans increased
Chester, PA Paper Mill	4-8%	Increased 4,140%
U Iowa, Iowa City, IA Industrial		
Boiler	4%	Decreased 44%
U Iowa, Iowa City, IA Industrial		
Boiler	8%	Decreased 83%





# Zero Waste Jobs



Deconstruction Crew, Second Chance, Baltimore, MD. Photo Credit: C. Seldman

## What is Zero Waste?

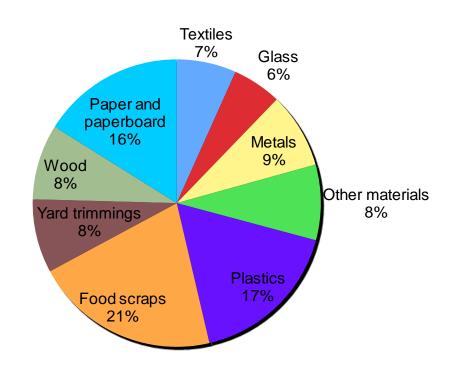
"Zero Waste is a goal that is ethical, economical, efficient and visionary, to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use.

Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them.

Implementing Zero Waste will eliminate all discharges to land, water or air that are a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health."

# **Money Thrown Away**

\$11.4 billion worth of recyclable packaging wasted (sent to landfills and incinerators) in 2010







# AUSTIN RESOURCE RECOVERY MASTER PLAN DECEMBER 15, 2011





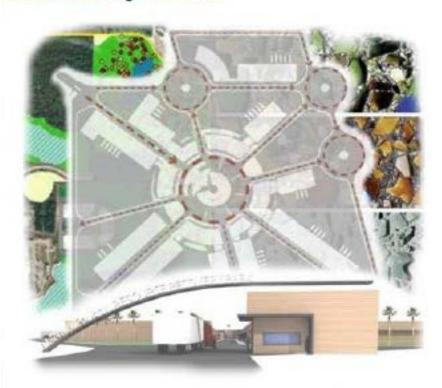


#### Table 1 - Projected Department Hauled Material Collection

	In Tons				
Department Hauled Collection	FY 2010 (Actual)	FY 2015	FY 2020	FY 2025	FY 2030
Total waste disposal	138,757	115,000	68,000	49,000	37,000
Total diversion: reuse, recycling, organics, HHW	82,611	115,000	205,000	277,250	332,000
Total waste generation	221,368	230,000	273,000	326,250	369,000
Diversion rate	38%	50%	75%	85%	90%

# ALACHUA-COUNTLY Florida

#### Alachua County Resource Recovery Park



Working in conjuction with the University of Florida College of Design,
Construction and Planning over the Fall of 2010 through the Spring of
2011conceptual plans for the economic development of the Leveda Brown
Environmental Park expansion were modeled. These proposals will help shape
the eventual request for proposals for the buildout of the Resouce Recovery Park;
an integral component of the Alachua County Sustainable Solid Waste Strategy.
Submissions to the County covered three overarching components:

## Ohio State Reported Achieving Zero Waste Last Fall



Last November 3, Ohio State University achieved zero waste at its Ohio Stadium – <u>diverting a record</u> 98.2% of its total generated waste. Total attendance was 105,311.

At its October 20<sup>th</sup> home game, OSU diverted 94.4%. That's everything from food scraps to compostable packaging to recyclables.

# **Zero Waste Hierarchy**

- Rethink / Redesign
- Reduce
- Reuse
- Recycle
- Compost
- Research
- Stabilize (digest) / Monofill and manage properly

# Zero Waste Hierarchy (1/6)

#### Redesign

- Make products durable, recycled and recyclable
- Use materials which are more environmentally sustainable

#### Reduce

- Toxics Use Reduction
- Reduce amounts of toxic chemicals in production
- Replace toxic chemicals with less toxic or non-toxic alternatives

#### Consumption Reduction

- Use less
- Buy less (reduce advertising)
- Buy stuff with less packaging
- Avoid disposables & non-recyclables

#### Packaging Reduction

includes styrofoam bans and single-use paper/plastic bag bans and taxes

# Zero Waste Hierarchy (2/6)

#### • Reuse/Repair

- Thrift stores
- Charity collections
- Dumpster diving
- Freecycle
- Paint blending
- Repair centers for bikes, computers/peripherals, furniture, appliances, etc.

#### • Recycle

- source-separation, not single stream
- seek the highest end-use and avoid "downcycling"; segregate office paper from lower paper grades and other recyclables, to keep quality high
- buy recycled; create market for glass so that glass collected for recycling is actually recycled, not dumped in landfills
- adopt a bottle bill / wastepicking

# Zero Waste Hierarchy (3/6)

#### Compost

- Curbside collection of organics (weekly), which can be done while decreasing the collection of trash and recyclables to biweekly (the smelly stuff in trash is the compostable stuff, so this encourages people to compost if they don't want trash smelling).
- Ban clean organics (not sewage sludge!) from landfills. Sewage sludge, even after being digested, does not belong on farm fields or in urban gardens.
- Clean compost from food scraps and yard waste can be used in gardening or landscaping.

#### Research

 on a regular basis, do a waste sort and see what remains in the waste and feed that into Extended Producer Responsibility campaigns, product bans and other measures to eliminate these residual materials from the waste stream, ensuring that they're dealt with further up in this hierarchy

# Zero Waste Hierarchy (4/6)

- "Dirty" Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) for the remainder
  - pull out additional recyclable and compostable material. It's important that this not be a replacement for source separation and upstream recycling, as it will get people out of their good recycling habits and will degrade the quality of recyclables, lowering their value and ensuring less will actually be recycled.
- Anaerobic digestion
  - The remainder, if there is enough organic material in it, should be digested in order to reduce the methane generating potential, stabilizing the waste
- Monofill (landfill in separate landfill cells at existing landfills)

## Zero Waste Hierarchy (5/6)

- Ensure proper landfill management (don't mismanage the landfill by managing it for energy production)
  - Minimize gas production: Do not manage the waste facility as an energy facility by stimulating gas production.
    - Keep out liquids
      - Cover the active face of the landfill to keep out rainwater, using a temporary structure
      - Do not recirculate leachate
    - Cap landfills with permanent synthetic covers and install gas collection systems in months, not years.
  - Maximize gas collection:
    - Segregate organics in landfills for best gas collection
    - Maintain high suction on collection wells; do not damp down wells or rotate off the wells to stimulate methane production

## Zero Waste Hierarchy (6/6)

- Clean the gas prior to use
  - Filter toxins in the gas into a solid medium like a carbon filter; containerized and store on-site.
    - Do not send to carbon "regeneration" or "recycling" facilities [they simply incinerate the captured chemicals, polluting the air]
- The purified gas can be used:
  - for heating purposes (burned in a high efficiency boiler),
  - piped into gas lines,
  - used to make alternative vehicle fuel,
  - used in fuel cells,
  - burned for electricity in a high efficiency turbine (less preferable to uses for heating), or
  - the CO2 and methane can be segregated and sold as industrial chemical feedstocks (but not for food industry use).
- Landfill gas-to-energy should not be considered renewable (That allows it to undercut clean sources like wind and solar and puts source reduction, reuse, recycling and composting at a competitive disadvantage.)

### For more Info...

#### • Incineration:

- www.EnergyJustice.net/incineration/
- www.EnergyJustice.net/tires/
- www.no-burn.org
- www.GreenAction.org

#### Landfills and Landfill Gas Burning:

- www.EnergyJustice.net/lfg/
- www.ejnet.org/landfills
- www.beyondlandfilling.org

#### • Zero Waste:

- www.EnergyJustice.net/files/technologies.pdf
- www.ilsr.org/initiatives/waste-to-wealth/
- <u>www.grrn.org/zerowaste/</u>
- www.zwia.org
- New Energy Justice zero waste page coming soon... email <u>mike@energyjustice.net</u> for resources by email until new page is up.

# **Energy Justice Network**



Mike Ewall Founder & Director 215-436-9511 mike@energyjustice.net

ENERGYJUSTICE.net