**Hauler Exemptions from Recycling and Organics Collection August 21, 2017**

ANR’s Hauler Exemption Guidance allows solid waste haulers to be eligible for recycling and organics (leaf and yard debris, food scraps) collection exemptions if a drop-off was available.

Drop-offs meet the statutory intent of “alternative services” for recycling and organics so long as they have capacity and are convenient for trash customers.

Haulers that provide recycling and organics collection could also be considered to meet the statutory intent of “alternative services” and this could allow a Solid Waste Management Entity to apply for a hauler exemption using a combination of drop-offs and haulers as the “alternative services” within a given area. Here are some examples of how these exemptions could work.

**Example 1. Drop-offs as Alternative Services.**

District A submits a request to ANR to amend there SWIP with a hauler exemption from residential food scrap collection services for the entire District, which demonstrates that “alternative services” for residents will be served by food scrap drop-offs at their transfer stations.

ANR reviews the request and maps of the region to ensure that every town is within 10 miles of a transfer station or is adjacent to town with a food scrap drop-off facility and has the capacity to collect food scraps from all residents in that region.

If all in order, ANR pre-approves the exemption for District A. District A then holds a public meeting on their amended SWIP so that final approval of the hauling exemption can be issued.

**Example 2. Haulers as Alternative Services.**

District A submits a request to ANR to amend their SWIP with a hauler exemption from both residential and commercial food scrap collection services for the entire District, which demonstrates that the “alternative services” for both of these customers will be served by 3 haulers that together serve the entire district with food scrap collection services both residentially and commercially.

ANR reviews the request to confirm hauling services are in place for all these customers within the District, with ample capacity to serve the need.

If all in order, ANR pre-approves the exemption for District A. District A then holds a public meeting on their amended SWIP so that final approval of the hauling exemption can be issued. The exemption would provide District A with 6 months to find an alternative hauler should a food scrap hauler cease to serve a portion of the District, otherwise the hauling exemption for food scraps is no longer in effect for that area.

**Example 3. Combination Drop-offs and Haulers as Alternative Services.**

Town A submits a request to ANR to amend their SWIP with a hauler exemption for both residential and commercial food scrap collection services for the entire town, which demonstrates that town residents in rural areas of town will be served by food scrap drop-off at the local transfer station and that residents in dense areas above 250 households per square mile will be served by a residential food scrap hauler. Further Town A demonstrates that commercial customers will be served by two food scrap haulers.

ANR reviews the request to confirm that hauling services are in place for all customers including in the dense areas of town and that they have the capacity to serve the need.

If all in order, ANR pre-approves the exemption for Town A. Town A then holds a public meeting on their amended SWIP so that final approval of the hauling exemption can be issued. The exemption would provide Town A with 6 months to find an alternative hauler should services become unavailable to commercial customers or residents in the dense areas, otherwise these hauler exemptions for food scraps are no longer in effect for that town.

**Please Note:** ANR is looking for feedback on this proposal, including the proposal to allow time (6 months) to find another hauler should one stop providing services.