

## **Excerpt 11**

Final Materials Separation Plan, dated April,  
2012 ("MSP"), AR I.B.8



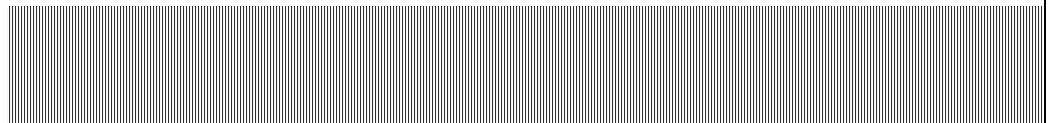
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# **Materials Separation Plan**

April 2012



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APPENDIX 8  
FINAL DRAFT MATERIALS SEPARATION PLAN  
**PUBLIC MEETING TRANSCRIPT**

## *Preface*

The Materials Separation Plan (MSP) Public Meeting held on August 12, 2011 at the Lions' Club in Arecibo Puerto Rico followed the agenda set by federal regulation for the Final Draft Materials Separation Plan and Siting Analysis for the Arecibo Resource Recovery Facility proposed by Energy Answers International. The Public Meeting started at 5:22 pm, and following the presentation of the MSP and Siting Analysis, a Question and Answer (Q & A) session began which lasted until 10:06 pm. A transcript of the meeting has been completed and, upon review of the comments and questions, this summary of the topics discussed at the public meeting was prepared by Energy Answers.

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- There are over 120 full time employees working at SEMASS, many that have been working there for 20 years or more. Their health is monitored and there is no sign of a negative impact from working at the project.
9. Are the cranberries that grow in the vicinity of SEMASS edible?
- There are about 1200 acres of cranberry bogs within a 3-mile radius of the SEMASS Resource Recovery Facility. A large percentage of these cranberries are sold to commercial operations such as Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc. whose production facility in Middleboro, MA is 9 miles from SEMASS. According to Ocean Spray's website this is the largest in Ocean Spray's network and each year produces 32 million pounds of Sweetened Dried Cranberries and 1.4 million gallons of cranberry concentrate.
  - The cranberry bogs directly adjacent to the SEMASS project are owned and operated by one of the Town municipal leaders, Mr. Brad Morse. He sells the cranberries to Ocean Spray. The fruit is regularly tested and is consistently high quality and have never shown signs of contamination.
10. Is Energy Answers aware that in the area where you will locate the plant, there is a power plant operating with a waiver from the EPA because of toxic emissions? Have you have done a study on the emissions and pollution that currently exist from the power plant, the battery recycling plant, the Rio de Arecibo, the plant in Tanamá which incinerates biological products, because the toxicity in the Cambalache area will not rely solely on Energy Answers?
- The analysis conducted for this facility included the current emissions from the Cambalache power plant with the "waiver". The analysis shows that there are no exceedances of any standards resulting from their project combined with our project in any areas where we are above the significant impact levels.
  - The cumulative impact of emissions from various sources in the area was analyzed for the Project emissions over the significant impact level in the Project's modeling analysis, and took into account all major emission sources within an approximate radius of 57 kilometers of the Project and all minor sources within a 7 kilometers radius of the Project. This included the battery recycling facility and the power plant, among others. The results of the study show that there are no exceedances of any standards resulting from their project combined with our project in any areas where we are above the significant impact levels
11. The EPA allows certain percentage of toxic releases, am I right?
- The PSD permit will define the limits of all emissions.
  - Yes, EPA has established limits for toxic chemicals that are considered safe for the public and the environment. The facility has documented that it will meet the applicable limits.
12. Where will the water used in the Plant be disposed?

- The water discharge from the Project will go to the Water and Sewer Authority waste water treatment facility.
13. Where will you get the water used for cooling and other processes in the Plant?
- The water that will be used at the plant comes from the El Vigie Pump Station, which discharges water from Caño Tiburones to the Atlantic Ocean. It's not water from Caño Tiburones, but the water that is already draining from the Caño for purposes of flood control.
14. What company will be responsible for the filters?
- Energy Answers and its construction contractors are ultimately responsible for the selection of the fabric filters used in the air pollution control system.



## *ASH MANAGEMENT*

1. The air pollution control equipment is designed to remove the mercury, dioxin, and other toxins from the emissions but what will be done with these "toxic" residues? Will they be mixed with the bottom ash?
  - The two ash streams have different properties and will be managed separately.
  - Energy Answers technology is different from mass-burn combustions systems and the properties of the ash streams in Puerto Rico are assumed to be similar to the ash created at the Massachusetts reference facility, SEMASS, and, to some extent, other Refuse Derived Fuel facilities.
  - Bottom ash can be processed to remove almost all ferrous and non-ferrous metals, which includes those items which cannot be easily recycled, and the remaining materials, which has a high content of glass, ceramic, stone, etc. can be used as a construction aggregate.
  - The ash recovered from the air pollution control equipment has consistently been tested and found to be a non-hazardous material. These non-hazardous materials can be discarded in Subtitle D landfills
  - The fly ash generated in the air pollution control system can contain heavy metals such as lead and mercury, however what is of concern is the ability for these metals to leave the ash stream and enter the environment. This typically occurs through the "leaching", or seeping or dissolving, of metals from the ash into water which could then enter the environment and possibly food chain. This is specifically what the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) test investigates. The TCLP test does not measure total metals content or hazardous materials content of the ash; rather, it measures the potential for these materials to seep or "leach" into groundwater.
  - Therefore, if the fly ash passes the TCLP test, which indicates that it is not a hazardous waste, it can be disposed of in a non-hazardous waste landfill. Subtitle D landfills do exist in Puerto Rico and it would be at one of these facilities that the ash from the Arecibo Project would be deposited, if alternative equally safe uses could not be identified.
  
2. In which landfill specifically will the ash be deposited? Do you plan to build one near this community?
  - Discussions are in progress with multiple landfill owners in Puerto Rico, however a final determination has not been made and agreement executed. Once we enter into a business agreement with one or more of the landfills for the disposal of ash, we will provide this information.
  - The Project has no intention of building a landfill in Puerto Rico or using the Arecibo Landfill for the disposal of ashes.
  
3. Is it true that one of your ash depository proposals is to open a landfill in Peñuelas and will you hold public hearings in Peñuelas?

- No, we're not going to open a landfill in Peñuelas and therefore we will not be holding any public hearings there.
  - There is an existing landfill in Pañuelas and a new facility under construction, however these facilities are owned and operated by other companies.
4. Mercury, dioxins, uranium and many other carcinogens and toxins are not altered in the ashes, their chemical identity remains. The only thing that is neutralized is the acids and a few oxides are transformed, but the chemicals and metals, they do not change their properties and remain dangerous, harmful, toxic, carcinogenic. Where are you going to send these toxic materials that are dangerous and harmful, that are caught in the traps and ash?
- See answers to previous questions above.
5. It saddens me to see how big interests are looking to exploit our mother earth. I am not against true development like agriculture, recycling, etc. I am also against the privatization of the Poza del Obispo. The big interests want to keep everything that is ours, and our land is not for sale. Do you understand?
- The SEMASS reference facility has operated for over twenty years in a growing community, which has not shown detrimental health effects, that has substantial private and commercial agricultural resources and a recycling rate above the national average. These are the results we expect the Project to have in Arecibo and the surrounding communities.