

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT



*AUDITORS' REPORT  
CONNECTICUT RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008*

**AUDITORS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

KEVIN P. JOHNSTON ❖ ROBERT G. JAEKLE

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July 21, 2010

**AUDITORS' REPORT  
CONNECTICUT RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008**

We have made an examination of the books, records and accounts of the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority (CRRA or the Authority), as provided in Section 2-90, Section 1-122 and Section 22a-263 of the General Statutes, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008.

**SCOPE OF AUDIT:**

This audit was primarily limited to performing tests of the Authority's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, including but not limited to a determination of whether the Authority has complied with its regulations concerning the following areas:

- Affirmative action
- Personnel practices
- Purchase of goods and services
- Use of surplus funds
- Distribution of loans, grants and other financial resources

We also considered the Authority's internal control over its financial operations and its compliance with requirements that could have a material or significant effect on the Authority's financial operations in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of evaluating the Authority's financial operations and compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, and not to provide assurance on the internal control over those control objects. Our consideration of internal control included the five areas identified above.

Our audit included a review of a representative sample of the Authority's activities during the audited period in the five areas noted above and a review of other such areas as we considered necessary. The financial statement audit of the Authority, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, was conducted by the Authority's independent public accountants.

This report on our examination consists of the following Comments, Condition of Records, and Recommendations which follow.

## COMMENTS

### **FOREWORD:**

The Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority operates primarily under the provisions of Sections 22a-257 through 22a-285k of the General Statutes. The Authority is a public instrumentality and political subdivision of the State, established and created as a public benefit corporation under the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Services Act (Title 22a, Chapter 446e of the General Statutes).

The function of the Authority is to implement effective systems and facilities for solid waste management and large-scale resources recovery in order to achieve maximum environmental and economic benefits for the people and municipalities of the State of Connecticut. The Authority is to provide solid waste management services to municipalities, regions and persons within the State by receiving solid wastes at its facilities on a contractual basis. Revenue produced from such services and recovered resources are to provide for the support of the Authority and its operations on a self-sustaining basis. Unrestricted net assets are available to finance future operations or to be returned through reduced tip fees or rebates. The Board of Directors of the Authority may also designate unrestricted net assets for special purposes.

Under the provisions of Section 22a-262 of the General Statutes, the Authority is authorized to utilize, through contractual arrangements, private industry to implement some or all of the solid waste management plan and such other activities it considers necessary.

### **Board of Directors and Administrative Officials:**

Section 22a-261c of the General Statutes provides for a Board membership of eleven directors; three appointed by the Governor; two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate; two appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and two appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives. In addition, no director may be a member of the General Assembly nor shall more than two directors appointed by the Governor be a member of the same political party.

As of June 30, 2008, of the directors of the Authority were as follows:

Appointed by the Governor:

Michael A. Pace, Chair  
Linda Savitsky  
Edna M. Karanian

Appointed by Legislative Leaders:

Mark Cooper  
Michael J. Jarjura  
Mark A. Laretti  
Theodore H. Martland  
James Miron  
Raymond J. O'Brien

Section 22a-261(g) of the General Statutes provides that if the legislative body of a municipality that is the site of an Authority facility passes a resolution requesting the Governor to appoint a resident of such municipality to be an ad hoc member, the Governor shall make such appointment upon the next vacancy for the ad hoc members representing such facility. The Governor shall appoint with the advice and consent of the General Assembly ad hoc members to represent each facility operated by the Authority provided at least one-half of such members shall be chief elected officials of municipalities, or their designees. Each facility shall be represented by two such members. The facilities to be represented are the Mid-Connecticut, Bridgeport, Southeast and Wallingford Projects.

As of June 30, 2008, there were four Governor-appointed ad hoc members and four vacancies:

Timothy G. Griswold	Mid-Connecticut Project
Stephen Edwards	Bridgeport Project
Warren C. Howe Jr.	Wallingford Project
Geno J. Zandri Jr.	Wallingford Project

Ad hoc members are empowered to vote solely on matters pertaining to the projects they represent.

Thomas Kirk was appointed as President of the Authority on November 21, 2002, and served in that capacity throughout the audited period.

### **State of Connecticut Loans and Special Capital Reserve Fund:**

As described in our previous report, the Authority suffered a significant financial hardship as a result of a failed agreement between the Authority's Mid-Connecticut Project and Enron. Subsequent to the bankruptcy of Enron, the General Assembly passed Public Act 02-46 in an effort to help ease the financial situation of the Authority's Mid-Connecticut Project. Public Act 02-46 authorized a loan by the State to the Authority of up to \$115,000,000 to support the repayment of the Authority's debt for the Mid-Connecticut facility and to minimize the amount of tipping fee increases chargeable to the towns which use the Mid-Connecticut facility. In the following year the General Assembly passed Public Act 03-5, which authorized a loan by the State to the Authority for \$22,000,000 of the \$115,000,000 through June 30, 2004. The \$22,000,000 authorized included a previous authorization of \$2,000,000 from fiscal year 2003. During March 2004, the State further approved a \$20,000,000 loan to the Authority for fiscal year 2005.

As of June 30, 2007, the Authority had drawn down \$21,500,175 of the authorized State loans and after repayments had a principal balance of \$13,320,000 outstanding. The Authority makes monthly loan repayments comprising both principal and interest payments. The monthly interest rate on the State loans equals the monthly State Treasurer's Short Term Investment Fund rate plus 25 basis points, and is capped at six percent. The Authority has not made a drawdown on State loans since December 2004. On October 26, 2006, the Authority's Board of Directors authorized the full repayment of the State loans from the escrow established for such purposes. On February 15, 2008, the Authority paid the State Loans in full.

The Authority's debt for the Mid-Connecticut facility is secured by revenues from the participating member towns under service agreements that commit the towns to deliver a minimum amount of waste to the facility each year. In addition, the non-defeased Mid-Connecticut project bonds are further secured by municipal bond insurance and by the Special Capital Reserve Fund (SCRF) of the State of Connecticut whereby the State is obligated to maintain a minimum capital reserve for the bonds to the extent the Authority uses monies in the special capital reserve fund to pay debt service on the Authority's outstanding bonds. As of June 30, 2007 the Authority had approximately \$28,610,000 in Mid-Connecticut bonds outstanding, of which \$15,290,000 was 1996 Series A Bonds, secured by the State's Special Capital Reserve Fund. As of June 30, 2008 the Authority had approximately \$15,290,000 in Mid-Connecticut bonds outstanding, of which \$15,290,000 was 1996 Series A Bonds, secured by the State's Special Capital Reserve Fund.

**Other Examinations:**

As noted previously in this report, the financial statements of the Authority have been subject to annual audits by independent public accountants (IPAs). We have excerpted data from these audited financial statements that we present in the project discussions in the following section of this report.

Along with their audit report on the Authority's financial statements, the IPAs issued a separate management letter to the CRRA Board of Directors on September 25, 2008. They identified matters which appeared to require the strengthening of internal controls or presented opportunities for improved operating efficiency. They are summarized as follows:

- The Authority does not maintain formal standards and procedures for documentation of new software applications as well as modifications of existing software applications. In addition, such changes to software applications are not formally reviewed or approved by management of the Authority. There is a risk that unauthorized changes can be introduced into the system could impact the integrity of data or the availability of the software application.
- The Authority should ensure that adequate unrestricted net assets are available so that designations do not exceed unrestricted net assets available for the Bridgeport Project.
- The Authority maintains off-premises storage for back-up files of the Authority's master files and transaction files. However, the Authority does not perform periodic testing of such backup files to make certain that they are usable in event of a disaster.
- There has been no independent third party vulnerability assessment performed on the Authority's exposed connections to the Internet. Thus, there is a risk to the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the Authority's systems and data.

**RÉSUMÉ OF OPERATIONS:**

The Authority's financial operations are comprised of four comprehensive solid waste disposal systems and a General Fund. Each of the operating systems has a unique legal, contractual, financial and operational structure described as follows:

**Mid-Connecticut Project:**

The main components of this project are located in Hartford and consist of a waste processing facility, power block facility and regional recycling center located in Hartford. There are four operating transfer stations located in Torrington, Essex, Watertown and Ellington, and landfills in Hartford and Ellington. The Mid-Connecticut Project was certified for commercial operation on October 25, 1988.

The waste processing facility, owned by the Authority, converts municipal solid waste into "refuse derived fuel" (RDF) by removing ferrous metals; screening and removal of process residues consisting of glass, grit, and other inert materials; and then shredding the trash. The shredded mixture is then blown into boilers located in the power block facility. The Mid-Connecticut Project is the only facility in Connecticut to utilize the RDF technology. The waste processing facility and the Hartford landfill are operated by the Metropolitan District Commission under contract with the Authority. The power block facility and energy generating facility are operated by Covanta Energy Corp., under contract with the Authority during the audited period.

In conjunction with the deregulation of the State's electric industry, the Authority acquired energy generating assets that include four peaking jet turbines, two steam turbines, and certain land and other assets from the Connecticut Light and Power Company. Operating and maintenance agreements were entered into with the Northeast Generation Services Company to operate the jet turbines and with Covanta Mid-Conn, Inc. to operate the steam turbines.

Below are selected revenue amounts extracted from the audited financial statements along with processed municipal solid waste (MSW) tonnage and member town tipping fees.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>
MSW tonnage processed	734,656	794,027
Member and other service charges	\$54,142,000	\$58,476,000
Energy generation	\$28,773,000	\$24,067,000
Member town tipping fee per ton	\$69.00/\$61.25	\$69.00

The permitted rated capacity of this project is 888,888 tons of MSW per year.

The Mid-Connecticut Project includes two intermediate processing facilities (IPF) located in Hartford. At these facilities, recyclable materials are delivered from member towns, separated and then sold to end markets. One facility processes newsprint, corrugated cardboard and office paper. The second processes glass, plastic and metal containers. The Authority owns the container processing portion of the Regional Recycling Center, and leases the paper processing portion. A new combined recycling facility, replacing the container only processing facility,

opened in May 2007. This new facility was designed and built by FCR. Under FCR's agreement with CRRA, FCR paid the entire cost of the project.

Financial transactions of both recycling facilities are accounted for within the Mid-Connecticut Project fund. To date, the Authority has not charged member towns a tip fee for recyclables brought to the two facilities. The recycling operation is not financially self-sustaining, as operations are subsidized by service charges (MSW tipping fees) and energy generation revenue of the Mid-Connecticut Project. CRRA has responsibility for all debt issued in the development of the Mid-Connecticut system.

There are four transfer stations owned by the Authority. The Torrington transfer station opened in March 1988. The Essex transfer station opened in October 1988. The Ellington transfer station opened in August 1990 and the Watertown transfer station opened in December 1990.

The Authority leases the land for the Essex transfer station and the paper-processing portion of the Regional Recycling Center and owns the land for the Resources Recovery Facility.

The Hartford landfill, owned by the City of Hartford, is leased to the Authority. The landfill contains a methane gas extraction and collection system, which had been installed to reduce the odors and emissions produced. The Authority owns the Ellington landfill, which was closed in 1998.

**Bridgeport Project:**

The Bridgeport trash-to-energy project utilizes "mass burn" technology. In contrast with the Mid-Connecticut project, there is no shredding of trash and there is minimal separation of ferrous metals. The "mass burn" technology is much simpler than the RDF technology described in the preceding section of this report.

The Project is owned by the Authority and operated by Bridgeport Resco Company, L.P., a subsidiary of Wheelabrator Environmental Systems, Inc. The Resources Recovery Facility is leased to the Bridgeport Resco Company, L.P. under a long-term arrangement. The Bridgeport Resco Company, L.P. has beneficial ownership of the facility through this arrangement and is obligated to pay for the costs of the facility including debt service (other than the portion allocable to Authority purposes, for which the Authority is responsible). The Authority derives its revenues from service fees charged to member municipalities and other system users. The Authority pays the Bridgeport Resco Company, L.P. a contractually determined disposal fee.

The Authority has no rights to electricity sales revenue derived from this project; therefore, electric revenue is not shown in the financial and operating summary below. The project has an annual rated capacity of 821,250 tons of municipal solid waste.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>
MSW tonnage processed	742,073	733,669
Member and other service charges	\$47,186,000	\$47,439,000
Member town tipping fee per ton	\$76.00	\$78.00



The Authority also owns eight transfer stations that feed into the Bridgeport project; these stations are located in Darien, Fairfield, Greenwich, Milford, Norwalk, Shelton, Trumbull and Bridgeport. The Bridgeport Resco Company, L.P. operates all eight transfer stations. There are other municipally-owned stations that also feed into the Bridgeport project. Ash from the Bridgeport project was delivered to a landfill in Shelton, until February 1998. Currently, ash residue is disposed of at the Putnam landfill under contract with Wheelabrator.

There are two advisory boards that provide oversight to the operations of the Bridgeport project. The Southwest Regional Recycling Operating Committee (SWEROC) is a separate governmental entity as authorized under Section 22a-221a of the General Statutes; SWEROC provides oversight for the recycling operations of the Bridgeport project member towns. The Greater Bridgeport Solid Waste Advisory Board, also known as the "Interlocal", provides advice regarding the operations of the Bridgeport waste-to-energy plant. The "Interlocal" was created in accordance with the municipal service agreements.

**Wallingford Project:**

The project consists of a Resources Recovery Facility, owned by the Authority and operated by Covanta Projects of Wallingford, L.P., and a leased landfill in Wallingford. This project started commercial operation on May 26, 1989. The Resources Recovery Facility is leased to Covanta Projects of Wallingford under a long-term arrangement. The private vendor has beneficial ownership of the facility through this arrangement. The vendor is responsible for operating the facility and servicing the debt (other than the portion allocable to Authority purposes for which the Authority is responsible). The project's revenues are primarily service fees charged to users and fees for electrical energy generated. The Authority pays the vendor a contractually determined service fee. The operating contract has provisions for revenue sharing with the vendor if prescribed operating parameters are achieved. This plant is designed to process 153,300 tons of municipal solid waste per year utilizing the "mass burn" technology.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>
MSW tonnage processed	143,326	142,178
Member and other service charges	\$8,826,000	\$8,915,000
Energy generation	\$11,189,000	\$13,790,000
Member town tipping fee per ton	\$59.00	\$58.00

The Wallingford Project Policy Board provides advice to the Authority with regard to the operation of the Wallingford project. The Board was created in accordance with the municipal service agreements.

**Southeast Project:**

The Southeast Project consists of a "mass burn" Resources Recovery Facility in Preston and a landfill in Montville which has been closed. The Resources Recovery Facility began operation in 1992 and is owned by the Authority and leased to American Ref-Fuel of Southeastern Connecticut. The private vendor has beneficial ownership of the facility through this arrangement. The vendor is responsible for operating the facility and servicing the debt (other than the portion allocable to Authority purposes, for which the Authority is responsible). The Authority derives revenues from service fees charged to participating municipalities and pays the vendor a service fee for the disposal service.

## ***Auditors of Public Accounts***

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The permit capacity of this project is 251,850 tons of municipal solid waste per year. The tipping fee for this project is set by Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRA), which operates in accordance with Sections 7-273aa to 7-273pp of the General Statutes. Currently, ash residue is disposed of at the Putnam Landfill under contract with Wheelabrator.

Selected revenue and tonnage amounts, as shown below, have been obtained from the audited financial statements. Electric energy and nonmember town revenues accrue to the private vendor with certain contractually prescribed credits to the service fee for these revenue types.

<b><u>Fiscal Year</u></b>	<b><u>2007-2008</u></b>	<b><u>2006-2007</u></b>
MSW tonnage processed	258,209	265,184
Member and other service charges	\$10,955,000	\$11,224,000
Member town tipping fee per ton	\$60.00	\$60.00

### **Summary of Revenues, Expenses and Net Income:**

Revenue expenses and net income for the Authority for the audited period, as compared to the previous fiscal year, were as follows:

	<b><u>2007-2008</u></b>	<b><u>2006-2007</u></b>
Operating revenues:		
Service charges: Members	\$ 86,455,000	\$ 91,848,000
Service charges: Others	33,308,000	33,917,000
Energy sales	39,962,000	37,857,000
Ash disposal and other income	<u>15,765,000</u>	<u>16,892,000</u>
Total operating revenues	<u>175,490,000</u>	<u>180,514,000</u>
Operating Expenses:		
Solid waste operations	136,899,000	137,767,000
Depreciation/amortization	18,184,000	18,189,000
Maintenance and utilities	3,862,000	2,401,000
Landfill closure/postclosure	5,114,000	34,639,000
Project administration	<u>10,091,000</u>	<u>13,342,000</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>174,150,000</u>	<u>206,338,000</u>
Operating (loss) income	1,340,000	(25,824,000)
Non-operating (expenses) and income	<u>9,361,000</u>	<u>13,309,000</u>
Income before Special Items	10,701,000	(12,515,000)
Special Items:		<u>(1,148,000)</u>
Defeasance of Debt	<u>-</u>	
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b><u>\$ 10,701,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (13,663,000)</u></b>

Operating Revenues decreased by \$5.0 million or 2.8% during fiscal year 2008 from fiscal year 2007 and increased slightly by \$0.4, million or 0.2% during fiscal year 2007 over fiscal year 2006. The fiscal year 2008 decrease is primarily due to a \$6.0 million decrease in member and contract deliveries and a \$1.3 million decrease in operating revenues, partially offset by a \$2.1 million increase in energy sales.

Operating expenses decreased by \$32.2 million or 17.1% during fiscal year 2008 primarily due to a \$29.5 million decrease in landfill closure and post-closure costs as a result a settlement agreement executed in fiscal year 2007 in association with the Hartford landfill and the impact of increased projected costs at all five landfills, decreased solid waste operations and project administration of \$0.9 million and \$3.3 million, respectively, offset by a \$1.5 million increase in maintenance and utilities.

**Statement 18 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board:**

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 18 requires owners and operators of Municipal Solid Waste Landfills to accrue total closure and postclosure costs over the life of the landfill. These owners and operators must be legally liable for these costs. This Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 1993. It defines closure and postclosure costs as those costs expected near or after the date each landfill stops accepting waste. These costs include, but are not limited to, the following: equipment to be installed, facilities to be constructed, final cover to be applied, monitoring to be performed and maintenance after closure of the landfill. Accruals for closure and postclosure costs are based on the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Estimated Total Current Cost} \times \text{Cumulative Capacity Used}}{\text{Total Estimated Capacity}} - \text{Amount Previously Recognized} = \text{Accrual}$$

Estimated accrued closure and postclosure costs, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, was \$5,114,000. This compares to estimated costs of \$34,639,000 for the previous fiscal year. The difference from year to year was apparently due to significantly higher closure and post-closure costs for the Shelton landfill and a minor increase in projected costs for the Hartford and Ellington landfills. Within the Authority's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, the notes to the financial statements show that the remaining costs to be recognized by the Authority totaled \$1,300,000 as of June 30, 2008. These costs are allocable to each landfill as follows:

<u>Landfill</u>	<u>Remaining Costs to be Recognized</u>	<u>Capacity Used</u>		<u>Estimated Years of Remaining Life</u>	
		<u>Ash</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Ash</u>	<u>Other</u>
Hartford	\$1,300,000	95%	98%	0.5	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$1,300,000</u></b>				

**CONDITION OF RECORDS**

Our examination of the records of the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority did not reveal any matters requiring disclosure.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Our prior report on the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, contained eight recommendations. The status of those recommendations is presented below:

*Prior Audit Recommendations:*

- **The Authority, in conjunction with the DEP, should produce the required annual plans of operation for inclusion in the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan in accordance with Section 22a-264 of the General Statutes and make available such plans on the Internet in accordance with Section 22a-263a of the General Statutes.**

The Authority has taken sufficient steps to address this matter. In January 2008, the Board of Directors authorized management to submit the Annual Plan of Operations for FY 2008 and FY 2009 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). In July 15, 2008 the Authority received a response from the DEP. The DEP advised the Authority that it cannot approve the Annual Plan of Operations as submitted without further clarification by the Authority of several matters discussed in the Annual Plan of Operations. The Authority responded to DEP's questions in December 2008. Upon receiving final DEP concurrence that the Plan was consistent with the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan, the Plan was brought before the Board of Directors for adoption. On January 26, 2010, the Authority sent a letter to the DEP requesting a meeting to discuss what additional information DEP needs in order to approve the plan. As of April 7, 2010, the Authority has not received a response from DEP.

- **The Authority needs to separate staff duties involving billing and collection to maintain proper internal control over revenue.**

This recommendation has been resolved by the Authority. As of May 2008, the Authority restructured the two positions to segregate duties over billing and collections.

- **Strengthen internal controls and improve operating efficiency to ensure that adequate unrestricted net assets are available prior to designation and that existing designations are modified as necessary so that existing designations do not exceed unrestricted net assets available.**

The Authority has taken sufficient steps to address this matter. On October 2007, the Authority's Board of Directors approved the undesignation of the landfill post-closure and closure reserves. The Authority has established individual Short-Term Investment Fund accounts to receive and hold the post-closure and closure funds. On November 2007, the Authority received a \$3 million grant-in-aid to reimburse costs associated with the closure of the Shelton landfill from the State Bonding Commission, which partly mitigates the Bridgeport Project negative undesignated net assets. In addition, Management has completed a cash flow analysis for the remaining term of the project. Based upon the results of the cash flow analysis, Management has increased the fiscal year 2009 budget in an effort to resolve the negative undesignated net asset by the end of the project.

- **The Authority should ensure its compliance with Section 22a-263 of the General Statutes which states the directors of the Authority shall meet at least monthly at the call of the chairman and may meet more frequently if necessary and desirable.**  
This recommendation has been resolved by the Authority. The Board meets at least every thirty days.
- **The Authority should comply with Section 4-33a of the General Statutes which requires prompt notification to the Auditors of Public Accounts and the State Comptroller when there is a breakdown in the safekeeping of any quasi-public agency resources.**  
This recommendation has been resolved by the Authority. The Authority has enacted a definitive procedure for notifying the appropriate State Agencies when a circumstance may arise.
- **The Authority should make information available to the public through the internet in accordance with Section 22a-263a.**  
This recommendation has been resolved by the Authority. The Authority now posts all required information on the internet.
- **The Authority should comply with Section 22a-268d (b) of the General Statutes and submit, on a quarterly basis, reports detailing the status of the financial mitigation plan to the State Treasurer, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding.**  
This recommendation has been resolved by the Authority. The Authority is no longer borrowing money from the State. The Authority's last borrowing from the State occurred on December 29, 2004.
- **The Authority should comply with its own procurement policies and procedures.**  
This recommendation has been resolved by the Authority. The Authority has performed two updates to the internal procurement routing system. These updates ensure that all appropriate individuals review any procurement, including bids, prior to the execution of these procurements.

*Current Audit Recommendations:*

- No recommendation resulted from our current review.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' CERTIFICATION

As required by Section 2-90 and Section 1-122 of the General Statutes we have conducted an audit of Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. This audit was primarily limited to performing tests of the Authority's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, including but not limited to a determination of whether the Authority has complied with its regulations concerning affirmative action, personnel practices, the purchase of goods and services, the use of surplus funds and the distribution of loans, grant agreements and other financial resources, and to understanding and evaluating the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control policies and procedures for ensuring that the provisions of certain laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements applicable to the Authority are complied with. The financial statement audit of the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority, for the fiscal year indicated above, was conducted by the Authority's independent public accountants.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the requirements of Section 2-90 and Section 1-122 of the General Statutes. In doing so, we planned and performed the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority complied in all material respects with the provisions of certain laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and to obtain a sufficient understanding of internal control to plan the audit and determine the nature, timing and extent of tests to be performed during the conduct of the audit.

### **Internal Control over Financial Operations and Compliance:**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority's internal control over its financial operations and its compliance with requirements as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of evaluating the Authority's financial operations and compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, but not for the purpose of providing assurance on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over those control objectives. Our consideration of internal control included, but was not limited to, the following areas:

- Affirmative action
- Personnel practices
- Purchase of goods and services
- Use of surplus funds
- Distribution of loans, grants and other financial resources.

A *control deficiency* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect on a timely basis unauthorized, illegal, or irregular transactions. A *significant deficiency* is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Authority's ability to properly initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably consistent with management's direction, and/or comply with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements such that there is

more than a remote likelihood that noncompliance with laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Authority's internal control.

A *material weakness* is a significant *deficiency*, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that noncompliance which could result in significant unauthorized, illegal, irregular or unsafe transactions and/or material noncompliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that would be material in relation to the Authority's financial operations will not be prevented or detected by the Authority's internal control.

Our consideration of the internal control over the Authority's financial operations and compliance with requirements would not necessarily disclose all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over the Authority's financial operations and compliance with requirements that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

### **Compliance and Other Matters:**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority complied with laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could result in significant unauthorized, illegal, irregular or unsafe transactions or could have a direct and material effect on the results of the Authority's financial operations for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, including but not limited to the following areas:

- Affirmative action
- Personnel practices
- Purchase of goods and services
- Use of surplus funds
- Distribution of loans, grants and other financial resources.

Our examination included reviewing all or a representative sample of the Authority's activities in those areas and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary the circumstances. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance.

This report is intended for the information of the Governor, the State Comptroller, the Appropriations Committee of the General Assembly and the Legislative Committee on Program Review and Investigations. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited. Users of this report should be aware that our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Authority's compliance with the provisions of the laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements included within the scope of this audit.



**CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, we wish to express appreciation for the courtesy and cooperation extended to our representatives by the personnel of the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority during the course of this examination.

Nikolaos Perdikakis  
Auditor II

Approved:

Robert G. Jaekle  
Auditor of Public Accounts

Kevin P. Johnston  
Auditor of Public Accounts