

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: WASTE DISPOSAL TO BOONE COUNTY LANDFILL

BACKGROUND:

The Resource Recovery System includes the Resource Recovery Plant (RRP) and the closed City of Ames sanitary landfill. Because the City's sanitary landfill was closed in 1992, any waste that cannot be processed into refuse-derived fuel (RDF) is currently disposed of at the Boone County Landfill. This waste (referred to as rejects) is taken to Boone under a five-year agreement which extends until June 30, 2012. The amount budgeted for reject disposal in FY 2010/11 is \$637,500.

The RRP regularly sends some incoming material straight to the landfill for disposal, since it is not suitable for processing through the plant into RDF. For this type of material, tipping fee revenue is first received by RRP prior to sending the material on to Boone. **An unexpected amount of material that cannot be processed has recently been sent to Boone due to the imminent closure of the Ames-Story Environmental Landfill. The RRP thus incurred more in disposal costs than was budgeted. While this amount is offset by revenue, an increase to the purchase order is required to cover charges through the end of the fiscal year.**

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Authorize increasing the reject disposal purchase order with the Boone County Landfill to a total of \$711,575.
2. Do not increase the reject disposal purchase order, thus requiring customers to hold waste material until FY 2011/12.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This purchase order must be increased in order to maintain reject disposal operations with the Boone County Landfill. Tipping fee revenue is first received by the RRP, thus offsetting the additional expenses.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that City Council accept Alternative No. 1, thereby authorizing an increase to the reject disposal purchase order with the Boone County Landfill to a total of \$711,575.