



February 26, 2020

Members of the Dalton Select Board
756 Dalton Road
Dalton, NH 03598

Re: Casella Waste Systems, Inc.

Dalton Select Board Members:

In the interest of a transparent and collaborative process, I am writing to give you an update on our progress as it pertains to the potential development of a new, state-of-the-art landfill in the industrial area on the outskirts of Dalton. I would also like to provide a clearer understanding of who we are as a company, our commitment to serving New Hampshire, and how we share the value created by a facility like this.

Casella Waste Systems was founded in Rutland, Vermont in 1975 with a single pickup truck and a determination to find ways to minimize and eventually eliminate the environmental impacts my brother and I had seen from the mismanagement of solid waste over the years. Just two years after that we built and began operations at Vermont's first recycling facility. Now, 45 years later, after learning and growing with the communities we serve, our company is among the leaders in waste reduction, reuse, and recycling throughout the Northeastern United States and beyond.

Today, we serve more than 50,000 households and 5,500 businesses across 150 towns and cities in New Hampshire through collection, transfer, recycling, and waste disposal operations that annually manage 250,000 tons of waste, recycling, and organics produced by New Hampshire residents. We are proud to directly employ more than 175 people across our New Hampshire operations, providing an annual payroll that exceeds \$10 million.

Status of the Dalton Landfill Project

Development of a new landfill is a long and very involved process. After searching for several years for land that meets site suitability criteria, we entered into an agreement with Doug Ingerson and his companies giving us an option to purchase part of their land in Dalton.

We chose the site because it is already being used for industrial purposes, it is accessible but remote, and it is screened from area residences by hills and forests.

After we reached the agreement with Mr. Ingerson, we hired independent wetlands scientists, engineers, and hydrogeologists to "characterize" the site. This simply means that these experts study both the surface of the land and the soils and groundwater beneath the surface to understand current conditions and find out whether placing a landfill on the site is consistent with state and federal regulations. That work is nearly complete and thus far has shown the site to be suitable.

Sharing Value with You

Recognizing that the community in which we develop a landfill can experience impacts (such as increased traffic) that other towns that benefit from the landfill's existence do not, it is a standard

industry practice to share some of the economic benefit from the landfill directly with the facility's host community.

To the Town of Dalton, assuming a landfill of at least 120 acres, we will provide payments totaling \$166,667 per month (which adds up to \$2 million per year in property taxes and host community benefits) for at least 25 years as long as the landfill is operating.

We will also provide free pickup and disposal of household solid waste and recyclables for residences (single-family, multiple family, and rental properties), commercial properties, and town buildings, as well as free access to a transfer station at the landfill site for residents of the town to dispose of solid waste except for construction and demolition debris.

Moving Forward Together

Unfortunately, due to certain disruptive influences in the town, we have not had the opportunity to introduce ourselves to the Board. It is our hope that you will provide a balanced ear and understand the facts about our company, the benefits to your constituents, and our commitment to the health and safety of the people we serve.

We have learned over the years that the loudest voices in a community do not always represent the will or temperament of the majority of its residents. I sincerely hope that we can count on you to weigh this opportunity carefully and consider what it will mean to the majority of your residents, rather than the loudest.

I look forward to continued, productive discussion, and a bright future of collaboration and shared value.

Sincerely,
CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Casella". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

John W. Casella
Chairman and CEO

cc: Rep. Troy Merner