

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: PCS for HB 879 Recovered Materials
SPONSOR(S): Natural Resources & Public Lands Subcommittee
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** 1326

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
Orig. Comm.: Natural Resources & Public Lands Subcommittee		Gregory	Shugar

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) implements and enforces the state's solid waste management program. The DEP may adopt rules to implement and enforce the state's solid waste management program, which includes a waste tire management program, administration of solid waste grant programs, and the classification, construction, operation, maintenance, and closure of solid waste management facilities.

Current law exempts certain wastes and activities from solid waste regulations. This includes recovered materials and recovered materials processing facilities if:

- A majority of the recovered materials at the facility are demonstrated to be sold, used, or reused within one year;
- The recovered materials handled by the facility or the products or byproducts of operations that process recovered materials are not discharged, deposited, injected, dumped, spilled, leaked, or placed into or upon any land or water by the owner or operator of such facility so that such recovered materials, products or byproducts, or any constituent thereof may enter other lands or be emitted into the air or discharged into any waters, including groundwater, or otherwise enter the environment such that a threat of contamination in excess of the applicable DEP standards and criteria is caused;
- The recovered materials handled by the facility are not hazardous wastes; and
- The facility is registered with the DEP.

Further, a local government may not:

- Require a commercial establishment that generates source-separated recovered materials to sell or otherwise convey its recovered materials to the local government or to a facility designated by the local government;
- Restrict such a generator's right to sell or otherwise convey such recovered materials to any properly certified recovered materials dealer who has registered with the DEP; and
- Enact any ordinance that prevents such a dealer from entering into a contract with a commercial establishment to purchase, collect, transport, process, or receive source-separated recovered materials.

The bill adds wood, asphalt, and concrete materials to the list of materials that are "recovered materials." "Wood" would not include wood treated or coated with chemicals to resist decomposition or vegetative matter resulting from landscaping maintenance or land clearing operations that includes materials such as tree and shrub trimmings, grass clippings, palm fronds, trees and tree stumps. This change would exempt wood, asphalt, and concrete materials and facilities that store, process, resale, or reuse them from solid waste regulations if they meet the criteria in statute. Thus, facilities storing, processing, reselling, or reusing these materials would not have to meet the criteria, if applicable, for construction and demolition debris facilities. These facilities could only engage in the storage, processing, resale, or reuse of recovered materials to utilize the exemption. Further, this change would prohibit local governments from restricting the sale or conveyance of these recovered materials.

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2018.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives.

STORAGE NAME: pcs0879.NRPL

DATE: 1/26/2018

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

PRESENT SITUATION

Solid Waste Regulation

“Solid waste” is sludge unregulated under the federal Clean Water Act or Clean Air Act, sludge from a waste treatment works, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility, or garbage, rubbish, refuse, special waste, or other discarded material, including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from domestic, industrial, commercial, mining, agricultural, or governmental operations.¹

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) implements and enforces the state’s solid waste management program.² The DEP may adopt rules to implement and enforce the state’s solid waste management program, which includes a waste tire management program,³ administration of solid waste grant programs,⁴ and the classification, construction, operation, maintenance, and closure of solid waste management facilities.⁵

Certain wastes and activities are exempted from solid waste regulations.⁶ These include recovered materials and recovered materials processing facilities from solid waste regulations if they meet certain criteria.⁷

“Recovered materials” are metal, paper, glass, plastic, textile, or rubber materials that have known recycling potential, can be feasibly recycled, and have been diverted and source separated or have been removed from the solid waste stream for sale, use, or reuse as raw materials, whether or not the materials require subsequent processing or separation from each other. The term does not include materials destined for any use that constitutes disposal. Recovered materials are not solid waste.⁸ A “recovered materials processing facility” is a facility engaged solely in the storage, processing, resale, or reuse of recovered materials.⁹ “Recycling” is any process that collects, separates, or processes and reuses or returns solid waste, or materials that would otherwise become solid waste, to use in the form of raw materials or intermediate or final products.¹⁰

Recovered materials or recovered materials processing facilities do not have to meet the solid waste regulations if:

- A majority of the recovered materials at the facility are demonstrated to be sold, used, or reused within one year;
- The recovered materials handled by the facility or the products or byproducts of operations that process recovered materials are not discharged, deposited, injected, dumped, spilled, leaked, or placed into or upon any land or water by the owner or operator of such facility so that such recovered materials, products or byproducts, or any constituent thereof may enter other lands or be emitted into the air or discharged into any waters, including groundwater, or otherwise enter

¹ Section 403.703(36), F.S.

² Section 403.705, F.S.

³ Section 403.717, F.S.; ch. 62-701, F.A.C.

⁴ Section 403.7095, F.S.; ch. 62-716, F.A.C.

⁵ Section 403.704(9), F.S.; chs. 62-701 through 62-722, F.A.C.; s. 403.703(37), F.S., defines “solid waste management facility.”

⁶ Section 403.7045(1), F.S.

⁷ Section 403.7045(1)(e), F.S.; *see also* r. 62-701.220(2)(c), F.A.C.

⁸ Section 403.703(28), F.S.

⁹ Section 403.703(29), F.S.

¹⁰ Section 403.703(31), F.S.

the environment such that a threat of contamination in excess of the applicable DEP standards and criteria is caused;

- The recovered materials handled by the facility are not hazardous wastes;¹¹ and
- The facility is registered with the DEP.¹²

A local government may not:

- Require a commercial establishment that generates source-separated recovered materials to sell or otherwise convey its recovered materials to the local government or to a facility designated by the local government;
- Restrict such a generator's right to sell or otherwise convey such recovered materials to any properly certified recovered materials dealer who has registered with the DEP; or
- Enact any ordinance that prevents such a dealer from entering into a contract with a commercial establishment to purchase, collect, transport, process, or receive source-separated recovered materials.¹³

Local governments may require a commercial establishment to source separate the recovered materials generated on the premises.¹⁴

Florida's Recycling Goal

In recognition of the volume of waste generated by Floridians and visitors every year and the value of some of these discarded commodities, the Legislature set a goal to recycle at least 75 percent of the municipal solid waste that would otherwise be disposed of in waste management facilities, landfills, or incineration facilities by 2020.¹⁵ The DEP established several programs and initiatives to reach that goal. In 2015, Florida's recycling rate was 54 percent, and 56 percent in 2016.¹⁶ Recognizing that Florida may not reach its goal of recycling 75 percent of its waste by volume, DEP has started developing ideas to increase recycling and shift to more sustainable materials management practices.¹⁷

Construction and Demolition Debris Disposal and Recycling

"Construction and demolition debris" is discarded materials generally not water-soluble and are considered nonhazardous in nature, including, but not limited to, steel, glass, brick, concrete, asphalt roofing material, pipe, gypsum wallboard, and lumber, from the construction or destruction of a structure as part of a construction or demolition project or from the renovation of a structure, and includes rocks, soils, tree remains, trees, and other vegetative matter that normally results from land clearing or land development operations for a construction project, including the placement of the debris from construction of structures located at a site remote from the construction or demolition project site. The term also includes:

- Clean cardboard, paper, plastic, wood, and metal scraps from a construction project;
- Yard trash and unpainted, nontreated wood scraps and wood pallets from sources other than construction or demolition projects, unless excluded from the definition by a county;

¹¹ Section 403.703(13), F.S., defines "Hazardous waste".

¹² Section 403.7045(1)(e), F.S.; r. 62-701.220(2)(c), F.A.C.; Any person in Florida who handles, purchases, receives, recovers, sells or is an end user of 600 tons or more of recovered materials must annually report to the DEP, and to all counties from which it received materials, certain information for the preceding calendar year, unless such person is exempt. s. 403.7046, F.S. and r. 62-722.400(2), F.A.C.

¹³ Section 403.7046(3), F.S.

¹⁴ Section 403.7046(3)(a), F.S.

¹⁵ Section 403.7032, F.S.; DEP, *Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal*, p. 5, available at <https://floridadep.gov/waste/waste-reduction/documents/florida-and-2020-75-recycling-goal> (last visited January 25, 2018).

¹⁶ DEP presentation on Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal p. 2, January 10, 2018, available at:

<http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loadoc.aspx?PublicationType=Committees&CommitteeId=2912&Session=2018&DocumentType=Meeting%20Packets&FileName=nrpl%201-10-18.pdf> (last visited January 25, 2018).

¹⁷ *Id.* at 12.

- Scrap from manufacturing facilities generally used in construction projects and would meet the definition of construction and demolition debris if it was generated as part of a construction or demolition project. This includes debris from the construction of manufactured homes and scrap shingles, wallboard, siding concrete, and similar materials from industrial or commercial facilities; and
- De minimis amounts of other nonhazardous wastes generated at construction or destruction projects, provided such amounts are consistent with best management practices of the industry.¹⁸

Construction and demolition debris makes up approximately 30 percent of Florida’s waste stream. Florida recycles approximately 60 percent, approximately 6.7 million tons, of its construction and demolition debris.¹⁹ Recycling construction and demolition debris provides several benefits including landfill capacity savings, energy savings, reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, job creation, and direct and indirect economic benefits for local economies.²⁰

DEP established a separate category of solid waste management facilities that accept only construction and demolition debris for disposal or recycling. Persons wishing to construct, operate, or close an off-site construction and demolition debris disposal facility must obtain a permit from the DEP.²¹ Applicants must meet certain construction, operation, monitoring, recordkeeping, financial assurance, closure, and training requirements for such facilities to receive a permit.²²

EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES

The bill amends s. 403.703(28), F.S., to add wood, asphalt, and concrete materials to the list of materials that are defined as “recovered materials.” “Wood” would not include wood treated or coated with chemicals to resist decomposition or vegetative matter resulting from landscaping maintenance or land clearing operations that includes materials such as tree and shrub trimmings, grass clippings, palm fronds, trees and tree stumps. This definition would exclude “yard trash” from the definition of wood that is a recovered material.²³

This change would exempt wood, asphalt, and concrete materials and facilities that store, process, resale, or reuse them from solid waste regulations if:

- A majority of the recovered materials at the facility are demonstrated to be sold, used, or reused within one year;
- The recovered materials handled by the facility or the products or byproducts of operations that process recovered materials are not discharged, deposited, injected, dumped, spilled, leaked, or placed into or upon any land or water by the owner or operator of such facility so that such recovered materials, products or byproducts, or any constituent thereof may enter other lands or be emitted into the air or discharged into any waters, including groundwater, or otherwise enter the environment such that a threat of contamination in excess of the applicable DEP standards and criteria is caused;
- The recovered materials handled by the facility are not hazardous wastes; and
- The facility is registered with the DEP.²⁴

¹⁸ Section 403.703(6), F.S.

¹⁹ Section 403.7032, F.S.; DEP, *Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal*, p. 19, available at <https://floridadep.gov/waste/waste-reduction/documents/florida-and-2020-75-recycling-goal> (last visited January 25, 2018).

²⁰ DEP presentation on Increasing Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling, p. 72 – 76, November 17, 2016, available at: <https://floridadep.gov/waste/waste-reduction/documents/increasing-construction-and-demolition-debris-recycling-part-1-state> (last visited January 25, 2018).

²¹ Section 403.707(9), F.S.; r. 62-701.730(1)(a), F.A.C.

²² Section 403.707(9)(a) – (d), F.S.; r. 62-701.730, F.A.C.

²³ See Rule 62-701.200(135), F.A.C.

²⁴ Section 403.7045(1)(e), F.S.; r. 62-701.220(2)(c), F.A.C.

Thus, facilities storing, processing, reselling, or reusing these materials would not have to meet the criteria, if applicable, for construction and demolition debris facilities. These facilities could only engage in the storage, processing, resale, or reuse of recovered materials to utilize the exemption.²⁵

Further, this change would prohibit local governments from:

- Requiring a commercial establishment that generates source-separated wood, asphalt, or concrete waste to sell or otherwise convey its wood, asphalt, or concrete waste to the local government or to a facility designated by the local government;
- Restricting a generator's right to sell or otherwise convey wood, asphalt, or concrete waste to any properly certified recovered materials dealer who has registered with the DEP; and
- Enacting any ordinance that prevents a recovered materials dealer from entering into a contract with a commercial establishment to purchase, collect, transport, process, or receive source-separated wood, asphalt, or concrete waste.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 403.703, F.S., revising the definition of "recovered materials."

Section 2. Provides an effective date of July 1, 2018.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

The bill appears to have an insignificant negative fiscal impact on the DEP because the agency will likely need to revise its solid waste rules as a result of the statutory changes in the bill.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill may have a positive fiscal impact on individuals or companies who operate facilities that store, process, resale, or reuse wood, asphalt, and concrete materials by exempting them from solid waste regulations. Further, this bill may have a positive impact on generators of wood, asphalt, or concrete waste by prohibiting local governments from restricting the selling or conveyance of such materials.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

²⁵ See section 403.703(29), F.S.
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III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable. This bill does not appear to require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take action requiring the expenditures of funds; reduce the authority that counties or municipalities have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

The DEP has sufficient rulemaking authority to amend its solid waste regulations to conform to changes made in the statute.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

Not applicable.