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Tom Kirk Named CRRA President

Board Cites Newtown Resident's Strong Experience in Waste-to-Energy, Management

HARTFORD, November 21, 2002- Tom Kirk has been named president of the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority (CRRA) by the CRRA Board of Directors.

For CRRA, this marks the filling of its top position, which has been vacant since April. For Kirk, who has 25 years of management experience in engineering, energy, and waste management, it marks a return to the resources recovery field.

“Five months ago, this board began the process of rebuilding CRRA and returning to its core mission of running four waste-to-energy projects and two recycling centers,” said CRRA Chairman Michael A. Pace. “Tom Kirk’s experience in waste management, finance, and in managing organizational change makes him the man for our mission.”

Kirk, a Newtown resident, has served as general manager for Wisvest-Connecticut since 1999. Prior to that, he spent 11 years at Wheelabrator Technologies, holding the positions of operations manager, plant manager, and general manager.

“I’m looking forward to getting under way,” stated Kirk, who will begin the job in mid-December. “There are plenty of challenges ahead. We have over 100 cities and towns across Connecticut who are our customers and they are looking for reliability, affordability, and accountability from this organization. With this engaged, active board and the extremely capable staff I have begun to meet, I am convinced that we are up to the task.”

“Tom is grounded in the energy and utility fields, he has negotiated waste disposal contracts, created new revenue streams, directed environmental improvements at facilities under his control,” said Pace. “He has run the plants, managed the people, and had the responsibility of balancing the disparate needs of numerous interested parties.

“Throughout it all, Tom has earned the respect of those in his industry and state officials from the executive and legislative branch as an honest, earnest, forthright individual,” Pace concluded.

“Tom has unique knowledge of the environmental and public health performance implications of the delivery of electric power and the management of municipal solid waste,” added Manchester Mayor and CRRA Director Stephen Cassano, who chairs the Organizational Synergy & Human Resources Committee of the CRRA Board. “His background and straightforward approach is one that is just what the Board and our member towns are looking for in a new President.”