



CONNECTICUT RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 10, 2004

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Capping Two Years of Progress, Governor Re-Appoints Pace as CRRA Chairman Three Other Directors Re-Appointed, Two New Members Named to Board

HARTFORD, Conn. – Recognizing the progress made by the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority's new board and management team, Gov. M. Jodi Rell has re-appointed Michael A. Pace as CRRA chairman.

Since its creation in 2002, the new board, chaired by Pace, the first selectman of Old Saybrook, has worked diligently to stabilize CRRA, and those efforts are succeeding.

“Michael Pace has done an outstanding job as chairman of CRRA. His leadership and integrity have led CRRA's turnaround,” Gov. Rell said. “We are grateful for the important role he has played and we appreciate his willingness to serve another term.”

Pace was originally named to the post when the new board – comprised mainly of top municipal officials from around Connecticut – was appointed under a sweeping legislative reform of CRRA.

After assuming their responsibilities in June 2002, members of the board put into place a new senior management team. Under Pace's leadership, this new administration has

- restored the financial stability of CRRA's Mid-Connecticut Project, whose 70 member municipalities were impacted by the loss of \$221 million in a transaction with Enron, the bankrupt energy giant;
- revamped and strengthened the agency's policies and procedures;
- changed the agency's corporate culture to emphasize openness, transparency and accountability;
- launched a program of outreach to member cities and towns unprecedented in CRRA's 31-year history; and
- started planning for the state's long-term solid waste and recycling needs.

As a result, the 119 municipalities that comprise CRRA can expect market-competitive waste disposal fees for years to come. And CRRA charges no fee for recycling, further containing the cost of getting rid of refuse.

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“When this board was formed two years ago, we developed a long to-do list of tasks that fell into two basic categories: short-term restoration and long-term planning,” Pace said. “I’m proud to say that as a board and as an organization, we’ve been able to address enough of the short-term challenges that we’re able to focus more of our energy on the longer-term needs of the people of Connecticut.”

In recent months, CRRA has racked up an impressive list of accomplishments:

- In March, CRRA completed renegotiating the long-term lease for its headquarters, saving \$850,000 over the eight years remaining on the lease.
- Also in May, CRRA switched contractors at its Essex transfer station, a move expected to save \$1 million in fiscal 2005.
- In July, the CRRA board approved a settlement of its bankruptcy claim against Enron. Through the settlement, CRRA is expected to recover as much as \$80 million or 37 percent of its loss. Under a plan approved by the bankruptcy court, the average creditor will only receive about 19 percent.
- Also in July, CRRA switched contractors at its Ellington transfer station, a move expected to save \$598,000 in fiscal 2005.
- And in August the board approved a new energy contract with Select Energy for power generated by the Mid-Connecticut Project. Due to changes in the power markets, the two-year contract will bring CRRA approximately \$9.5 million more than the agency had originally forecast.

In addition to Pace, other directors recently appointed were:

- **Theodore H. Martland** of Woodbury, an educator and business executive, re-appointed by Senate Minority Leader Louis C. DeLuca.
- **Stephen T. Cassano**, mayor of Manchester, re-appointed by then-Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin B. Sullivan.
- **Raymond J. O’Brien** of New Milford, a retired environmental compliance engineer, re-appointed by House Minority Leader Robert M. Ward.
- **Edna M. Karanian** of Newington, a long-time energy industry executive, newly appointed by Gov. Rell.
- **Michael J. Jarjura**, mayor of Waterbury, newly appointed by Speaker of the House Moira K. Lyons.

All these directors’ terms expire in 2008. The five other directors’ terms expire in 2006.

The Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority is a quasi-public agency whose mission is to work for – and in – the best interests of the municipalities of the state of Connecticut. CRRA’s new board of directors and new management team develop and implement environmentally sound solutions and best practices for solid waste disposal and recycling management on behalf of municipalities. CRRA also runs environmental and recycling educational programs through its Visitors Center & Trash Museum in Hartford and Children’s Garbage Museum in Stratford. For more information about CRRA and its activities, visit <http://www.crra.org>.