



March 22, 2011

Representative Pete Petersen
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 422
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Petersen:

On behalf of the Energy Recovery Council (ERC), I would like to take this opportunity to commend you for introducing House Concurrent Resolution 10 (HCR 10) and to offer our support for the resolution. The waste-to-energy sector generates clean, renewable energy across the United States while providing communities with and responsible and sustainable waste management alternative.

ERC is a national trade group representing companies and communities engaged in the waste-to-energy sector. Waste-to-energy facilities generate renewable electricity using modern combustion technology equipped with state-of-the-art emissions control systems. ERC members include: Covanta Energy Corporation, Wheelabrator Technologies Inc., Babcock & Wilcox, several dozen businesses and organizations in the municipal solid waste (MSW) management and energy fields, and 28 municipalities that are served by waste-to-energy plants.

ERC supports your resolution which would encourage the State of Alaska, its municipalities, and private organizations to consider waste-to-energy to help meet your energy and waste management needs. Waste-to-energy facilities across the country—and, in fact, the world—have helped communities manage their trash in a sustainable manner that complements recycling and reduces the demand for landfilling. In fact, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's solid waste hierarchy stipulates that waste-to-energy is preferable to landfills. In addition, EPA has stated that waste-to-energy facilities produce electricity “with less environmental impact than almost any other source of electricity.” Alaska would benefit greatly from generating energy from waste.

In conclusion, ERC supports HCR 10 and urges the Alaska legislature to adopt it quickly. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 467-6240 or tmichaels@energyrecoverycouncil.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Michaels".

Ted Michaels
President