

WASTE MANAGEMENT'S CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAMS

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ABSTRACT: Waste Management's Climate Change Programs

Waste Management is the leading provider of comprehensive waste and environmental services in North America, operating in 48 states and the territory of Puerto Rico in the U.S. and most Canadian provinces. Operations include a fleet of more than 20,000 collection vehicles, and its diverse operations include 354 waste collection operations, 341 waste transfer stations, 277 active landfill disposal sites, 16 waste-to-energy plants, 105 recycling plants, 108 beneficial use landfill gas-to-energy projects, and six independent power production plants. The company has committed to defining its carbon footprint and meeting the challenge of Climate Change. This paper will report upon WM's significant efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emission, increase environmental stewardship and provide meaningful progress towards stemming the release of greenhouse gases and lessen the impact and progress of Climate Change. The paper will discuss the following programs with special emphasis on how others operating in the arid climate might benefit from similar efforts:

- WM's California emission inventory for 2006 and 2007,
- WM's Climate Care project to prepare a North America-wide inventory starting with 2009,
- Specific projects to reduce emissions including natural gas fleets,
- the use of landfill gas to make LNG/CNG,
- WM's use and experience with hybrid vehicles,
- enhanced landfill gas control systems including its "Beyond Compliance" program as well as state of the art programs for evaluating fugitive landfill methane emissions and the development of the "SWICS" protocol for estimating landfill emissions in arid climates,
- programs to increase recycling and programs that increase wildlife habitat at our facilities, and
- WM's expanding program to generate renewable energy from waste.

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