Tonight’s Agenda

- Welcome
- Meeting Purpose
- CEPA Process
- Project Overview & Alternatives
- Environmental Resources
- Schedule
- Public Comments
Purpose of Scoping Meeting

• Provide information on the Proposed Action – construct a new Main Accumulation area (MAA) facility at the “Parcel G” location off North Hillside Road within the future North Campus Technology Park

• Describe the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) process

• Provide a forum for public input

• Solicit verbal and written comments to be addressed in the Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE)
Overview

- Main Accumulation Area (MAA)
- Centralized facility, temporary storage of regulated waste generated on campus
- Established and operated safely since 1989
Overview

- Public concern – located in public water supply watershed
- Current MAA – limited space, older design
- MAA unlikely to meet future needs
- Proactive assessment of options for MAA
- Comparative Siting Study (2012-2013)
- UConn intends to proceed with an EIE
The purpose of the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) is to identify and evaluate the impacts of proposed state actions which may significantly affect the environment and allow for public input.

- Preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE)
- An EIE provides the state agency with information necessary for deciding whether or not to proceed with the action.
### EIE Considerations

#### Physical
- Air Quality
- Noise
- Traffic, Parking & Circulation
- Utilities & Services
- Stormwater Drainage
- Solid & Hazardous Waste
- Aesthetics
- Cultural Resources
- Construction Impacts

#### Natural
- Geology, Topography & Soils
- Surface Water
- Groundwater
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Fisheries
- Plants & Wildlife/State Listed Species

#### Socioeconomic
- Land Use & Zoning
- State, Local & Campus Land Use Planning
- Open Space & Farmland
- Public Health & Safety
- Economy, Employment & Income
- Environmental Justice
**CEPA (EIE) Process**

1. **Identification of State Action**
2. **Early Project Scoping**
3. **Identification of Issues & Analysis of Impacts**
4. **Draft EIE**
5. **Public Hearing**
6. **Final EIE**
7. **Record of Decision to OPM**
8. **OPM Determination of Adequacy**

**Steps Involving Public and Agency Review and Comment:**
- Public and Agency Review and Comment on:
  - EIE Determination
  - Draft EIE
  - Final EIE

**Additional Step:**
- Public Scoping Meeting
**Background – What is the MAA?**

- Centralized facility for temporary storage of regulated wastes
  - Academic laboratories
  - Operational facilities
- UConn EH&S personnel collect wastes from point of generation (“satellite accumulation”) – up to 1,200 locations on campus
- Wastes temporarily stored at the MAA and managed by EH&S
Background – What is the MAA?
**Background – What is the MAA?**

- Permanent structures – 1,500 square feet
- Trailer storage – 2,700 square feet
- Locked perimeter fence with barbed wire
- Paved area for parking, truck access, patrols

Total Site Area = 0.43 acres
Background – What is the MAA?

• Meets or exceeds State and Federal requirements for safety and environmental protection
  – Secondary Containment
  – Weekly Inspections with Documentation
  – Contingency Plans
  – Labeling
  – Security
  – Annual Staff Refresher Trainings
• Licensed waste haulers pick-up and transport wastes to appropriate disposal facilities
  – Chemical waste removed monthly
  – Biological waste removed weekly or bi-weekly
  – Low-level radioactive waste removed every 12-15 months
Why is UConn Considering a New MAA?

• Public Concern – Water Supply
  – Fenton River watershed
  – Willimantic Reservoir drainage basin
  – Proximity to Level A Recharge Area of Fenton Aquifer

• Current MAA Configuration
  – Circulation and maneuverability not ideal
  – Reflects evolution of facility over time

• Anticipated Storage Needs
  – Sufficient for current needs
  – Future waste generation & planned research growth
What is the Purpose of a New MAA?

- Address public concerns about proximity to water supply
- Provide better vehicle circulation and maneuverability
- Meet future waste storage needs
- Provide facility comparable to other research universities
MAA Facility Needs

- Enclosed, single-story building
- Approx. 5,700 square feet on a ¾-acre site
- Estimated cost of $3-5 million
2012-2013 Comparative Siting Study

• Initial Identification of Sites
  – On UConn-owned land on and contiguous with main Storrs Campus
  – Outside of Campus core
  – Outside of public water supply watershed

• Preliminary Screening
  – Physical constraints
  – Public health and safety
  – Compatibility with planning initiatives

• 6 Alternatives Evaluated in Detail

• Scoring Matrix – Rating and Ranking System
Alternative Sites

- **North Campus**
- **Future North Hillside Road Extension**
- **W Lot Site**
- **New Facility and As-Is (No Action)**
- **Existing MAA Facility**
- **Parcel G Site (Preferred Alternative)**
- **North of Transfer Station Site**
- **C Lot**
- **F Lot Site**
- **Main Campus**

Legend:
- Red Circle: Alternative MAA Facility Locations
Detailed Evaluation Criteria

1. Environmental & Ecological
2. Public Health
3. Public Water Supplies
4. Public Safety & Security and Accessibility
5. Planning Consistency and Land Use
6. Cost and Regulatory Considerations
7. Traffic Safety & Circulation
North Campus Parcel G Site

• Preferred Alternative
• Highest-rated site by 10 of the 11 Advisory Committee members
• Compatible with Tech Park land use
• Low potential for ecological, public health, and public water supply impacts
• Site is removed from but still contiguous with core campus area
• Good access and egress from North Hillside Road
North Campus Parcel G Site

MAA
North Campus Parcel G Site
North Campus Parcel G Site

View Looking Southeast

View Looking Southwest
Environmental Impact Evaluation

- All CEPA considerations will be evaluated
  - Preferred site (Parcel G)
  - Other alternatives considered, including existing location (No Action alternative)

- Expect the EIE to focus on:
  - Solid & Hazardous Waste
  - Water Resources
  - Public Health & Safety
  - Traffic, Parking, Circulation
  - Consistency with State, Local & Campus Planning

- Other factors will be evaluated:
  - Cost, permitting, schedule
## EIE Project Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start of 30-Day CEPA Public Scoping Period</td>
<td>April 16, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEPA Public Scoping Meeting</td>
<td>May 1, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of 30-Day CEPA Scoping Period</td>
<td>May 16, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preparation of EIE</td>
<td>May – September 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start of 45-Day EIE Comment Period</td>
<td>Early September 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Hearing</td>
<td>Early October 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of 45-Day EIE Comment Period</td>
<td>Mid October 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response to Comments &amp; Final EIE/ROD</td>
<td>Mid November 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>OPM and UConn Board of Trustees Approval of ROD</td>
<td>December 2013</td>
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Public Comments

Written comments about the project or CEPA process should be submitted to:

Jason Coite, Environmental Compliance Analyst
University of Connecticut
Office of Environmental Policy
31 LeDoyt Road
U-Box 3055
Storrs, CT 06269-3055
860-486-9305
jason.coite@uconn.edu

Comments accepted until close of business May 16, 2013
Public Comments

- Verbal comments accepted tonight
- Please use sign-in sheet
- Written and verbal comments to be addressed in EIE

Comments?