

## State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy

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Scott A. Weiner Commissioner

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Governor Florio

FROM:

Scott Weiner

DATE:

December 23, 1991

RE:

New Jersey-Ohio Solid Waste Enforcement Agreement

In September 1991, following the announcement of our enforcement actions against solid waste companies illegally transporting waste to Indiana, representatives of Ohio's Governor Voinovich contacted David Applebaum and me to indicate their interest in developing an Ohio/New Jersey agreement modeled after the Memorandum of Understanding that was signed by you and Governor Bayh in August 1991.

Shortly thereafter, I attended a meeting in Columbus, Ohio to discuss the parameters of such an agreement. I was accompanied by Steve Madonna and Steve Gabel. The State of Ohio was represented by our respective counterparts. The meeting provided a good opportunity for Ohio officials to gain a better understanding of New Jersey's solid waste regulatory program and the opportunities for us to work together. Our relationship with Ohio differs from Indiana in that New Jersey does "legally" ship waste for disposal in Ohio landfills. However, Ohio officials report receiving hundreds of thousands of tons in excess of recognized New Jersey shipments to Ohio. This difference would be comprised of either illegally smuggled waste or non-New Jersey waste improperly manifested as originated in New Jersey.

The drafting of a document is now essentially complete. Governor Voinovich's staff has indicated desire to arrange for a joint signing of the Agreement as soon as possible but, in any event, before January 14, 1992, the date of his State of the State address. I have had initial scheduling discussions with David Applebaum and Jon Shure. We have advised Ohio that it is extremely

unlikely that your schedule would accommodate a trip to Washington for you and Governor Voinovich to appear together. We have explored the possibility of scheduling a simultaneous execution of the Agreement in Trenton and Columbus during the week of January 6, 1992.

I would recommend that we coordinate such a simultaneous execution for the week of January 6. The finalization of this agreement would be another example of your proactive strategy regarding illegal waste shipments. It will also conclude negotiations which began some three months ago. The only obstacle to an earlier conclusion has been the inability of Ohio officials to remain focused on these discussions. We should take advantage of Ohio's desire to bring this matter to a prompt public conclusion.

If this recommendation meets with your approval, I would also recommend that Jon Shure coordinate the scheduling and execution of the event with his counterpart in Ohio. Steve Gabel has been in touch with Frank Sweeney and will provide him with the most recent and final copy of the agreement. I will coordinate with David Applebaum with respect to the preparation of appropriate background and briefing materials.

S.A.W.

cc: Joe Salema V Jon Shure Greg Lawler