



May 31, 2019

To: City of Philadelphia
Mark Squilla, Chairperson Streets and Service Committee
Philadelphia City Council

Re: Covanta Sustainable Solutions – Bid award MSW

I am pleased to write this letter of support in connection with approval of the Philadelphia Committee of Streets and Services Ordinance #190468 to Covanta Sustainable Solutions, LLC ("Covanta") for the transfer and disposal of municipal waste over a four-year period, with three one-year renewal terms.

As the Mayor of Chester and in my previous capacity as a State Representative, I have come to know Covanta and their operation very well over the years. Since 1992, Covanta has been safely, reliably, and sustainably disposing of the region's solid waste while, at the same time, generating in excess of 660,000 megawatt hours of clean, renewable energy on an annual basis. In addition, they are very committed to recycling as evidenced by recovering and recycling in excess of 60,000 tons of ferrous and non-ferrous metals per year. Covanta has an exceptional environmental performance record and is routinely and rigorously inspected on all aspects of their solid waste permits and air permits by a myriad of local, state, and federal environmental and regulatory agencies. They continue to operate in full compliance with all their regulatory permits. They are extremely committed to environmental excellence as well as world class safety operations, as evidenced by their OSHA VPP Star status.

In addition to providing exceptional solid waste, recycling, and renewable energy generation services, they have been an outstanding and responsible corporate citizen. Covanta provides millions in direct economic benefit to the region, with nearly \$5M per year going to the City of Chester to support city services. Also, Covanta is an important and contributing member to the Chester Environmental Partnership and invests more than \$150,000 annually to support local scholarships and other important community environmental initiatives.

Being that Covanta has been a longstanding, trusted and transparent partner, I am fully supportive of the City of Philadelphia once again awarding the solid waste disposal contract to this very responsive and reliable environmental service provider.

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Sincerely,


Thaddeus Kirkland, Mayor
City of Chester

cc:

Honorable Mayor Kenny

Council President Darrelle Clarke

Brian Abernathy, Managing Director

Michael Carroll, Deputy Managing Director for Office of Transportation and Environmental Sustainability

Carlton Williams, Commissioner