



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



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Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

April 27, 2022

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
And the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to pay the fiscal year 2023 membership dues to the Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) (VC #160635-B001), Brattleboro, VT in the amount of \$6,000 for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, effective upon Governor and Council approval. 100% General funds.

Funding is available in the following account.

	<u>FY 2023</u>
03-44-44-444010-54020000-026-500251	\$6,000.00
Dept. of Environmental Services, Solid Waste Management, Organizational Dues	

EXPLANATION

The Northeast Recycling Council is a multi-state non-profit organization whose mission is to promote sustainable materials management by supporting traditional and innovative solid waste best practices, focusing on waste prevention, toxics reduction, reuse, recycling and organics recovery.

NHDES's membership, which includes being a voting member of the NERC Board, allows NHDES to both influence NERC's priorities and take full advantage of NERC's services.

Listed below are answers to standard questions required for Governor and Council organization dues and membership approval submissions:

- 1. How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?**

NERC has been in existence since 1987. NH has been a member since its inception.

- 2. Is there any other organization which provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to?**

NH also belongs to the Northeast Waste Management Officials Association (NEWMOA), an association of the northeast states whose mission addresses a broader array of waste

management issues of importance to state governments. NERC has both private and government members. Some of NERC's and NEWMOA's interests overlap, and the organizations have recently developed a joint strategic action plan to leverage each other's resources and strengthen each organization. Consequently, the benefits of membership are complementary, but not duplicative.

3. How many other states belong to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?

10 other states are NERC members. NHDES is the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member.

4. How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc)

Dues for state members are based on population.

5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?

Membership in NERC is an efficient way for NH to further progress toward our waste management goals in RSA 149-M, at a time when there is significantly heightened interest in solid waste issues from the public and the legislature. NERC's mission is to promote sustainable materials management by supporting traditional and innovative solid waste best practices, focusing on waste prevention, toxics reduction, reuse, recycling and organics recovery. NERC's mission directly aligns with NH's waste management goals established in RSA 149-M, specifically with respect to the waste reduction and hierarchy goals in RSA 149-M:2 and 149-M:3.

6. Are training or educational/research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.

No.

7. Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.

No.

8. Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips.

No travel is included with this membership fee. However, voting members of the NERC Board of Directors are expected to travel twice per year to attend board meetings in person and NHDES typically sends one staff person to each of these meetings. The board meeting locations vary, but are always in the northeast and typically within driving distance of Concord. There is typically a \$50 fee to attend the board meeting, which NERC uses to offset costs of the meeting facility.

9. Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization.)

Michael A. Nork, Admin II

Voting Member

Committee Member (two committees)

10. Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.

NH's capacity to further progress toward the waste management goals established in RSA 149-M would be reduced if NHDES did not belong to NERC. NERC provides a set of core services for members, including opportunities for networking and collaboration with peers and government officials, conferences, workshops and webinars, information clearinghouse, newsletters, listservs, and developing and distributing research reports. Without the support and assistance of its NERC partners, NH would be disadvantaged in addressing the many waste management and recycling challenges that we face.

We respectfully request your approval.



Robert R. Scott
Commissioner



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INVOICE

April 5, 2022

Michael Nork
NH DES

Service: Northeast Recycling Council, Inc. (NERC) membership dues for fiscal year 2023
(July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)

Amount: \$6,000

Payment due upon receipt.

Please make all checks payable to the **Northeast Recycling Council, Inc.**
Remittance should be mailed to the address stated above.

Thank you for supporting the Northeast Recycling Council!