Orange County Solid Waste Advisory Board Adopted Alternative Technology Criteria (November 2010)

Maturity of Technology

Public Acceptability

Space/Buffer Needs

Minimum Feed for Economic Viability

Ease of Use/Level of Expertise to Operate

County versus Merchant

Successful US Operations

Permittability

Nature of Feedstock Needed

Residuals – Nature & Amount

Additional Considerations by Staff

Siting and Permitting Requirements/Needs – What is the desired size of property necessary for permitting, operations, future expansion/improvements and minimizing impact on surrounding properties/uses? Can local decision makers make a timely decision?

Operating & Maintenance Cost – What is the reliability of O&M cost estimates and the levels of uncertainty

Participating Governments/Feedstock Contributors – Which governments would participate by pledging to deliver the waste under their control and pay tipping fees? Who would be willing to become an equity partner? Which governments would be willing to assert control over waste generated within their jurisdiction?

In County Only or Regional Site and Participation – Will other area government participants/partners be desired or necessary? If yes, will regional facility site not be welcome in Orange County? Will a likely increase in time needed to pull together the project, determine equity/operational/legal roles and complete agreements negatively impact the timeliness and complexity of the project?

Compatibility with High Levels of Recycling (OC 61% Waste Reduction Goal) – To what degree will the facility be competing with local recycling and waste reduction programs for feedstock? What is track record/operational relationship with other similar facility locations regarding recycling compatibility?

Political Will to Make Necessary and Timely Decisions – Historically, solid waste policy and siting decisions have been prolonged and arduous. Will the participating governments be willing to make well-defined and timely decisions while at the same time seeking relevant public input and proceeding in an open and accessible manner?

Government versus Private Ownership and/or Operation – Do any local government participants desire to ultimately own or operate the facility?

Level of Preprocessing of Incoming Waste Required - What is the pre-processing of waste required, if any, of the waste prior to becoming feedstock for the technology? Does is compliment or duplicate any existing local government recycling or waste reduction operations?

Technology Risk Assessment Factors

- Overall track record, including operational commercial experience with the technology – Where has this technology been used and how successful has it been? What is the individual company's track record with this technology?
- Size and scale of successful facilities – Has the company built facilities of comparable size and scale in the US? Is it comparable to what is needed to process Orange County's quantity of waste?

- Environmental Performance – What are the characteristics of emissions? Are there likely to be any changes in state or federal legislation that might affect operations? Is data available regarding currently operating facilities for regulator review for permitting purposes?
- Overall Economics – What capital investment is required to achieve required operating performance? Has the solid waste stream been estimated accurately? Is waste likely to be diverted to competing facilities and if so, are participating local governments prepared to consider taking control of the diverted waste? What is the cost for residue disposal? Will the facility meet energy market specifications? What are the market specifications for any non-combustible recyclables? Will there be revenue from the sale of non-combustible recyclables? How predictable are the project economics?
- Reliability Over Time – What is the company's record of technical failure and downtime? Does the locality have an alternative disposal option in the event of downtime or technical failure?
- Financial Strength of the Vendor and Ability to Offer Full Service Arrangements – Is the company financial viable with sufficient capital resources? Is it able to undertake the project without delays in project completion?