

THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE MUNICIPAL WASTE COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION, AND DISPOSAL INDUSTRY IN PENNSYLVANIA



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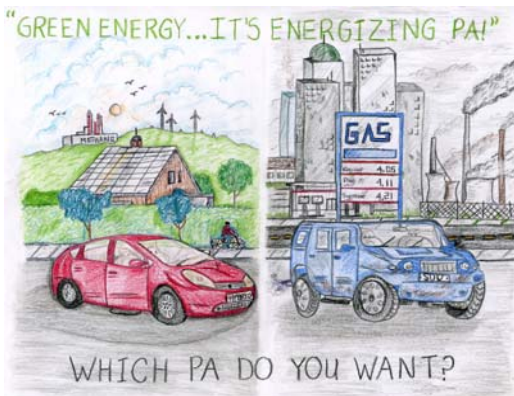
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Econsult was retained by the Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association (PWIA), a chapter of the National Solid Waste Management Association, to provide estimates of the overall economic impact of the waste collection, transportation, and disposal industry at both the regional and state levels.



We estimated the potential economic impacts in terms of three measures of economic activity: (1) total sales or output (total economic activity), (2) total employee wages and earnings, and (3) total employment. Estimates of total statewide direct expenditures were calculated using various data sources, including surveys that were distributed to all landfills that are members of the PWIA, and information obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. In addition, we estimated the breakdown of statewide direct and indirect expenditures at the regional level. Each of these “regions” will have different impacts due to the different size of their respective economies.

Econsult’s analysis found that the municipal waste disposal and collection and transportation industry plays a key role in the overall economy in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Aside from its overall regional and statewide economic impacts, the municipal waste disposal industry also provides monetary boosts to local municipal and county budgets and generates various tax revenues to state and federal governments.



In addition to the quantitative impacts, Econsult found that the waste disposal and collection and transportation industry also provides local communities with important qualitative benefits that are not included in the economic impacts. Such qualitative benefits include various funding and donations that provide local communities a number of benefits.