



MINNESOTA
RESOURCE
RECOVERY
ASSOCIATION

ZERO WASTED
MAKING EVERY RESOURCE COUNT

April 6, 2026

Dear Chair Hawj and Members of the Senate Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee:

On behalf of the Minnesota Resource Recovery Association (MRRA), thank you for the opportunity to provide written input for the Committee's informational hearing on Oversight of Regulatory Actions on Waste Incineration and Resulting Air Pollution.

MRRA represents public and private entities that operate resource recovery facilities across Minnesota and manage materials which remain after recycling. These facilities play a critical role in Minnesota's integrated waste management system by reducing landfill reliance and safely managing non-recyclable waste to generate renewable energy.

As the Committee reviews oversight of regulatory actions related to waste incineration and resulting air emissions, MRRA offers the following context:

Role in the Waste System

Resource recovery facilities are a key component of Minnesota's waste management hierarchy, reducing landfill volumes, recovering energy, and operating under stringent environmental standards.

Alignment with State Energy Policy

Minnesota's carbon-free electricity goal for 2040 includes ongoing evaluation of resource recovery as part of the state's broader energy transition, reinforcing the importance of considering these facilities within both waste and energy systems.

MRRA PFAS Study and Findings

MRRA recently commissioned an independent study evaluating PFAS in resource recovery systems. The study found that high-temperature combustion destroys more than 99.6 percent of PFAS in municipal solid waste. Measured air emissions are well below Minnesota Department of Health guidance with minimal PFAS remaining in ash. This reflects a commitment to science-based evaluation and proactive management of emerging contaminants. The MRRA study is included as reference with our letter.

Regulatory Oversight

MRRA facilities operate under comprehensive state and federal permitting, monitoring, and reporting requirements designed to protect public health and the environment.

Statewide System Impacts

Minnesota's waste system is interconnected, and changes to resource recovery operations can impact landfill use, system costs, and county waste management responsibilities.

MRRA appreciates the Committee's focus on oversight and stands ready to serve as a resource. MRRA supports Minnesota's waste management hierarchy and shares the goal of reducing waste over time, with resource recovery playing an important role as the state works toward this objective.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Holl", written in a cursive style.

Sam Holl

Vice Chair, Minnesota Resource Recovery Association (MRRA)