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Reduce waste today through innovative resource management.
Reach a waste-free tomorrow by demonstrating that waste is preventable not inevitable.

Eureka Recycling and Abitibi-Consolidated: Partnership in a New Facility – *For the Future of Recycling*

Eureka Recycling, a mission-driven nonprofit recycler, and Abitibi-Consolidated, the world's leading producer of newsprint, have joined forces to demonstrate the economic and environmental benefits of community recycling in Minnesota. In January of 2004, Eureka Recycling's new facility will begin processing up to 60,000 tons of residential curbside recycling per year, including newspapers, junk mail, cans, bottles and boxes. Through their partnership, Abitibi will contribute to the facility through investments and long term purchasing and pricing guarantees on recycled newspaper, which comprises 80% of the materials collected. With a 10 year contract to collect Saint Paul's recyclables in hand, the stage is set for Eureka Recycling to demonstrate the true costs and benefits of recycling.

AN OPEN BOOK – A model for others to replicate

A poor economy has forced cities around the country to look for ways to reduce their budgets. Recycling has become a prime target of budget cuts and now it is more important than ever to establish the *true cost of recycling* and *demonstrate the long term sustainability* for communities.

LONG TERM STABILITY MEANS ENVIRONMENTAL GAINS

Recycling programs that maximize the benefits to the environment also need to be cost-effective and sustainable. The partnership between Abitibi and Eureka Recycling not only ensures the good business practices of both companies, but addresses the *following factors that impact the long term stability of recycling*:

Quality Materials – An Essential Ingredient

Many communities are moving quickly to new commingled collection systems in hopes of reducing costs. Eureka Recycling, in conjunction with the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance conducted a 15 month study to evaluate the cost, convenience and environmental impact of the available collection systems. When looking at the entire system cost in Saint Paul, they found single-stream recycling to be the most expensive and worst for the environment, due mainly to the contamination and lower quality of materials. Abitibi understands the value of quality paper. Through their partnership with Eureka Recycling, Abitibi can help their mills get a consistent supply of viable feedstock, helping their overall operations run efficiently and cost-effectively. ***By providing consistently high quality materials – the value and environmental impact of recycling is maximized.***

(over)

Stable Prices

Paper pricing often fluctuates greatly, affecting the supply and volume of recycled paper and feedstock available. The partnership agreement levels off some of the highs and lows in pricing, assuring long term consistent pricing Abitibi and Eureka Recycling can count on. By removing some of the uncertainty of the paper commodity cycle, Eureka Recycling was able to lower their risk and finance their recycling facility, ensuring long term stability for Saint Paul's recycling program and allowing them to enter into a contract with the City of Saint Paul that includes no cost increases for 10 years. Long term pricing agreements protect Abitibi from price spikes in the commodity market, allowing them to continue to use recycled content fiber and *protecting the long term stability of recycled paper production.*

COMMUNITY BENEFITS ARE THE BOTTOM LINE

The Eureka Recycling Facility is not about collecting and selling paper. It's about protecting our community's environmental health and sustainability while becoming a model for other communities to follow. Not only are Saint Paul's materials being recycled for their highest and best use – and protected for 10 years to come at a fixed stable cost – but, proceeds from recycling go back into the community. Eureka Recycling's 14 trucks run on biodiesel fuel made from soy beans, protecting the air we breathe. Eureka Recycling also answers 50,000 calls on their hotline each year, provides workshops on composting, runs neighborhood clean-ups and provides reuse opportunities through a website that over 70,000 people use each year. Recycling benefits, both cost savings and environmental benefits, are demonstrated at the community level.