

Solid Waste Management: Third generation, the "Egnatia" Project

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Making use of our country's infrastructure for a joint effective solution that will connect even the 5 Regional Solid Waste Management Plans (East Macedonia and Thrace, Central Macedonia, Western Macedonia, Epirus and Thessaly) to exploit the residual.

The National Waste Management Plan sets clear priorities for 2020 and Greece has to go a long way to meet the diversion targets from landfilling.

Management Proposals for Central Macedonia:

- Waste Treatment Unit (WTU): processing of residues coming from the collection, from the recyclables sorting centers and the biowaste treatment plants, prior led to landfill.
 - WTU of Serres (46.400 tn/yr)
 - WTU of East Regional Sector (129.300 tn/yr)
 - WTU of West Regional Sector (261.600 tn/yr)
- Biowaste Treatment Plants (12 Units)
- Separate collection (collection 4-6 streams)
- Recycling actions based on separate collection
- Central green points, recycling islets and Education Centers for Recycling and Reusing
- Maintaining and developing network of recyclable materials sorting centers and waste transfer stations.
- Expansion of existing projects to cover the transitional period and the future needs

Vision of the Regional Association of Solid Waste Management Agencies of Central Macedonia for the challenges Greece will face is:

- gradual implementation of a nearly ZERO WASTE policy, almost abolishing the landfilling of waste and residuals
- European experience shows that this percentage can only come from recovery with energy recovery, virtually zero burial
- In order to achieve this goal, dialogue with stakeholders should be launched today in order to design an integrated, sustainable project that respects environmental rules.
- The road network as well as the railway network of Northern Greece allows for cooperation with the other Regions so that we can finally turn a page in the Waste Management sector.

The future is the design and implementation of the "Egnatia" Solid Waste Management Project, that will ensure:

- Optimal use of resources,
- Avoidance of parallel investments
- High efficiency of management policies
- Large scale economics

The Regional Association of Solid Waste Management Agencies of Central Macedonia in cooperation with regional association of Northern Greece, proposes the completion of a pilot project in accordance to the goals of the National Solid Waste Management Plan and the Principals of Circular Economy, that will:

- Define their goals and accurately assess the quantities and types of materials that must be recovered.
- Define the best energy recovery technique that will achieve the targets by improving the recovery of resources and reducing the waste production
- It investigates the possibility of reprocessing with other types of waste.
- Decide the "best" location for this unit (economy and scale)
- Will examine the conditions for co-operation between the public and private sector
- Will communicate the project throughout the period of the study

