

The Municipal Review Committee (MRC)

In 1991, eighty-six Maine communities, including Waldoboro, Cushing and Friendship, formed the MRC to work with Penobscot Energy Recovery Corporation (PERC) to improve PERC's operating and economic performance. One hundred and eighty-seven Maine communities are now MRC members. Its members elect its governing board, which oversees the organization and is responsible for its management.

Currently, the MRC ensures that Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) disposal at the PERC plant remains environmentally sound. It monitors PERC's environmental performance and reports that performance to its members. As a member of PERC's Oversight Committee, the MRC reviews weekly and monthly performance reports, reviews and votes on PERC's annual operating budget, reviews and votes on capital and major maintenance projects, and ensures that actions are taken and investments are made to avoid or address all potential environmental impacts.

The MRC reports to its members on PERC's environmental performance, including the results of annual stack tests of air emissions, continuous emissions monitoring, ash testing, and other monitoring and compliance activity. In addition, the MRC actively represents the Charter Municipalities before government agencies. The MRC's sole purpose is to work for its members. It is their only true and loyal advocate for matters concerning Municipal Solid Waste (MSW).

The MRC's 187 members control significant quantities of MSW. This allows the MRC to operate from a position of strength in its dealings with State regulatory agencies, including the Maine DEP, the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, and the Governor's Energy Office.

MSW disposal has become a technologically complicated environmental challenge. During its 25-year existence, the MRC has developed the knowledge, experience, and expertise that no single community member possesses or could possibly afford.

Most important, the MRC maintains a focus on the future and works solely in the interests of its members to plan for financially sound, innovative, and environmentally safer means of MSW disposal. It is this role that has become critical as the MRC and its member communities move beyond PERC and into the world of cutting edge MSW disposal. It is this forward-looking approach that has led the MRC to embrace Fiberight as the core of its post 2018 plan.