



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Members of the Assembly Committee on Energy

FROM: Daniel Bahr, WCA Government Affairs Associate

DATE: January 16, 2020

SUBJECT: Support for Assembly Bill 713

The Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) supports Assembly Bill 713, relating to exempting certain waste-to-energy facilities from tipping fees. Wisconsin has a total of two waste-to-energy facilities in the state, both of which are owned by the respective county (Barron and La Crosse) where they are located. Under this proposal, both would be eligible for up to a 30 percent exemption of “total tonnage received” from tipping fees.

A materials recovery facility takes all of the material it receives, sorts through the materials, recycles what is able to be recycled and the rest is placed in a landfill. A waste-to-energy facility takes all of the materials it receives, sorts through the materials, recycles what it is able to be recycled, incinerates what is not able to be recycled (a process that generates energy) and then places any materials that are not able to be recycled or incinerated in a landfill. Materials placed in a landfill are subject to the tipping fee.

The standard of a 30 percent exemption of “total tonnage received,” is the precise exemption from tipping fees provided to material recovery facilities throughout the state. WCA is simply asking for that same standard to be provided to the two-county owned waste-to-energy facilities.

WCA respectfully requests that the Committee support AB 713.

Please feel free to contact WCA if you need additional information.