

*NAWTEC 13 Speaker Abstract*

**Waste to Energy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Getting New Projects/Expansions Off the Ground  
Key Ingredients to a Successful Action Plan**

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These are critical times for users and vendors of waste-to energy technologies in the US. Many of the existing long term contracts entered into during the early to mid 80's are nearing their end. Communities are facing the need to decide what to do with that portion of their waste stream remaining after they reduce, reuse and recycle. That effort includes determining the role that waste-to-energy will play in their 21<sup>st</sup> Century integrated solid waste management program and the nature of the contractual relationships that will define how it is managed.

Drawing on his twenty five years of experience in the solid waste industry representing public sector clients, Mr. Worster will present an overview of the factors affecting the future of waste to energy including: existing contracts reaching end of term, changing regulations, changing energy markets, regional/long haul competition, public and private sector appetite for long term partnerships, opposition groups and alternative technologies.

Against that backdrop, he will outline and discuss the Key Ingredients to a Successful Action Plan. The topics to be addressed include the role of the champion, ongoing public education/outreach, clear messaging regarding the benefits of waste to energy as a component of an integrated program, assembling a team of stakeholder advocates, the role of a strong host agreement, understanding the state of the art in terms of enhancements/alternative technologies, the need for active public/private partnerships in getting the message out and maximizing the value of public/private partnerships.