



Timeline for SWPC

September 27, 2023:

- SWPC review draft letter to BOC regarding Part 115 actions.

October 2023:

- Present the BOC with an informational letter regarding Part 115 and what their Solid Waste Planning Committee is doing.
- SWPC to discuss items to be discussed with BOC regarding what should be presented to BOC

November 2023:

- Present Part 115 Items to BOC
 - Get questions.
 - Answer those possible and get answers to those can't.
 - Present SWPC working on a Letter of Recommendation
 - Present basics of Part 115
 - Find out what the BOC will want from SWPC/staff

November-January 2023:

- Solid Waste Planning Committee (SWPC) meet to discuss Part 115 and create Letter of Recommendation to BOC
- SWPC meet the 4th Wednesday of the month at 10 AM at Fillmore Complex

December-Early March 2024:

- SWPC and internal staff work with BOC to answer any questions and gather additional information needed to complete and approve the NOI

March 23rd, 2023:

- BOC to send in prior to or on this date the NOI.

After March 2023:

Start new timeline pending BOC's NOI actions.



Kelly Goward
Solid Waste Planning Committee Chairperson

Kimberly Wolters
Solid Waste Planning Coordinator

To: Ottawa County Board of Commissioners
RE: [Act 451 of 1994, Part 115](#)

September 29, 2023

On March 29, 2023, an eight-bill package became law intended to help increase the state's 19 percent recycling rate (among the lowest in the nation) to 30 percent by 2029. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) is incentivizing diverting more waste from our landfills and recovering materials to recycle into valuable new products. The current Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) focuses on maintaining landfill capacity whereas the new Materials Management Plan (MMP) focuses on managing our materials not only to maintain landfill capacity, but also recovering materials, proper material management, and increasing our understanding of what materials are generated and how they are handled. The Ottawa County Board of Commissioners (BOC) will play an important role in determining the next steps according to the timeline of events specified in the law.

The County BOC first action items:

- Receive the notice from EGLE to prepare a Material Management Plan (MMP).
- Within 180 days of receiving the notice, ~~file~~[file](#) the Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the MMP or decline to prepare the MMP.
- If the BOC declines preparation of the MMP, they shall notify the municipalities and the Regional Planning Agency (RPA) of their decision.
- Complete pre-planning activities such as consulting with adjacent counties.
- Determine if County will be acting as County Approval Agency (CAA), which is the entity that assumes the responsibility and is authorized to approve the MMP. The CAA may be a county board of commissioners, all the municipalities in a county acting jointly, or a regional planning agency (appointed by the Governor).

The County BOC action items if acting as CAA:

- Appoint agency or individual as the Designated Planning Agent (DPA)
- Appoint the Material Management Planning Committee (MMPC) to replace current Solid Waste Planning Committee
- Receives MMP grant money from EGLE and distributes it to the CAA (if not housed within the County)
- Automatically responsible for Plan implementation, if EGLE prepares the MMP. [EGLE will prepare the plan if municipalities, Regional Planning Agent, or neighboring counties decline to create plan.](#)

Commented [KG1]: Explain under what circumstances that EGLE will prepare the plan

Important Dates

September 25, 2023: EGLE intends to initiate the planning process by reaching out to the Ottawa County BOC with a request for Plan Update and Notice of Intent (NOI) which starts the 180-day window to complete first action items above.

March 23, 2024: Deadline for Ottawa County BOC to reply with Notice of Intent.

Outcomes of board decision regarding Notice of Intent

NOI - SUBMITTED

- Ottawa County maintains local control over management of solid waste, recycling, organics, and other related activities.
- Identifies gaps and local needs for infrastructure and services to better serve community members.
- Ottawa County receives funding through MMP Grant awarded annually:
 - Approximately \$210,000 per year for initial 3 years (\$630,000).
 - \$60,000 annually after initial 3-year period.

NOI - NOT SUBMITTED

- Potential loss of local control, Ottawa County MMP is developed by all municipalities jointly, Governor appointed regional planning agency, or EGLE.
- Community members lose a voice in the process including what infrastructure and services are needed.
- Loss of grant funding totalling \$630,000 in first three years and \$60,000 per year after third year.

The goal of this letter is to keep the Ottawa BOC fully informed of important decisions that will require action in the coming months. Please reach out to the Solid Waste Planning Committee by contacting Kim Wolters (kwolters@miottawa.org) with any questions or concerns or by attending any SWPC meeting. The Solid Waste Planning Committee hopes to present to the BOC what is known about the upcoming changes once the Notice to create a MMP and request for NOI has been sent out. Kim Wolters, the current DPA for Ottawa County, has been working closely with the current Solid Waste Planning Committee to gather information and start assessing the impacts of these changes to Ottawa County regarding the Plan Update.

Sincerely,

Kelly Goward

Solid Waste Planning Committee Chair