



Capitol Connection E-Newsletter- July 2016

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Register for the Second Round of ACCG Policy Committee Meetings

The [second round of the ACCG Policy Committee Meetings](#) has been set. Make plans to attend to give your input on the proposed ACCG policy positions that will be included in the County Platform.

The ACCG Federal Policy Committee will host its first meeting of 2016 on Wednesday, August 31, at the Federal Aviation Administration’s Southern Region office in Fulton County. Join the Federal Policy Committee Chair Jeff Rader (Commissioner, DeKalb County) and Committee Vice Chair Liz Hausmann (Vice Chairman, Fulton County) as they discuss ACCG’s federal policy platform. Lunch will be provided as well as an optional tour of the regional operations center after the meeting concludes.

All policy committee meeting dates, locations, and registration links can be accessed [here](#).

Please contact ACCG Administrative Assistant-Policy Nicole Logan at nlogan@accg.org or (404) 522-5022 if you have any questions.

EPD Proposes Amendments to Coal Combustion Residuals

The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has proposed amendments to their rules pertaining to coal combustion residuals (CCR). The proposed amendments include definition changes, new requirements for permitting and groundwater monitoring as well as incorporating provisions of legislation enacted during the 2016 session of the Georgia General Assembly that requires the owner or operator of a Municipal Solid Waste Landfill (MSWL) to notify the local government in which the landfill is located within 14 days of any release from the site which is likely to pose a danger to human health. According

to the EPD, the proposed rule amendments may result in increased costs to solid waste handling facility operators.

A public hearing will be held July 27th and written comments can be submitted by August 10th.

The notice of the public hearing, public comment period, proposed Rule amendments, a synopsis and a statement of rationale of the rule revisions can be found [here](#).

Please contact ACCG Legislative Associate Kathleen Bowen at kbowen@accg.org or (404) 522-5022 if you have any questions.

Deal Announces \$75 Million in State Transit Awards

Gov. Nathan Deal, joined by State Road & Tollway Authority (SRTA) Executive Director Chris Tomlinson, announced 11 transit projects that will receive a total of \$75 million in state funding through the GO! Transit Capital Program. The program, created and administered by SRTA, aims to address capital-related public transportation needs throughout the state. The full press release can be accessed [here](#).

EPD Proposes Amendments Pertaining to Yard Trimmings

The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has proposed amendments to their rules pertaining to yard trimmings. The proposed amendments provide a new permit by rule for small landfills (five acres of waste disposal area or less) accepting only yard trimmings in counties with less than 65,000 people. It also revises the former criteria that 60 percent of the volume of material must be recycled, sold, used, or reused within a 90-day period to 75 percent of the volume of material must be recycled, sold, used or reused within a calendar year.

A public hearing was held July 7, 2016. A copy of the PowerPoint presented at this hearing can be found [here](#). Written comments regarding the proposed amendments can be submitted by July 22nd.

The notice of the public comment period, proposed Rule amendments, a synopsis and a statement of rationale of the rule revisions can be found [here](#).

Please contact ACCG Legislative Associate Kathleen Bowen at kbowen@accg.org or (404) 522-5022 if you have any questions.

Receiving Notification of "Significant" Sales Tax Refund Claims

New legislation that became effective July 1 requires the Department of Revenue (DOR) to notify each political subdivision affected by a "refund claim of local significance." For more information on the procedures counties should follow to ensure such notifications are received, please click [here](#).

Please contact ACCG Legislative Associate Brad Vaughan at bvaughan@accg.org or (404) 522-5022 if you have any questions.

News You Can Use

NACo Releases Analysis on “Overtime Rule” for County Officials

NACo has developed a new report, [“Analysis of the Impact of the U.S. Department of Labor’s Overtime Rule on Counties,”](#) to help county officials better understand the new overtime rule and prepare for potential impacts their counties may face.

Highlights include:

- Overtime rule's impact on county governments
- Background on the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)
- Explanation of key components of the overtime rule including the new salary threshold and automatic updates
- Options for state and local government compliance
- Potential impact on rural and small counties

2015 Georgia Land Conservation Annual Report

The 2015 Georgia Land Conservation Program (GLCP) Annual Report is now available. The report includes a detailed profile of the conservation and financial initiatives and programs created to help protect and preserve the state’s natural resources. In 2015, the GLCP conserved 8,897 acres including buffers on important waterways, habitats for endangered species, and active agricultural and timber lands.

[Click here for the 2015 GLCP Annual Report.](#)