<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/040220/nef014_1.html>

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| **Press Release** | Source: Casella Waste Systems, Inc. |

Casella Waste Systems Will Seek to Work With Town of Templeton to Reach Agreement on Landfill  
Friday February 20, 4:30 pm ET

RUTLAND, Vt., Feb. 20 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/-- Casella Waste Systems, Inc. (Nasdaq: [CWST](http://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=cwst&d=t) - [News](http://finance.yahoo.com/q/h?s=cwst)), a regional, non-hazardous solid waste services company, said today that, in light of approval at a special town meeting of a petitioned article banning out-of-town waste at the Templeton, Massachusetts landfill, it will seek to work with officials from the Town of Templeton to reach an agreement surrounding the remediation of the town's old unlined landfill and the construction of an adjacent facility.

The company also said that it expects its Templeton landfill permitting and construction process to be delayed as a result.

In another landfill-related vote, voters abolished the town's landfill enterprise fund; fees paid to the town from the landfill will now go directly into the town's general fund. Both articles were opposed by the town's Board of Health, which oversees the landfill on behalf of the town.

Casella Waste Systems has a contract with the town, entered into in June 2003, to excavate Templeton's old unlined landfill and construct a new adjacent double-lined facility.

"The process of assuring a community about the environmental and fiscal benefits of a facility is occasionally a long one," John W. Casella, chairman and chief executive officer of Casella Waste Systems, said. "We will continue to work through the process and with town officials to fully explain to citizens the long-term benefits of the project and resolve any doubts."

Casella Waste Systems, headquartered in Rutland, Vermont, is a regional, integrated, non-hazardous solid waste services company that provides collection, transfer, disposal and recycling services primarily in the northeastern United States.

For further information, contact Richard Norris, chief financial officer or Joseph Fusco, vice president at (802) 775-0325; or visit the company's website at [http://www.casella.com](http://www.casella.com/).

Safe Harbor Statement

Certain matters discussed in this press release are "forward-looking statements" intended to qualify for the safe harbors from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements can generally be identified as such by the context of the statements, including words such as the Company "believes," "anticipates," "expects" or words of similar import. Similarly, statements that describe the Company's future plans, objectives or goals are forward- looking statements. Such forward-looking statements, and all phases of our operations, involve a number of risks and uncertainties, any one or more of which could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in our forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include or relate to, among other things, the Town of Templeton's willingness to allow the receipt of out-of-town waste; our ability to make acquisitions and otherwise develop additional disposal capacity; general economic conditions; and fluctuations in the commodity pricing of our recyclables. Other factors which could materially affect such forward-looking statements can be found in our periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including risk factors detailed in Management's Discussion and Analysis in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2003.

Source: Casella Waste Systems, Inc.