1.1 SRMT’s Solid Waste Management Program Summary

The implementation of the SRMT’s solid waste management plan began in 2001; attachment 1 provides a copy of the plan. The plan calls for meeting the solid waste management needs of the community through execution of five components:

1. Solid Waste Management Code - Regulatory part of the program. Requires off reservation disposal of all solid wastes and prohibits open dumping and burning.

2. Solid Waste Management Community Service Agency - The entity that allows the Tribe to offer an alternative service to the community through the use of a transfer station, recycling depot, and curbside collection of garbage.

3. 4 R’s – Cultural education that teaches respect, reducing, reusing, and recycling.

4. Sustainability - Allows the Tribe to achieve economic self-sufficiency for the solid waste management program.

5. Monitoring – Quantitative and qualitative measures are used to monitor each program component to ensure the success of the overall program.

The Tribe is currently implementing projects that are advancing all program components. A summary of each one is provided in Table 1.

The solid waste community service agency is the component that allows the Tribe to offer alternative services to the community. In July 2002, the Tribe began offering curbside collection of garbage and collection of recyclables through their recycling depot1. The Tribe is using a pay-as-you-throw program in order to maximize waste reduction, reusing, and recycling. Customers only pay for what they throw out and may use the recycling depot for free. Attachment 2 provides a complete description of the services offered.

The Tribe’s solid waste program also implemented the first annual bulky cleanup program during the fall of 2002. This cleanup allowed resident’s to dispose of unwanted white goods, scrap metal, and other non-recyclable bulky items. Residents placed their materials at the road and the Tribe picked up the materials during an eight-week period. White goods and scrap metal were taken to a local scrap yard for recycling while the non-recyclable materials were disposed at a transfer station located off the reservation. Attachment 2 provides further information about the fall cleanup program.

Table 2 shows the total tonnages the Tribe has collected for 2002.

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1 Prior to this time, the Tribe offered no solid waste collection services and people in the community contracted for services with non-tribal haulers. Non-tribal haulers are still providing services, but they must obtain a permit and submit annual reports to the Tribe in order to operate on the reservation.
Table 1. Implementation of Projects to Meet the Solid Waste Management Needs for the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Component</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Solid Waste Management Code</td>
<td>Multi-Media: To manage and regulate the storage, collection, transportation, handling, treatment, and disposal of solid wastes on the reservation. To date, the Tribe has issued solid waste hauling and collection permits, and has received annual reports from haulers providing service on the reservation. The Tribe has also issued construction and operation permit for a transfer station. The Tribe has also stopped permitted haulers and performed inspections of their loads to ensure compliance with the regulations. The Tribe has investigated several open dumping &amp; open burning complaints.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solid Waste Community Service Agency</td>
<td>Collection Services: Provides curbside collection for garbage and collection of recyclables through a recycling depot. Transfer Station: Construction is scheduled to begin spring 2003 and completion is projected January 2004. The Tribe secured funding from HUD, IHS, and USDA for construction and is working with all three agencies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 R’s</td>
<td>Open Dump Assessment: Show users of open dumping and burning that their personal choices are directly linked to the negative environmental &amp; health impacts associated with these methods, and empower them to stop these practices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>Community Stewardship Program: Maximize the number of customers using the Tribe’s service, train them how to use it, and to enlist strategic partners. The Tribe has good working relationships with their neighboring county and several local private recycling companies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td>All Projects: Use various quantitative &amp; qualitative measures to track project results.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2. The 2002 Total Tonnages Collected From the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe’s Solid Waste Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection Program &amp; Material</th>
<th>Tons Collected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAYT &amp; Recycling Depot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling Depot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Cleanup</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-recyclable bulky items</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recyclable bulky items</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Materials Collected</strong></td>
<td><strong>364</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Tribe has been disposing of their collected materials at a transfer station and scrap metal dealer, which are located off the reservation. The Tribe intends to dispose of all collected materials at their own transfer station when it becomes operational in January 2004. Furthermore, the Tribe’s solid waste management code requires that all haulers providing service on the reservation use the Tribe’s transfer station when it becomes operational.

As part of their open dump assessments, the Tribe identified several tire dumps in the community. These dumps are located primarily behind businesses that perform auto mechanic services. The majority of business owners indicate that they would like to properly dispose of the tires, but the lack of local disposal programs prevent them from doing so.

The Tribe also discovered that many residents have tires to dispose. This became evident when residents placed tires out for collection during the Tribe’s 2002 fall bulky cleanup. The lack of collection and disposal options prevented the Tribe from collecting the tires, thereby leaving one disposal alternative for the residents: stockpiling tires in their backyards.

The Tribe is concerned about the potential health and environmental risks associated with tire dumps and tire piles. Tires are an excellent breeding ground for mosquitoes, which can multiply 100 times faster than normal in the warm stagnant water in standing scrap tire casings. Encephalitis is severe illnesses that have been attributed to disease-carrying mosquitoes originating from scrap tire piles. Mosquitoes are also known to carry the West Nile Virus (WNV). WNV is a mosquito-borne infection that can also cause serious illness, and sometimes death. In the year 2002, eight birds tested positive for the WNV in two adjacent counties that border the St. Regis Mohawk reservation. Additionally, tire dumps and piles pose a fire hazard since they may catch fire. The emissions from a tire fire are also toxic and would present health and environmental risks to the community.

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2 The counties are St. Lawrence and Franklin. Source: www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/search/index.htm.
1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Tribe is requesting funding to:

1. Assist with the clean up of tires in their community;
2. Increase the quantity of recyclables collected through the Tribe’s PAYT/recycling depot and to;
3. Expand solid waste management services through the use of the Tribe’s transfer station.

The proposed project is designed so that the completed work complements the Tribe’s ongoing work, expands services, and further advances the solid waste management program towards economic self-sufficiency.

Tables 3, 4, and 5 present the specific objectives, activities and timeline for executing the project.
### Table 3. Removal of Tire Dumps and Monitoring The Cleaned Sites.

**Objective 1: Remove accumulated tires from the community, transport and dispose tires at a tire recycling company.**

**Results or Benefits Expected:** Tire dumps are cleaned up, thereby eliminating environmental & health risks associated with the open dumps.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Time Period&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activity 1:</strong> Execute open dump inspection agreements with mechanic shops.</td>
<td>M1 – M2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activity 2:</strong> Collect tires from mechanic shops and residents.</td>
<td>M3 – M6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activity 3:</strong> Transport and dispose of tires at tire recycling company.</td>
<td>M3 – M6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activity 4:</strong> Monitor post closure activities at sites cleaned up at mechanic shops.</td>
<td>M2 – M12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Criteria for Evaluating Results or Benefits Expected:** a) number of dumps cleaned up; b) weight or number of tires disposed.

**Supporting Narrative:** Tires come from two sources in the community: auto mechanic shops and residential homes. The tires at the auto mechanic shops and residential homes are located on private property and are not available for public use.

As part of another ongoing project, the Tribe is developing open dump inspection agreements to execute when the Tribe assists people in the community with the clean up of open dumps. These agreements outline conditions for clean up and at a minimum allow for education and post closure inspections of open dumps that have been clean up.

Two collection approaches will be used in collecting the tires:

1. **Auto Mechanic Shop- Curbside Collection.** Previous open dump assessments done by the Tribe show that tires are located in large piles at the shops. The Tribe will collect the tires from the shops by bringing a tractor-trailer and front-end loader to the sites. The front-end loader will be used to load the tires in the trailer.

2. **Residential Homes-Centralized Collection.** The majority of tires at homes are accumulated in small piles on the homeowner’s property. These piles may only have 1-2 tires or up to 20. The Tribe will set up a centralized collection area at their transfer station and residents will bring their tires to the transfer station. Once a sufficient number of tires are accumulated to fill a trailer, the Tribe will load the tractor-trailer.

Through their continued relationships with the St. Lawrence County Solid Waste Department, the Tribe has identified two different vendors for disposal of tires; see attachment 3. Due to the large number of accumulated tires to be collected (30,000), the Tribe will contract with a hauler capable of transporting the tires using a tractor-trailer. This will allow the Tribe to maximize the number of tires transported per loaded trailer, which helps to reduce costs.

Monitoring of the post closure activities will be done according to conditions developed in the open dump inspection agreements. At a minimum, these agreements will allow monthly inspections of sites to make sure that the tire dumps don’t reappear on the sites. If they do, correction and enforcement action will be taken as prescribed by the Tribe’s solid waste management code.

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<sup>3</sup> Time periods are reported as M1 – month 1, M2 – month 2, and etc. Total project timeline is 12 months.
Table 4. Increase The Quantity of Recyclables Collected Through the Tribe's PAYT/recycling Depot Program.

**Objective 2: Collect 80 tons of recyclables, which includes mixed paper and hard recyclables.**

**Results or Benefits Expected:** The Tribe diverts more recyclables away from landfills or open dumps in the community and moves towards their 2008 target-recycling rate of 60%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Time Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activity 1:</strong> Advertise the Tribe’s recycling services.</td>
<td>M1 - M12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activity 2:</strong> Collect recyclables and transport to an intermediate broker.</td>
<td>M1 - M12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activity 3:</strong> Record and monitor monthly recyclable tonnages and costs.</td>
<td>M1 - M12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Criteria for Evaluating Results or Benefits Expected:** Monthly tonnages of recyclables collected and comparison of tonnages to previous year tonnages.

**Supporting Narrative:** The SRMT advertises their services through a local radio station and two local newspapers. Print and radio media advertisements will be created and distributed to the radio and newspapers.

The Tribe currently collects MSW and recyclables through the use of their PAYT/recycling depot program. The recycling depot is centrally located in the community and people are allowed to bring their recyclables to the depot and dispose of them free of charge. The Tribe collects recyclables through a dual stream collection at the depot. Two containers are designated for mixed paper and two containers are designated for hard recyclables. The Tribe has been operating the depot since July 2002. The Tribe collected a total of 69 tons of recyclables between July 2002-June 2003. This represents a 41% recycling rate for the first year operation of the Tribe’s PAYT/recycling depot program.

The Tribe’s solid waste management plan calls for the Tribe to achieve a 60% recycling rate by the year 2008. This project will assist the Tribe to continue increasing the amount of recyclables collected and moving towards their 2008 recycling rate goal.

Through the execution of the advertising campaign, the Tribe will increase the total recycling tonnages to 80 tons during this project.
Table 5. Expanding Solid Waste Management Services Through the Use of the Tribe’s Transfer Station.

**Objective 3: Complete construction of the Tribe’s transfer station and open it for use to the community.**

**Results or Benefits Expected:** The Tribe will expand its services to the community and create a permanent facility that will help the Tribe’s solid waste management program become more self-sufficient after the completion of the project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Time Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activity 1: Complete construction of transfer station.</td>
<td>M1 - M3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity 2: Open transfer station and accept materials.</td>
<td>M4 - M12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity 3: Record and monitor monthly tonnages and costs.</td>
<td>M4 - M12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Criteria for Evaluating Results or Benefits Expected:** (a) completion of construction; (b) opening of the transfer station; and (c) tons of materials collected.

**Supporting Narrative:** The Tribe began construction of their transfer station in the spring of 2003 with completion scheduled for January 1, 2004. The Tribe will track the daily tons of materials collected once the facility is open. These numbers will be recorded and monthly reports generated.

### 1.2 PROJECT PERSONNEL

Ms. Laura J. Weber, SRMT Director of Solid Waste Management, will be the Project Manager. Ms. Weber will ensure that project objectives are achieved and reporting requirements are met. Ms. Weber has fifteen years experience working in the solid waste management field and has managed projects for the Tribe with total combined budgets of over a million dollars. Ms. Weber is a certified HAZMAT responder with the Tribe’s Emergency Response Team. Ms. Weber has a Masters in Civil & Environmental Engineering, and Bachelor degrees in Chemical Engineering and Chemistry.

Mr. Russell Phillips, SRMT Solid Waste Laborer, will provide field supervision for the tire cleanup and be responsible for collecting and transporting the recyclables. Mr. Phillips has been with the Tribe’s solid waste program since June 2002 and oversees the curbside collection program and the recycling depot. Mr. Phillips is a veteran of the United States Army, serves as Engineer in the local volunteer fire department, is certified as a HAZMAT first responder, and has completed the National Safety Defensive Driving Course.

### 1.3 PROJECT BUDGET

The proposed budget is shown on page 8 and a budget narrative is provided in the next paragraphs.
The Tribe anticipates that the Solid Waste Director and Solid Waste Laborer will spend 30% and 80% of their time, respectively, towards the project.

The Tribe is requesting 30% full time salary support for the Solid Waste Director. The Tribe is only requesting 30% full time salary support for the Solid Waste Laborer. The Tribe’s General Fund will cover the other 50% of the salary and fringe, which represents a 11% in-kind Tribal contribution.

The contractual part covers two item costs: (1) cost for the tire hauling and disposal of 30,000 tires; and (2) cost to survey additional land at the Tribe’s transfer station site.

The supply category covers costs to operate the Tribe’s recycling depot and other miscellaneous supplies.

The construction line item covers costs to complete construction at the Tribe’s transfer station. The money will be used to cover costs associated with general construction items such as concrete work, drainage, and fencing.

Any travel for the project will be covered by the travel line item.

1.4 Reporting Requirements

Standard monthly, quarterly, and final reporting requirements will be met.

1.5 Additional Criteria Used By the Interagency Workgroup to Evaluate Proposal

The last section of the Tribal Open Dump Cleanup Project Solicitation listed ten additional criteria that the Interagency Workgroup will use to evaluate proposals. This section is provided to address these additional criteria in clear and concise manner. The criteria is listed according to the number format used in the solicitation and answers are provided under each criteria.

1. **A description of how the project will identify, quantify, monitor and test the site cleanup.**

   The answer for this criteria is found in Table 3.
The identification and quantification of tire dumps has already occurred during previous open dump assessments that the Tribe has performed. The locations of these dumps are known and GPS coordinates have been obtained. To date, there are approximately 4 tire dumps at auto mechanic shops on the reservation.

Tire disposal and inspection agreements will be developed between the Tribe and the auto mechanic shops prior to removal of tires. At a minimum, these agreements will allow monthly inspections of sites to make sure that tire dumps don’t reappear at the sites. If they do, correction and enforcement action will be taken as prescribed by the Tribe’s solid waste management code.

2. **A description of project’s cleanup activities.**

   The third paragraph in the supportive narrative section of Table 3 provides this description.

3. **A line-item estimate for closure and post-closure maintenance costs of the site…**

   These costs are provided in the proposal/synopsis cover sheet.

4. **Plans and procedures to ensure that the site is closed and that a new open dumpsite will not develop.**

   The plans and procedures are provided in Table 3 under the supportive narrative section.

5. **The post-closure plan and off-site contaminant migration monitoring plans if applicable.**

   A post closure plan and off-site contaminant migration monitoring plan is not applicable for two reasons. Firstly, the tire dumps are located on private property and are not used as community dumps by the general public. Secondly, migration of contaminates is generally not an issue with tire dumps since there is no free-liquids available for runoff.
6. **Details of how the Tribe will contribute in-kind resources to the project.**

   A discussion of the Tribe’s in-kind resources is discussed in the third paragraph under section 1.3.

7. **Identification of any federal entities that contributed solid waste to the site.**

   No federal entities have contributed solid wastes to the sites.

8. **Information showing that the Tribe has successfully executed funding agreements with IHS or other agencies on the Workgroup.**

   The Tribe has successfully executed funding agreements with IHS, USDA, HUD, and EPA in the past. IHS, USDA, and HUD are providing funding for the construction of the Tribe’s transfer station, which will begin later this spring. Attachment 4 provides the construction-funding matrix, which shows the funding source obligations for each agency.

   EPA has provided funding for the Tribe to develop their comprehensive solid waste management program.

9. **Progress reports and current status updates of the cleanup efforts for any open dump cleanup funding the tribe has received in the past from the Workgroup.**

   Not applicable since the Tribe has never received funding from the Workgroup.

10. **Confirmation that the Tribe has forged partnerships and can obtain technical assistance from appropriate federal or non-federal sources.**

    Section 3.5.1c of the Tribe’s solid waste management plan describes the Tribe’s desire for teaming up with strategic partners.

    The Tribe has already established a strategic partnership with the St. Lawrence County Solid Waste Department who assisted the Tribe in the developing cost estimates for this proposal; see attachment 3.
ATTACHMENT 1 – SRMT’S SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
ATTACHMENT 2 – COPIES OF BROCHURES
ATTACHMENT 4 – FUNDING AGREEMENTS WITH AGENCIES ON THE WORKGROUP