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# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

March 7, 2025

Erie County Legislature  
92 Franklin Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202

**RE: Extension of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Conditionally Exempt  
Small Quantity Generator (CESQG) Contracts**

Dear Honorable Members:

Please find enclosed a resolution from the Department of Environment and Planning to authorize the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to extend the contracts for the current Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection contractors, MXI Environmental Services, LLC (MXI), and Environmental Service Group (ESG). The contracts were authorized by your honorably body in 2023, following a competitive RFP process that provides for two, one-year extensions of the contracts at the discretion of the Department of Environment and Planning. The Department has been satisfied with the services and recommends that the contracts be extended for an additional year.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Deputy Commissioner Bonnie Lawrence at the Department of Environment and Planning. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.  
Erie County Executive

MCP/nb  
Enclosure

cc: Daniel R. Castle, Commissioner, Environment and Planning  
Bonnie Lawrence, Deputy Commissioner, Environment and Planning

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
**From:** Department of Environment and Planning  
**Re:** Extension of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG) Contracts  
**Date:** March 7, 2025

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### **SUMMARY**

It is recommended that the Legislature approve the attached resolution prepared by the Department of Environment and Planning (DEP) to authorize the County Executive or the Deputy County Executive to extend the contracts for one year with both MXI Environmental Services, LLC (MXI) and Environmental Service Group (ESG), as the selected contractors for Erie County's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG) programs. The contracts were authorized by Erie County Legislature Resolution COMM. 4E-11 (2023) following a competitive RFP process that provides for two, one-year extensions of the contracts at the discretion of the Department of Environment and Planning. DEP has been satisfied with the services and recommends that the contracts be extended for an additional year through 2026.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Erie County HHW Program has been in existence since 1988 and has serviced well over 60,000 households by providing single-day HHW collection events multiple times annually at no charge to participating residents. In 2020, the HHW Voucher Program was introduced to provide County residents who could not make the scheduled events with a means for proper disposal of HHW. The Voucher program allows residents to make an appointment and receive a voucher for the disposal of up to 50 pounds of accepted HHW at ESG's local permitted HHW facility in Tonawanda, Hazmat, at no charge.

Increased participation in these programs has reduced the amount of hazardous chemical products stored in homes, reducing fire and poisoning risk, improving first responder and sanitation worker safety, while also preventing these hazardous materials from being released into the environment. DEP has scheduled two collection events in 2025, along with the continuation of the HHW Voucher Program at the Hazmat facility and some paint-only collection events.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

\$175,000 has been budgeted in SAP account 517629 of the County operating fund for HHW collection and \$60,000 in account 517577 for CESQG services for 2024. In addition, Erie County would realize a fiscal benefit from partial, up to fifty percent, State reimbursement for expenses associated with the collection and disposal of household hazardous waste.

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The Erie County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program provides residents with the opportunity for proper disposal of unwanted hazardous household chemicals. The Program protects the environment, protects first responders and sanitation workers, and improves home safety. Application for State partial reimbursement increases the fiscal sustainability of the program.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

The County would no longer be able to provide residents with safe and proper disposal options for Household Hazardous Wastes resulting in an increased amount of hazardous chemical products stored in homes, increasing fire and poisoning risk, reducing first responder and sanitation worker safety, and potentially increasing the likelihood of these dangerous wastes entering the environment. In addition, Erie County would forfeit the State Aid funding available to offset costs associated with the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program.

## **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

The necessary contract extensions with MXI Environmental Services, LLC (MXI) and Environmental Service Group (ESG) will be executed.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

RE: Extension of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG) Contracts

WHEREAS, Erie County has a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Program to provide residents with a safe, effective, and cost-free opportunity to dispose of household generated hazardous waste; and

WHEREAS, every year, Erie County hosts periodic HHW events to properly dispose of chemicals that pose a health and safety hazard and might otherwise contaminate our water, land, or air; and

WHEREAS, beginning in June of 2020, the HHW Voucher program has provided service to over 1,000 Erie County residents on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, these two services combined service approximately 2,000 households per year; and

WHEREAS, Erie County would realize a fiscal benefit from partial, up to fifty percent, State reimbursement for expenses associated with the collection and disposal of HHW; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature authorized the County Executive to enter into contracts with MXI Environmental Services, LLC (MXI) and The Environmental Service Group (ESG) with the passage of Resolution COMM. 4E-11(2023) and a one-year extension was authorized with passage of Resolution COMM. 12E-21 (2024); and

WHEREAS, the contract provides for two, one-year extensions of the contracts at the discretion of the Department and Planning; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment and Planning and the contractors, MXI and ESG, wish to extend the contracts for an additional year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive and/or Deputy County Executive to extend the existing contracts with MXI Environmental Services, LLC (MXI) and The Environmental Service Group (ESG) to provide Erie County with HHW and CESQG Collection and Management Services for one additional year; and be it further

RESOLVED, that sufficient funding exists to cover the costs of these contract extensions within the Department of Environment and Planning's 2025 General Fund Budget (Fund 110, Funds Center 16200) Accounts 517629 – Hazardous Waste Days and Account 517577 for Hazardous Waste – Community Generators (CESQG); and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive's Office, Department of Law, Department of Environment and Planning, and Division of Budget and Management.