



ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY CASE STATEMENT

▪ **Community Benefits**

- As a regional organization, the Authority's activities have wide-ranging environmental, health and safety impacts on the residents of Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence County. It is our obligation to ensure that our organization is operating in a sustainable manner that will benefit the communities that we serve now and into the future.
- Developing infrastructure that incorporates environmental improvements is beneficial to the communities we serve and to the Authority. These projects create a positive image of the Authority as a regional organization and improve the quality of life of the residents in the communities we serve (i.e., the Calcium Nature Trail).

▪ **Saving Taxpayer Dollars**

- Reducing energy losses and improving operational efficiencies lowers operating costs and saves taxpayer dollars.
- Retrofitting and upgrading aging infrastructure with more modern and efficient technology saves operating dollars in the years to come.
- Finding other uses for scrap equipment, reducing waste generated from our facilities, and increasing recycling throughout our organization reduces operating costs.

▪ **Improving Employee Health**

- Switching to green cleaning products reduces exposure to toxic chemicals; improves indoor air quality by reducing airborne dust and chemical gases and promotes a healthier environment, thereby, lowering sick days and absenteeism.

▪ **Saving Natural Resources**

- Barton & Loguidice estimates that recycling paper alone in the Authority's service area will increase the life of our landfill by two years.
- Purchasing a ton of paper made from 100 percent recycled paper saves the equivalent of 4100 kwh of energy, 7000 gallons of water, 380 gallons of oil, 60 pounds of air emissions, 17 trees and 3 cubic yards of landfill space.
- Developing an innovative use for waste heat at the landfill will positively impact the carbon footprint of the North Country.
- Strategically replacing our existing fleet with more fuel efficient vehicles would save the Authority significant dollars in fuel costs, while eliminating tons of greenhouse gases generated from our vehicles.