



Town of Jamestown

Resolution of the Town Council

No. 2026-13 (Revised)

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE PROPOSED BIOSOLIDS PROCESSING FACILITY AT QUONSET BUSINESS PARK (DAVISVILLE), NORTH KINGSTOWN, RHODE ISLAND

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Jamestown recognizes the importance of responsible wastewater and biosolids management for the protection of public health, safety, environmental quality, and the general welfare of the State of Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, a private developer, in coordination with the Quonset Development Corporation (QDC) has advanced a proposal for the construction of a large-scale biosolids processing facility utilizing pyrolysis technology at the Quonset Business Park in the Davisville section of North Kingstown; and

WHEREAS, the proposed facility would be subject to multiple state regulatory frameworks, including but not limited to the Rules and Regulations for Sewage Sludge Management, the Rules and Regulations for Solid Waste Management Facilities, and Air Pollution Control Regulations, all administered by the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM); and

WHEREAS, these regulatory frameworks require rigorous review, permitting, and ongoing oversight of facilities engaged in the treatment, storage, transportation, and disposal of biosolids, including the authority of the RIDEM Director to deny approvals where there is a risk to public health, safety, or welfare; and

WHEREAS, despite the existence of such regulatory regimes, the Town Council finds that uncertainties remain regarding the scale, emissions profile, waste streams, and cumulative impacts of the proposed project; and

WHEREAS, the proposed facility may receive biosolids from a variety of sources, and the lack of clear limitations or enforceable conditions regarding the geographic origin of such materials raises substantial concern regarding the potential importation of out-of-state waste into Rhode Island, with associated environmental, logistical, and policy implications; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that the proximity of the proposed facility to residential neighborhoods, schools, and recreational areas in North Kingstown and the surrounding region

raises concerns regarding potential negative impacts on air quality, groundwater resources, traffic conditions, noise, odors, and overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the technology proposed for the facility, commonly described as pyrolysis or thermal conversion of biosolids, while recognized as an emerging method of waste processing, is not widely deployed at the proposed scale and is subject to ongoing scientific, regulatory, and public policy scrutiny, including with respect to emissions, residual byproducts, and long-term environmental externalities; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island General Assembly has acknowledged these uncertainties by enacting legislation and advancing policy initiatives requiring increased testing, monitoring, and evaluation of biosolids; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has further initiated ongoing study and review of biosolids management practices within the State of Rhode Island, reflecting a legislative determination that the long-term impacts, regulatory framework, and appropriate policy approach to biosolids treatment technologies remain under active evaluation; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council is concerned that advancing a major new biosolids processing facility prior to the completion of such statewide study risks committing the State to a course of action before the full range of environmental, public health, and policy implications are understood and appropriately regulated; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council further finds that the initial actions of the Quonset Development Corporation Board with respect to authorizing or advancing the project, taken under its statutory authority and development regulations, were undertaken without the opportunity for meaningful public participation, particularly from neighboring communities that may be affected; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Jamestown has a direct and substantial interest in protecting the environmental quality of Narragansett Bay, regional air quality, groundwater resources, and the health and welfare of its residents and neighboring communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Jamestown hereby expresses its concerns regarding the siting, development, and construction of the proposed biosolids processing facility at the Quonset Business Park in its current form and proposed location; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council supports the Rhode Island General Assembly's ongoing study and comprehensive evaluation of biosolids management policies and technologies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council calls for full and transparent disclosure of the anticipated sources of biosolids to be processed at the facility, including clear limitations on out-of-state waste streams, and detailed analysis of associated environmental and infrastructure impacts; and

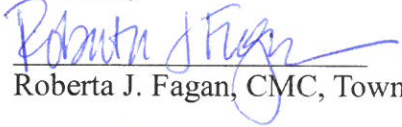
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council requests comprehensive, independent environmental and public health impact assessments, including air emissions, groundwater protection, odor control, and cumulative regional impacts, consistent with all applicable regulations and statutory authorities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council strongly advocates for robust public engagement, meaningful public hearings, and full transparency in all future proceedings before the Quonset Development Corporation, RIDEM, and any other permitting or regulatory bodies regarding this project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to transmit certified copies of this Resolution to the Governor of Rhode Island, the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, members of the Rhode Island General Assembly representing Jamestown, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, the Quonset Development Corporation, and the Town Council of North Kingstown.

Adopted this 15th day of June, 2026, by the Town Council of the Town of Jamestown, Rhode Island.

Certified,



Roberta J. Fagan, CMC, Town Clerk

