



Contact: Matt Grondin
Communications Manager
207-523-3108
grondin@ecomaine.org

For immediate release

Maine waste-to-energy facility first in nation to commit to all-electric waste hauling trucks powered by trash

With grant from U.S. EPA and Maine DEP, ecomaine will start using electric trucks fueled by electricity generated from waste-to-energy later in 2020

PORTLAND – (March 5, 2020) ecomaine announced today the purchase of all-electric waste hauling trucks from the Lion Electric Company. The trucks will be used to replace two diesel-powered vehicles that transport waste material from ecomaine's waste-to-energy plant to its landfill.

Notably, ecomaine is believed to be the first company in the nation to employ all-electric waste hauling vehicles that are powered by its own waste-to-energy operations. The fuel for these trucks will ultimately be the trash that it collected from its 70 member communities.

"This presents a unique opportunity for ecomaine – and Maine, as a whole – to serve as a real leader in this emerging technology," said ecomaine CEO Kevin Roche. "The fact that we are using trucks to haul waste that are also powered by waste really closes the loop on the story of Maine's trash. And since waste-to-energy generates ten times more electricity than a landfill, our role as both the supplier and the user of this power is magnified even more."

"This is a real win-win for ecomaine," agreed Board Member Mike Shaw of Scarborough. "To have ecomaine pilot this technology and to research its application on behalf of all 70 of our communities allows us to mutually benefit from that knowledge, rather than each town going it alone."

The purchase of the trucks was made possible in large part by a combined grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Diesel Emissions Reduction Act program and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The grant, combined with funds matched by ecomaine, allowed the company to secure two electric trucks from the Lion Electric Company of St. Jerome, Quebec.

ecomaine estimated that it would save approximately 75% on fuel costs over six years, when comparing diesel to the amount of electricity it would use from its waste-to-energy plant, in addition to the trucks' zero-emission feature and fewer mechanical parts to maintain.

The trucks will join ecomaine's electric cars, also powered by trash, as the company aims to increase public awareness about sustainable strategies for Maine's waste, including the advantages of electricity produced by waste-to-energy.

Production time for the trucks is expected to be nine to ten months, with ecomaine expecting to take receipt of the vehicles near the end of 2020.



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