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Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority Released from Lawsuit

Lancaster, PA (February 16, 2009) – Claims made against Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA) and its Executive Director James Warner were dropped on February 6, 2009 from the lawsuit filed by Willie Shell Sr. in August 2007. The suit was filed in federal court in Philadelphia by Mr. Shell, owner of Shell’s Disposal and Recycling at 640 South Franklin Street. Mr. Shell claims his civil rights were violated when the City of Lancaster initiated its single-hauler curbside trash and recycling collection program in 2006. Mr. Shell included LCSWMA and its executive director in the suit by asserting a brochure LCSWMA helped prepare for the City contained misleading information.

Other defendants named when the suit was filed were the City of Lancaster, which included the Mayor, City Council, the Department of Public Works and its director, and the Bureau of Solid Waste and Recycling and its manager.

“It’s a shame public funds had to be spent to defend ourselves against such a frivolous decision by Mr. Shell to include the Authority and myself in his lawsuit against the City.” said Jim Warner.

A final ruling on the lawsuit has not been made at this time.

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About the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority

LCSWMA is recognized throughout North America as a leader in the field of solid waste management. LCSWMA operates an integrated solid waste management system which primarily serves Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The system handles approximately 575,000 tons of waste per year and consists of:

- A 2,200 tons per day transfer station
- A drive-through permanent household hazardous waste facility
- A 36 megawatt, 1,200 tons per day mass burn waste-to-energy facility (RRF)
- A 2,000 tons per day sanitary landfill
- A 3.2 megawatt landfill gas-to-energy plant (LFGTE) - owned and operated by PPL
- A county-wide recycling program that has achieved a 37% recycling rate

The LCSWMA LFGTE and RRF facilities generate enough renewable energy from waste to power 1 out of 6 homes in Lancaster County. For further information, please visit the website www.lcswma.org.

